



# Our Purpose

Pursue an active and activist foreign policy, working with other countries and strengthening the rules-based international system in support of our values. To achieve this we will:

- > Use our global diplomatic network to protect and promote UK interests worldwide. Retain and build up Britain's international influence in specific areas in order to shape a distinctive British foreign policy geared to the national interest. Respond effectively to crises by maintaining a high state of crisis readiness.
- > Continue a strong, close and frank relationship with the United States that delivers concrete benefits for both sides.
- > Advance the British national interest through an effective EU policy in priority areas, engaging constructively while protecting our national sovereignty.
- > Deliver more effective and modernised international institutions, particularly the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the European Union, the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the Council of Europe.
- > Use the National Security Council as the centre of decision-making on international and national security issues.
- > Strengthen the Commonwealth as a focus for promoting democratic values, human rights, climate resilient development, conflict prevention and trade.
- > Use soft power as a tool of UK foreign policy; promote British values and respect for human rights; build capacity to tackle terrorism in line with UK security requirements; and contribute to the welfare of developing countries and their citizens.
- > Strengthen the UK's relationships with emerging powers in a systematic way across Government to support UK prosperity and security.

## Our Priority Outcomes for 2014–2015

### Security

Safeguard Britain's national security by countering terrorism and weapons proliferation and working to reduce conflict.

**Afghanistan:** A successful political transition, credible presidential elections and continuing international support for Afghan security and development. The start of peace talks between the Afghan government and Taliban and an improved relationship between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Reduced terrorist threat to the UK.

**Syria:** Progress on political transition which reduces violence and improves humanitarian access. Eradication of Syria's chemical weapons. No major regional spill-over of the conflict and a reduced terrorist threat to the UK.

**Iran:** A comprehensive nuclear agreement with Iran, a more constructive Iranian role in the region and a more substantial bilateral relationship.

**Middle East:** A strong UK contribution to a comprehensive Middle East Peace agreement, based on a two state solution. Improved security, growth, governance and respect for human rights in the region, particularly in Libya, Egypt and Yemen.

**Russia:** More stable relations between Russia and Ukraine, and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all Russia's neighbours. Continuing Russian contribution to international security, particularly in Syria, Iran and Afghanistan.

**Africa:** Active UK engagement to reduce the risk of conflict, particularly in East and Central Africa and the Sahel. Reduced terrorist threat to the UK, particularly from East Africa. Creation of new opportunities for UK business, particularly in the fast growing economies.

**Security and Conflict:** A successful Wales NATO Summit which strengthens the Alliance, its role in European and international security and in Afghanistan's transition. New commitments from the Global Summit on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, including an international protocol on documentation and investigation.

### Prosperity

Build Britain's prosperity by increasing exports and investment, opening markets, ensuring access to resources and promoting sustainable global growth.

**Asia Pacific:** Growth in UK export share in the East Asian market above 1.5%. UK's inward investment stock from the region exceeds £60bn. Stronger UK engagement contributes to more effective management of regional security.

**EU:** EU Commission and Parliament programmes support UK reform priorities. Progress on competitiveness, regulation, the single market and free trade agreements, in particular with the US; stronger roles for member states and national parliaments; a fair relationship between those inside and outside the Eurozone; tackling abuse of free movement. Greater stability and better governance in the EU's neighbourhood, in particular in the Balkans and Ukraine.

**Energy and Climate:** Enhanced UK energy security through more inward investment in UK energy infrastructure. UK/EU access to new, affordable sources of supply and support for functioning, open, global energy markets. UK/EU climate leadership advances global action at the UN Secretary General's Climate Summit.

**Economic Diplomacy:** Creation of new opportunities for UK business through FCO work on promoting an open global economy; tackling corruption and barriers to trade; delivery of the UK's G8 agenda; science and innovation co-operation; and stronger partnerships with emerging powers. A stronger cross Government approach, especially with UKTI and on visa services.

### Consular

Support British nationals around the world through modern and efficient consular services.

**Consular Services:** Consular customer satisfaction rates exceed 80%. Consular services around the world prioritise British Nationals who need help the most and offer a wider choice in accessing assistance.

**Crises and Events:** Excellent consular support to British nationals attending international events, including the World Cup and the Hajj, particularly through our prevention campaigns. A high quality response to all crises.