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Thank you, Peter — thank you for your welcome, and thank you also for inviting so many friends of Germany to your home here this evening.

They say that every cloud has a silver lining and sometimes silver linings have clouds as well.

When our current Prime Minister invited me to join his government, I was delighted and flattered but also a little bit sad.

Sad because in joining the government it meant that I was no longer able to fulfil the commitment that I'd entered into to visit Bayreuth this year, in order to enjoy the Festspiele.

And it meant that I was deprived of your company, Peter, as well as the wonderful music that I was so looking forward to.

And the links between our two countries — cultural, political and personal — are links which I cherish.

One of my first political experiences was attending a Young Koenigswinter Konferenz in Berlin and getting to know a rising generation then of German thinkers, business people, diplomats and journalists.

And since then I've had the opportunity to attend further Koenigswinter conferences to get to know people across the political and business spectrum in Germany.

And I'm always admiring — admiring of what modern Germany has achieved.

Because modern Germany stands as an example to us all of what democracy can achieve against odds that some once thought impossible.

If you look back at the history of modern Germany, you can see in Konrad Adenauer one of the towering statesmen of the last century.

You can see Ludwig Erhard, and the establishment of the social market economy — a model which combines free enterprise and social justice in a way that other countries have learnt so much from.

We've seen in the example of Willy Brandt an opportunity to try to bring together and to transcend divisions which some thought impossible to overcome.

And of course we saw in Helmut Kohl a chancellor who in a supreme act of statesmanship managed to bring the people of Germany together in a unity that we celebrate today.

And no-one should underestimate the scale and the measure of that achievement.

To take East Germany, which had been imprisoned in communism, and as a result its people having been denied freedom and free expression —

To take East Germany, to bind it with West Germany and to create from those two sundered parts a country which today is an example of democratic virtue and of civic spirit and of entrepreneurialism and solidarity, was an amazing historical achievement.

And it should continue to be celebrated.

But as the Bundeskanzler enlightened us today in Kiel, the work of German unity is a work that is always ongoing, as the work of unity for all politicians always is.

There are always challenges that pull us apart: political polarisation, economic divisions, and sometimes an increasingly raucous and strident political and media atmosphere.

There are temptations for people to pull apart rather than come together.

Well, the example of modern Germany reminds us how important it is to come together. And as the Ambassador also reminded us, it also shows that we can come together quickly when we recognise how important it is to set aside divisions.

Britain made its democratic decision three years ago to leave the European Union — and I know there will be many people in this room who will deeply regret that decision.

But also one of the things that I am grateful for, and I know that the British government is grateful for, is the way in which the German government and our friends in Europe respect that decision and have sought since then to ensure that that decision can be honoured in a way that makes sure that the links that have been forged on a personal and on a cultural and on an economic level can be preserved in the future.

And in the days ahead I hope we can secure our exit from the European Union in a way that ensures that the deep ties that bind both our countries can be enhanced and refurbished in the days to come.

Because Britain and Germany have so much in common.

Not just — I think Britain and Germany do have much in common — but my view is that both of us are robust and successful democracies, both of us are examples of how you can combine commitment to a free enterprise economy with a commitment to social justice.

And both of us have a critical role to play in making sure that the rules-based international order — those values that have come to be known as western values, but in truth are universal democratic values — are upheld and defended.

And that's why I want to thank not just the German Ambassador but also the government of the Federal Republic of Germany for their friendship — and in particular to thank the Bundeskanzler for the leadership that she has shown and continues to show in demonstrating that modern Germany is an example to us all, and an example that we can celebrate.

And with that I just want to say to all our friends in Germany — thank you for your friendship, thank you for your solidarity, and thank you for your example.

Thank you.

5 millones de libras para proyectos de investigación sobre resistencia a los antimicrobianos entre el Reino Unido y Argentina

Los fondos serán destinados a 5 proyectos de investigación bilateral entre el Reino Unido y la Argentina.

El aporte proviene del Fondo Global de Innovación en RAM (GAMRIF) del Reino Unido y tendrá como contrapartida un aporte equivalente del Consejo de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas de la Argentina (CONICET) constituido por personal y recursos de laboratorio.

Esta semana, investigadores británicos y argentinos lanzaron en Buenos Aires el programa 'Herramientas para controlar la RAM en el medio ambiente'.

Los proyectores receptores de los fondos son los siguientes:

Las investigaciones beneficiarán a países de ingresos medios y bajos que son los más afectados por la resistencia a los antimicrobianos.

El programa estará administrado en el Reino Unido por el Consejo de Investigación en Biotecnología y Ciencias Biológicas (BBSRC) y el Consejo para la Investigación del Medio Ambiente (NERC) en representación del GAMRIF, y por el CONICET en la Argentina.

El uso de drogas antimicrobianas en la ganadería es uno de los principales factores del desarrollo y propagación de la RAM. Los microorganismos resistentes a los antimicrobianos pueden transmitirse del animal al ser humano por contacto directo o a través de la cadena alimentaria y del medio ambiente, lo que representa una importante amenaza potencial para la salud humana.

<u>Mark Kent</u>, Embajador Británico ante la República Argentina, dijo al respecto:

El anuncio de hoy es otra muestra del compromiso del Reino Unido de trabajar conjuntamente con la Argentina en el abordaje de problemas globales. La resistencia a los antimicrobianos es una amenaza que provoca la muerte de cientos de miles de personas en todo el mundo cada año.

Este programa de investigación representa lo mejor del Reino Unido y la Argentina en materia de capacidad técnica, y tendrá impacto a escala internacional. Combatir la resistencia a los antimicrobianos constituye una prioridad mundial, por ello resulta crucial investigar la RAM en el sector agropecuario y en el medio ambiente.

Este proyecto bilateral es una excelente noticia, no solo porque es bueno para la ciencia británica y la argentina, sino también porque los beneficios pueden compartirse con las economías en vías de desarrollo y emergentes de todo el mundo.

Dijo el Dr. Jorge Tezón, Gerente de Desarrollo Científico y Tecnológico del CONICET:

Se necesitan investigaciones de alta calidad para incrementar nuestra capacidad de tratar eficazmente las infecciones bacterianas en seres humanos y animales. Es por ello que el CONICET ha decidido asociarse con el Ministerio de Salud y Acción Social del Reino Unido, el BBSRC y el NERC y promover proyectos de investigación conjunta.

A nivel nacional, la Argentina promueve la labor interdisciplinaria de distintos actores nucleados bajo el concepto de "una sola salud". Este programa de investigación reviste especial importancia porque conlleva la interacción de diversas instituciones nacionales abocadas al problema de la RAM.

También creemos que este proyecto puede beneficiar a otros países y regiones del mundo que sufren los mayores efectos de la RAM y ayudarlos a mejorar la seguridad alimentaria y la economía que la sustenta.

Health Secretary tasks NHS with keeping A&E at Princess Royal open as an A&E Local

Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock has today called on the NHS to keep the Princess Royal A&E open as an A&E Local.

NHS England tasked with keeping Royal Shrewsbury A&E open

The independent panel visited the trust to hear directly from clinicians at both sites, who reported that the local area needed a new model of hospital care to provide their patients with consistently safe, high quality emergency care and treatment 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The independent panel recommended the emergency care centre for the region will remain at the Royal Shrewsbury hospital.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock said: "I want all patients to receive excellent healthcare throughout their life, no matter where they live. Any changes to services are rightly based on clinically led decisions at a local level.

"I am delighted we are investing £312 million for acute services in the local area.

"Having listened to and accepted the advice of independent clinical experts, I have asked NHS England to come forward with proposals within a month on how they will keep the A&E in Telford open as an A&E Local so that the Princess Royal Hospital can continue to deliver the urgent and emergency care the residents in the growing town of Telford need."

Plans for A&E Locals are being developed by NHS England and Improvement, and the Department is in close contact with the NHS on these developments."

The Health Secretary recognises that patients in Telford must continue to have access to emergency healthcare services and has therefore written to NHS England tasking them with keeping open the A&E at the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford as an A&E Local.