

Raab: A Good Global Citizen

Rt
Hon Dominic Raab MP, Foreign Secretary and First Secretary of State, speaking today at Conservative Party Conference at Manchester Central Convention Complex, said:

**(Check
against delivery)**

“Thank you, conference.

Taking on this job as Foreign Secretary and our mission for a Global Britain is the fulfilment of a long-standing dream.

Fifteen years ago, I was young Foreign Office lawyer, posted to the Hague. Diplomats from Asia to South America would say to me: ‘You guys in the EU. You spend so much time talking to yourselves, you miss so much of what’s going on in the rest of the world.’

It was true then and its true today. Brussels isn’t the only game in town. Everywhere I go, people are fired up by our vision for a Global Britain. When I visited the US, President Trump invited me into the Oval Office to tell me how much he loves our country.”

“When I visited Bangkok for the ASEAN meeting of Asia-Pacific nations, they embraced our role in their region, because they prize our commitment to the rules based international system. In Mexico, we talked about tackling climate change. In Canada, we worked on our joint campaign to protect journalists around the world from torture and arbitrary detention.”

“The truth is we Brits get a warm welcome almost everywhere in world.

Ok, maybe not in Luxembourg.

But you know what. I think the British people have had more than enough of EU leaders disrespecting British Prime Ministers.

So, we’ll strive in good faith for a deal. But if the EU spurn the opportunity for a win-win deal, We will leave at the end of October ... no ifs, no buts.

We want to stay good
European neighbours.
But we'll be free to chart our own course, as masters of our own destiny – at home and abroad, with a more liberal and energetic approach to free trade.”

“But our vision of
Global Britain reaches well beyond just trade.

When I was posted to the
Hague in 2003, I headed up the FC0's war crimes team.

Experiences like that
stay with you.

When I visited Sierra
Leone, I met the victims of that terrible conflict.

A boy told me how a
rebel soldier had asked him whether he wanted 'long or short sleeve',

Before deciding where to
wield his machete on his arm.

It was heart-breaking to
listen to.

But I'm proud Britain
helped Sierra Leone get back on its feet. I'm proud to have been part of the
UK's international effort to bring the perpetrators of those crimes to
justice.”

“And, as we look to our
future, our foreign policy should be guided by a clear moral compass.

We've got to offer the
poorest countries the chance to trade with us, freed from the shackles of
hypocritical EU protectionism.

We've got to lead in
tackling climate change. That's why we're hosting COP26, the global
conference
on climate change, in Glasgow next year.

And we've got to offer
the down-trodden around the world the hope that comes with standing up for
the
basic freedoms we cherish here in Manchester, this week, in this conference
centre.

Sometimes it feels a
hopeless task.

But history remembers the courage of those who stand up to be counted.”

“In the 1990s, I met a Russian dissident Natan Sharansky. He’d been locked in a Soviet gulag for 9 years for campaigning for the right of oppressed Jews to leave Russia. I still find that tough to imagine... 9 years in a Soviet jail, miserable conditions, separated from your loved ones.”

“I asked Sharansky what kept his hopes alive. He told me the political prisoners had a secret way of communicating in the gulag. They tapped on the walls, in code, to spread the word.”

“So, when, in 1983, Ronald Reagan stood up and called the Soviet Union an Evil Empire, Those Soviet prisons came alive with the hum of jailed dissidents tapping and whispering from cell to cell. Reagan’s courage and moral clarity gave hope to those who feared they’d been forgotten. And Sharansky was the first political prisoner Mikhail Gorbachev released.”

“The world is different today. But, we must never forget the lessons of history. And we must keep the flame of freedom alive in the darkest corners of the bleakest jails, For those struggling for the basic liberties we take for granted... The right you jealously guard – here, this week – to debate, to have your say, to hold your politicians to account.

So, we won’t look the other way, when the people of Hong Kong are beaten indiscriminately on commuter trains for exercising the right to peaceful protest.

We won’t stand idly by whilst journalists are jailed or beaten up for criticising the despotic regime of Nicolas Maduro in Venezuela.

And we will never rest until all those bearing UK nationality, detained on a cruel whim in Iran, are free to re-join their loved ones at home.”

“We will relish not shrink from our duty to take a leading role in bringing the perpetrators of the worst injustices to account.

Whether it’s ensuring

the release of the two Reuters journalists jailed in Myanmar for reporting on the plight of the Rohingya refugees or bringing war criminals to trial from Yugoslavia to the Democratic Republic of Congo.

And when we leave the
EU, we'll be able to do even more.

So, conference, I can
tell you today that we will bring into force a UK Magnitsky law,
To place visa bans and asset freezes on those individuals deemed responsible
for serious human rights abuses, including torture."

"Because, the British
people don't want those with blood on their hands doing their Christmas
shopping in Knightsbridge or laundering their dirty money through British
banks. And because, our vision of Global Britain means being a force for good
in the world, A Global Good Citizen."

"And the fate of those
living under oppression reminds us how much we prize our hard-earned
prosperity, our hard-won freedoms.
We must never take them for granted.

That's what's at stake,
if Labour takes office under Jeremy Corbyn.

Labour, once a
mainstream party now hails the failed socialist experiment in Venezuela where
the population starves and dissidents are shot in the street.

A party that chooses to
believe the Kremlin over our own intelligence services, when Putin's
assassins
poison people on the streets of Salisbury.

And a party led by a man
in Jeremy Corbyn who attends a memorial at the graves of terrorists
responsible
for butchering Israeli Olympic athletes out of anti-Semitic hate."

"I say this as a
passionate Brexiteer, there are some things even bigger than Brexit,
And keeping that lot out of Downing Street is one of them.

So, to any of our
colleagues – or former colleagues – tempted to put Jeremy Corbyn and his
momentum mob into No 10, as part of some 'temporary' anti-Brexit coalition...
I just say this: history would never forgive you."

"As for the Liberal
Democrats. They want to scrap the result of the 2016 vote.

You can't call yourself a Democrat, put it in the name of your party, and then try to cancel a referendum.
Well, no one ever accused the Lib Dems of consistency.
But when it comes to offences under the Trade Description Act, they're guilty as charged.

This Prime Minister is offering a better way forward.

Let's get Brexit done,

Let's move on,
Let's unite behind our One Nation vision for the country,
And let's bring the Conservative family back together."

"We in the Conservative party keep our promises.
We're going to make a success of Brexit,
And, we will free our country to reach its full potential.

With the Prime Minister's leadership and energy, we're going to seize this historic opportunity for Britain to reach out to the world on our own terms... with global horizons, limitless ambition and a strong moral compass."

"Friends, it's time to put the past behind us.
It's time to let go of the wrangling and the doubts.
It's time for us to be the country we want to be.

Great Britain:
ambitious, confident and free."

ENDS

[Ben Wallace: Speech to Conservative Party Conference](#)

Secretary of State for Defence Ben Wallace, speaking today at Conservative Party Conference in Manchester, said:

**(Check
against delivery)**

“Good
afternoon, as a Lancashire MP it is so nice to be here in Manchester at the heart
of the North West. A region whose contribution to the wealth, science and
innovation of the Nation is unrivalled. A region who builds our ships,
submarines and aircraft to keep our nation safe.

In
fact North West aerospace industries have a combined turnover of £7bn and
export all over the world.

It
wasn't for nothing that Mr Rolls met Mr Royce 115 years ago in the Midland
Hotel. The pursuit of excellence is what our defence companies do which is
why
we rely on them to supply our armed forces.

Excellent
defence anchored in engineering excellence. A partnership that supports jobs
and skills up and down the spine of our United Kingdom. Spreading prosperity
and creating wealth.

I
was delighted in July to have been appointed Secretary of State for Defence.
It
is a great privilege to

be
in charge of a department that has within it so many amazing men and women
whose “can do attitude” and dedication to duty ensures we can sleep soundly
at
night.

As
a former soldier myself it feels like home. Now I have to admit that when I
served I was not the highest of flyers. I was not always in the good books.
Indeed I was often in receipt of numerous extra guard duties for one
transgression or another.

But
I wouldn't have missed my years in uniform for the world. The comradeship, the
sense of purpose and the experiences equipped me for life. And yes we faced
danger and saw things no one should have to see but we did it together and we
did it because deep down we believed in the values of this great country.

Those
values haven't changed. Our belief in freedom, the rule of law, tolerance and
democracy. Our armed forces are the vanguard of those values.

They
are the most important equipment of all and It is our duty as politicians to
honour them with honesty and clear leadership.

For
too many decades politicians have had greater ambitions than they were
prepared
to fund. Funding

pressures
were dealt with not by doing less but by hollowing out often leaving our
forces
over stretched, over spent or both.

In
September the Prime Minister and Chancellor recognised the importance of
defence by putting their money where their mouth was. The record £2.2 billion
settlement means we can properly deliver both the investment into our people
and into our future capability.

With
the new funding we will invest in better accommodation, childcare and career
pathways for our Armed Forces personnel and we can ensure that we don't over
stretch and run down our equipment. It is why, as the new Shipbuilding tsar,
I
was able to confirm the order for five British made, Type 31 frigates this
month.

As
Defence Secretary I am determined to meet these 21st century challenges by
delivering reform. It is vital that the UK delivers an up to date defence
capability that allows us to not only defend ourselves but to also ensure we
play a leading role in shaping the globe, supporting our Allies and
protecting
the rules based system.

Much
of what defence does is often unseen. Over the horizon or deep under the
oceans. But that doesn't mean it doesn't matter. It does. In the 21st
century securing the nation is no easy task. The threats ranged against us
come
from far and wide. From terrorists, from aggressor states and natural
phenomena.

Our
security is threatened in different domains – land, sea, space, cyber, air.
Day
and night. Winter and
summer.

Our adversaries constantly look for new means of attack. In the 21
years since I left the Army war fighting has changed beyond recognition.

Drones, the internet, satellites and artificial intelligence all pose deadly challenges. Much of what we do overseas, such as the fight against ISIL, is designed to keep our streets safe here at home.

Just

last week, on the eastern reaches of Ukraine I observed the separatist trenches

at first hand. But our friends in Ukraine are not alone. Our Army are there too. Training and advising. Making sure Russian efforts to undermine the international rule of law that we all live by are not successful.

Meanwhile

at home our troops are ready and able to help mitigate the consequences of terrorism or floods as we saw only this year. In fact our armed forces always stand ready to contribute to that most vital of duties of Government – Defence.

The

Ministry of Defence I lead is lucky to have an excellent team – Mark Lancaster,

Baroness Goldie, Anne-Marie Trevelyan, Johnny Mercer and Leo Docherty. That means there are four Ministers who have served in the Armed Forces working in the department. Unprecedented I am sure.

But

let us take a moment to contrast our team with Labour... A leader and shadow chancellor who have spent more time honouring dead terrorists than British Veterans. A leader who when my soldiers and I were fighting the IRA was sipping

tea with them. And a Labour Party who would shut down our defence industries out of a misguided ideological crusade. As ever playing politics with people's livelihoods.

After

Brexit, Britain will want to spread her wings to new markets and new territories. We will want to strengthen our international links. For example the Five Eyes nations – the US, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and

UK already trust and share the same values.

In

defence we must embrace them even more. Helping each other – from the Arctic to the Pacific.

Defence

must be Global Britain's "tip of the spear" and "spine of our nation." It must

be modern and potent. It must be ready and able. I am determined to make sure it will be."

ENDS

Alok Sharma: The moral and economic case for UK aid

Alok

Sharma, International Development Secretary, speaking today at Conservative Party Conference at The Manchester Convention Centre, said:

**(Check
against delivery)**

“Conference.

Five

weeks ago, I stood at one of the busiest crossings along the border of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

I

saw the vital support UK aid is providing to prevent Ebola crossing borders.

I

spoke to health workers. Community leaders. Women and children in a local village. Their verdict was unanimous.

Britain’s

international leadership in combating the spread of this deadly disease has been critical in saving lives.

Some

may ask, why does this matter for Britain?

To

those people, I would say it is the right thing to do.

Since

August 2018, over 2,000 people have died from Ebola in East Africa.

The

latest reported victim a 9-year-old Congolese girl.

If

we can prevent deaths from diseases where there are cures and vaccines, then we must act.

But

for me, the Conservative Party's ultimate goal is about supporting countries to help themselves.

To become economically self-sustaining.

Our trading partners of the future.

I want developing countries to trade their way out of needing aid.

It is a vision shared by all my brilliant Ministerial colleagues Zac Goldsmith, Andrew Murrison, Andrew Stephenson and Liz Sugg.

Successful countries draw on the talent of all their population.

That is why I am delighted our Prime Minister is championing 12 years of quality education for every girl around the world.

On a visit to Kaduna State in Nigeria I saw precisely what British leadership and support can achieve.

I visited a previously failing school which, with UK support, had almost doubled its school roll in two years.

Over half the pupils enrolled are now girls.

They are achieving great results.

And the students spoke of their ambitions to be business leaders, doctors and journalists.

We should all be very proud that it is a Conservative Prime Minister and a Conservative Government helping to empower girls and women around the world.

Helping them to build a better future for themselves, their families and their countries.

Conservative

Prime Ministers have a habit of setting the pace on global action.

I
remember the last time I spoke on the main conference stage, I was 20.

We
were in Blackpool and Margaret Thatcher was our Prime Minister.

For
all of us, Lady Thatcher is an icon.

That
is how my family viewed her.

It
was her economic policies that allowed my parents to build their small
business.

On
a personal level, my family owes her a deep sense of heartfelt gratitude.

Margaret
Thatcher set the pace in so many areas, including on climate change.

She
did more than any other major UK politician at the time to legitimise the
environment as a concern at the highest level.

30
years ago, speaking passionately at the United Nations about the threat posed
by climate change.

And
this week at the United Nations, our Prime Minister announced that we will
double our support to help developing countries turn the tide against climate
change and species loss.

It's
us Conservatives, tackling climate change and protecting the world's
biodiversity.

Since
arriving at DFID, I have renewed our emphasis economic development,
particularly when it comes to climate resilient infrastructure.

I
have set up an Infrastructure Commission to help us mobilise private sector
investment, to create jobs that will lift millions out of poverty in Africa.

We
must support partner countries to raise more resources
through private sector investment and their own tax revenues.

Within
10 years, we want to support partner countries to raise ten times more
resource
through private sector investment and their own tax revenues than they
receive
in UK aid.

That
is how we help to build sustainable economies.

And
that is where we differ so much from Jeremy Corbyn's Labour Party.

Labour
believe in handouts at home and abroad. We believe in a helping hand.

Labour
see business as the enemy. We see the private sector as an enabler.

Leaving the European Union will present new
opportunities.

We
will be able to spend our aid budget more efficiently, deciding for ourselves
what to spend it on.

That's
why we need to get Brexit done.

The
only reason our country is able to help others is because of our strong
economy.

A
strong economy rescued, yet again, by a Conservative Government from the
clutches of another failing Labour administration.

An
economy, based on sound economic principles, delivering record employment.
Wages growth out pacing inflation.

And
what is Jeremy Corbyn's economic model? Venezuela.

Who
does Jeremy Corbyn consider as one of his mates? Maduro, the Marxist
President
of Venezuela.

A
man whose policies have resulted in millions of Venezuelans fleeing their
country.

And
millions more trapped, suffering the impact of a growing humanitarian
disaster.

The
economy collapsed.

Public
services collapsed.

The
very being of the country on life support.

We
should be proud that Britain has stepped forward to provide life-saving
humanitarian support to millions of Venezuelans.

Just
last week, I announced an aid package that will deliver life-saving medicine
and clean water to those suffering from the dire crisis in that country.

Venezuela
serves as a grim reminder of why we cannot allow Corbyn and his Marxist
henchman McDonnell loose on the British economy.

We
need a thriving economy in order to be able to help others.

As
Conservatives, we believe there is both a moral and economic case for UK aid.

But
what I will not tolerate is hard working British taxpayers' money, your
money,
being frittered away on projects that don't make a difference to the world's
poorest.

UK
Aid must be built on a commitment to end extreme poverty.

We
should be so proud to live in the best country in the world.

A
tolerant, generous and outward looking nation.

With
one of the world's biggest economies.

Providing
leadership on the international stage.

Projecting

British values around the globe.

But
to do all that, we must keep our economy strong, with a Conservative Government.

United
behind our One Nation Prime Minister.

Ready
to get Brexit done, so that we can move on and deliver on the people's priorities.

Delivering
opportunity, and economic prosperity, across the whole of our great United Kingdom."

ENDS

Cleverly: Conservative Party signs up to Armed Forces Covenant

The Prime Minister and the Conservative Party Chairman have signed the Armed Forces Covenant, formalising the Conservative Party's commitment to supporting veterans and forces personnel.

The Conservative Party is the first political party in the UK to sign the Armed Forces Covenant, which recognises the contribution of
serving personnel, veterans and military families.

In a keynote address to Conservative Party members, the Party Chairman, James Cleverly, will say that he is proud to have veterans,
reservists and cadet volunteers represented at every level of the Conservative
party. Signing the Armed Forces Covenant will formally recognise the commitment
and dedication of the Forces family.

The Party
will now offer reduced price conference passes to veterans, proactively advertise employment vacancies to the veteran community and strive to accommodate the training and deployment commitments of Reserves. The Party already offers concessionary membership rates to serving or former members of the Armed Forces.

This builds on the work of the Conservative Government to support the Armed Forces. Since 2010, the Conservatives have enshrined the Armed Forces Covenant in law, launched the first ever UK-wide Veterans Strategy and awarded ID cards to all veterans, making it easier for ex-forces personnel to access specialist support.

One of Boris Johnson's first acts as Prime Minister was to establish the Office for Veterans Affairs, responsible for ensuring Government departments deliver on their responsibilities to veterans.

Commenting, James Cleverly MP, Chairman of the Conservative Party, said:

"Our Armed Forces are some of the most committed and dedicated people in the country. Their bravery should be acknowledged formally and I'm delighted that the Conservative Party has done so."

ENDS

[Conservatives embark on biggest hospital building programme for a generation](#)

Health

Secretary Matt Hancock has launched the biggest hospital building programme in a generation, as part of a major push by the Conservatives to ensure the NHS is delivering for patients across the country.

The multi-billion pound new Health Infrastructure Plan will deliver a long-term, rolling five-year programme of investment in health infrastructure, including capital to build new hospitals, modernise our primary care estate, and invest in new diagnostics and technology.

As part of the Health Infrastructure Plan, 40 new hospitals will be built across England over the next decade. Six of the hospital builds are getting the full go-ahead today, and a further twenty one new build projects (consisting of thirty four new hospitals in total) are receiving seed funding to kick start

their schemes. Other projects will be able to bid into this and other future waves too.

The package includes £200m to replace MRI, CT scanners and breast cancer screening equipment, so that no scanner in the NHS is more than 10 years old. And the Government is today confirming that the Department of Health and Social Care will receive a new multi-year capital settlement at the next capital review to develop capacity, plan effectively, get better value for money and deliver on the commitments we have already made.

The six hospitals getting the full go-ahead today are: Whipps Cross Hospital, Epsom and St Helier Trust, West Hertfordshire Trust, Princess Alexandra Hospital Trust, University Hospitals of Leicester Trust, and Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust. These projects are being funded with a £2.7 billion cash injection of brand new money from the Treasury.

The projects receiving the £100 million seed funding include Addenbrookes hospital in Cambridge, the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham and the North Manchester General Hospital.

The new investment comes in addition to the £33.9 billion increase in cash funding for the day-to-day running of the NHS being delivered by the Government over the next five years.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

"When I became Prime Minister, I promised to make sure that money for the NHS gets directly to the front line, so that patients consistently receive world-class care and NHS staff have the resources they need to provide this incredible service day in, day out. We're already delivering on this, upgrading hospitals across the country. And today we're investing more money to support our NHS. We're providing additional funding for 40 new hospitals to be built over the next decade. This will transform our NHS for millions of patients and hard-working staff.

"I've spent the past two months visiting hospitals across the country, and I've seen

first-hand the need to invest in our hospitals. We need to get Brexit done by [October 31](#) so we can focus on investing in our NHS, providing more resources for staff and world-leading care for patients.”

Health

Secretary Matt Hancock said:

“I love the NHS and I’m incredibly excited to be able to launch the largest hospital building plan in a generation, with 40 new hospitals across the country. Too many of our hospitals are too old, and this £13 billion plan will build new state of the art hospitals, using the best technology, so our brilliant NHS staff have the best possible facilities to provide the best possible care.

“For too long, we’ve taken a short-term approach to NHS buildings and infrastructure, too often using a PFI system that has hamstrung hospitals for decades. Our new Health Infrastructure Plan is going to change that. Rather than the piecemeal and uncoordinated decisions of the past, we will be taking a strategic approach to improve health infrastructure and set the priorities for the NHS over the long term.

“I’ve seen first-hand the difference that world-class facilities can make for patients. At their best, well-designed wards with the right facilities can speed up recovery, ensure patients receive the right treatment, and get medication on time. The Health Infrastructure Plan will help ensure everyone in our country has access to the best possible healthcare when they need it, wherever they live, and whoever they are, for generations to come.

“Alongside our record £33.9 billion funding increase for the day to day running of the NHS, this is the largest, longest, financial settlement for the NHS in history. This investment is only possible thanks to our responsible management of the economy. Only Boris Johnson and the Conservatives will boost our economy, so that we can properly fund our vital public services and make sure our NHS is always there for you and your family.”

ENDS

Annex A – First set of investment in new hospitals

6 hospitals to be developed in HIP1 (2020-2025)

London – Barts Health NHS Trust – Whipps Cross University Hospital – North East London

London – Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust – St Helier Hospital – South West London

North East and Yorkshire – Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust – Leeds General Infirmary – Leeds

East – The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust – Princess Alexandra Hospital – Harlow

Midlands – University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust – Leicester General, Leicester Royal, Glenfield – Leicester

East – West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust – Watford General – Watford

21 Trusts being given seed funding to develop their plans for HIP2 (2025-2030)

East – Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Addenbrookes – Cambridge

South West – Dorset Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust – Various (potentially 12) community hospitals – Dorset

South East – East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust – Conquest, Eastbourne District Hospitals – Hastings; Eastbourne

South East – Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Royal Hampshire County Hospital,

Basingstoke & North Hampshire Hospital – Winchester – Basingstoke

London – Hillingdon Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – The Hillingdon Hospital = North West London

London – Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust – Charing Cross, St Mary's and Hammersmith Hospitals – West and Central London

East – James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – James Paget Hospital – Great Yarmouth

Midlands – Kettering General Hospital NHS Foundation Trust – Kettering General Hospital – Kettering

North West – Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Royal Preston Hospital – Preston

East – Milton Keynes NHS Foundation Trust – Milton Keynes
Hospital – Milton Keynes

South West – North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust – North Devon
District Hospital – Barnstaple

Midlands – Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust – Queen's
Medical Centre, Nottingham City Hospital – Nottingham

North West – Pennine Acute Hospitals NHS Trust – North
Manchester General Hospital – North Manchester

South West – Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust – Derriford
Hospital – Plymouth

South East – Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust – Royal
Berkshire Hospital – Reading

South West – Royal Cornwall NHS Foundation Trust – Royal
Cornwall Hospital – Truro

South West – Royal United Bath NHS Foundation Trust – Royal
United Bath Hospital – Bath

South West – Taunton and Somerset NHS Foundation Trust – Musgrove Park
Hospital – Taunton

South West – Torbay and South Devon Health Care NHS
Foundation Trust – Torbay District General – Torquay

North West – University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS
Foundation Trust – Royal Lancaster Infirmary and Furness General Hospital –
Lancaster;
Barrow-in-Furness

East – West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust – West Suffolk
Hospital – Bury St Edmunds