

France and the United Kingdom: a rich and diversified partnership

Regular high-level visits and meetings

- June 2014: 5th State visit to France of Queen Elizabeth II
- March 2016: UK-France Summit in Amiens: partnerships formed (civil nuclear power, Young Leaders programme)
- July 2016: commemoration of the centenary of the Battle of the Somme
- September 2016 - Nuclear: signing of the investment agreement for the two EPRs at Hinkley Point
- January 2018: Franco-British Summit at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

A long-standing and dynamic strategic partnership

Strong defence cooperation under the 2010 Lancaster House Treaties

- Operational component:
 - The Combined Joint Expeditionary Force (CJEF), a binational force being created, which could exceed 10,000 men, and could be quickly deployed for high-intensity operations
 - about 50 exchange officers on each side
- Armament cooperation: FCAS combat drones are being developed
- Agreement on closer industry cooperation (missile sectors)

Civil nuclear energy:

- Project to build a nuclear power station at Hinkley Point C (two EPRs) by EDF Energy, one of the largest investments ever in the United Kingdom

Strong economic, political and cultural ties

French companies in the United Kingdom

- The UK is the leading destination for French companies in terms of employee numbers, and number two in terms of branches set up in the UK
- It has 3,000 companies employing 405,000 staff (by comparison, there are 1,997 British companies in France, employing 156,103 staff)
- France's largest trade surplus in the world (€11.7 billion in 2016)
- €94 billion in bilateral trade (€50.6 billion in goods and €43 billion in services)

Tourism

- France is the second most popular tourist destination for Britons
- France receives more tourists from Britain than from any other foreign country (11 million per year)

Academic cooperation

- Almost 14,000 French students in the United Kingdom
- 3,000 British students in France

France's cultural and education network in the United Kingdom

- The UK ranks third among Western European countries in terms of French language learning
- The new Lycée International Winston Churchill (2015) and the Lycée Charles De Gaulle, both in London, have almost 5,000 students

Sources: INSEE 2014 and 2016

Published January 2018