

13 July 2026

Dear Emily,

Today the Prime Minister and President von der Leyen announced the signing of a contractual agreement to enable the UK to participate in the EU's €90 billion Ukraine Support Loan initiative.

This follows the Prime Minister and President von der Leyen's agreement at the European Political Community meeting in May for the UK and EU to commence negotiations on UK participation in the loan.

The successful conclusion of those negotiations and today's announcement therefore mark an important step forward in UK - EU defence and security cooperation, complementing our wider efforts to work together to strengthen the European defence industrial base, and building on our Security and Defence Partnership agreed at the first ever UK - EU Summit in May last year.

Most importantly, this will help to ensure Ukraine continues to receive the military capabilities it needs to defend itself, deter future aggression, and secure a just and lasting peace. It will enable Ukraine to procure a broad range of capabilities from UK industry, creating valuable opportunities for UK companies, while delivering world-class capabilities to Ukraine where they are needed most. This will complement the UK's existing military support, and demonstrates our unwavering commitment to Ukraine's defence.

The UK will make a fair contribution to the cost to the EU of providing the loan, proportionate to the value of the contracts awarded to United Kingdom industry, thereby helping to share the burden of Europe's collective security. If no contracts are awarded to UK companies, the UK will not be required to make a financial contribution to the loan.

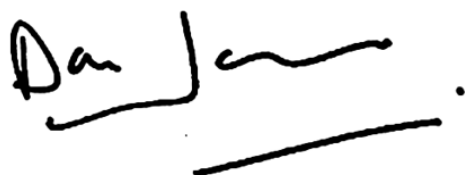
This demonstrates the UK and EU working together pragmatically and effectively on our shared security challenges. By combining our expertise, technology and industrial capacity, we can deliver greater security for Europe and greater support for Ukraine.

The Rt Hon. Emily Thornberry MP
Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA

Following the signature of the contract, the Council of the EU will now be asked to approve the necessary implementing measures to ensure that Ukraine can begin accessing UK capabilities as soon as possible.

We will update you on any further developments in UK - EU defence and security cooperation in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Jarvis', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

THE RT HON DAN JARVIS MBE MP
Secretary of State for Defence

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Thomas-Symonds', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

RT HON NICK THOMAS-SYMONDS MP
MINISTER FOR THE CABINET OFFICE
HIS MAJESTY'S PAYMASTER
GENERAL