



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

The Rt Hon. Ed Miliband MP
Secretary of State for Foreign,
Commonwealth and Development Affairs

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Sarah Champion MP
Chair, International Development Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

12 August 2026

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your correspondence of 21 July. It is a great honour and a privilege to be appointed as Foreign Secretary. I value your Committee's scrutiny of the FCDO. My Department remains committed to providing timely responses to your inquiries, and I encourage my Ministerial team and officials to engage pro-actively with your Committee.

As Foreign Secretary, I am committed to fighting for Britain's interests and our values of democracy, freedom and the rule of law on the world stage. We face a time of greater instability and threat to international law and democracy than at any time since the Second World War, and that is why these values are more important than ever.

From Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine to the conflict in the Middle East, time and again we have seen the consequences of a more dangerous world impacting the cost of living for families here at home. That is why we must work with others to defend the principles that we cherish, because it is in our national and economic interest to do so.

In this role, I will seek to build on the work of my predecessors by strengthening our strategic alliance with the European Union, which is so important for our prosperity and security. At the same time, it is vital that we nurture our strong, enduring and essential alliance with the United States. I will uphold our commitment to multilateral institutions from NATO to the UN as well as working with global partners, particularly in the Global South.

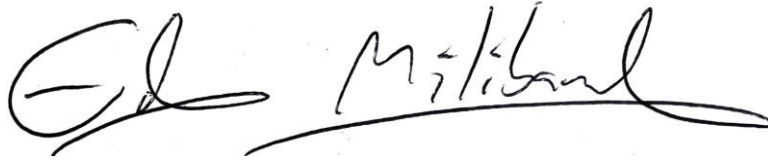
Pursuing our interests and values means continuing to stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine, as Britain has done for the last four years. It means playing our part to seek to end the conflict in Iran and fully reopen the Strait of Hormuz. It also means working tirelessly to seek a sustainable peace in Palestine and Israel, including an end to the terrible suffering of the people of Gaza and security for the people of Israel.

The FCDO I lead will also be at the forefront of issues which pose profound and substantial threats to justice and equality in Britain and across the world. We will work with others on tackling the climate crisis, strengthening our partnerships for international development, and reforming our international institutions so they deliver for all countries, including the world's poorest people.

I would be happy to give evidence to discuss the work of my Department in due course. I would also welcome the opportunity to meet informally soon to discuss your priorities and interests as Chair. My officials will be in touch to make the arrangements.

At this time of significant global challenges, I look forward to working with you.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Miliband', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

THE RT HON. ED MILIBAND MP
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs