

Year 11 Citizenship Revision Guide – Paper 2

Paper 2 is quite different from Paper 1. There are 3 sections:-

- Section A - Questions relate to your own citizenship action (which was making your campaign awareness videos). 24 marks are available in this section and they are some of the easiest in the exam, so you should be aiming to get 20 marks from this section.
- Section B - Questions require you to comment on others' actions and relate to Theme D: Power and Influence.
- Section C - Questions are focused on Theme D: Power and Influence, but one question will also link to content in one of Themes A–C (all the content from Paper 1).

Section A

The first thing you need to do is explain to the examiner what your coursework was on. There are no marks for this but the clearer you are, the easier it will be for the examiner to understand your coursework and give you more marks later on in this section.

SECTION A: Own citizenship action

You have been part of a group that organised and took part in a citizenship action. In no more than 20 words, write the title of your citizenship action below.

Write something like:

My group created a video on _____ (whatever your citizenship topic was) to raise awareness of this issue and to educate them about it.

The paper will then ask you questions similar to this. Make sure you talk up your video project. The questions in this section are worth 30% of the marks.

Citizenship Skill	How did you use this skill during the active citizenship project?
Investigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Researched our video topic - Asked others what they thought about our video topic - Discussed what we already knew about the topic - Discussed what we else we wanted to know about the topic
Research – Primary	<p>Primary Research is finding information out for yourself</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We did a survey about our topic - We asked others what their opinion of the topic was - We conducted some research to get facts and statistics about the topic - We asked people in authority (teachers, head teacher, other adults etc)

	what they thought of the topic
Research – Secondary	<p>Secondary Research is using existing data from other sources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We used data from websites such as BBC, Google etc. - We used data and info that the government had - We used key statistics from organizations that are associated with this topic, e.g. data on child poverty from Children in Need etc. - We used data from sources that we could trust
Problem-Solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We overcome technical problems with phones, cameras etc. - We overcame differences of opinion (e.g. what topic to choose) by discussing and negotiating with each other - We overcame scheduling problems by creating a timetable of when we were going to do things. - We made sure that all the work was shared out so that no-one was over-worked or to stop it being unfair.
Advocacy (representing others)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By teaching our topic we were able to represent people affected by it (e.g. poverty – underprivileged people, BLM – black lives, etc.) - We were able to work as a group to represent individuals who may not be able to or feel nervous to do so - We represented important citizenship issues to help improve the lives of others.
Raising Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We created a video to raise awareness of our topic amongst other students in our school community - We made our video available to the school so they could use them to further raise awareness - We used interesting and engaging information, video and facts to engage our audience and get them to take our topic more seriously
Planning Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We separated out the work amongst the group - We created a schedule to stick to - We organized when to meet, when to edit etc. - We had to plan out our video by finding relevant research and info - We had to plan what method or type of video would be most effective
Campaigning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our campaign was to raise awareness of our citizenship topic - We had to ensure that our campaign was interesting and campaign - Our campaign was a success as we informed more people about our citizenship topic and helped raise awareness

How could your project have been more successful:-

- Better planning, spent longer on the video, have chosen a different topic, conducted better research or used better research sources to make our video have more impact, used an alternative method etc.

This section always ends with a 12 mark question. This question isn't that hard to answer but there are a couple of easy mistakes which might lead to you getting NO marks.

The question might look something like this:-

(e) 'It is essential to collaborate when planning a successful citizenship action.'
How far do you agree with this view?
You **must** base your answer on your experience of your own citizenship action.
Give reasons for your opinion, showing that you have considered another point of view. (12)

This is how you go about answering it:-

Explain whether you agree or disagree with the statement. Try and do both.

Make sure you include other people's points of view in your answer. This could be someone else in your group, your teacher someone who would disagree with you etc.

(e) 'It is essential to collaborate when planning a successful citizenship action.'
How far do you agree with this view?
You **must** base your answer on your experience of your own citizenship action.
Give reasons for your opinion, showing that you have considered another point of view. (12)

The '**must**' is in bold because if you don't base your answer on your coursework, you will get zero marks!

Justify any points that you make

Section B - Theme D: Power and Influence

What power and influence can citizens have?



Major protests

From the Civil Rights Movement's 1963 March on Washington to the Arab Spring of early 2000s, protests have left powerful marks upon the world.



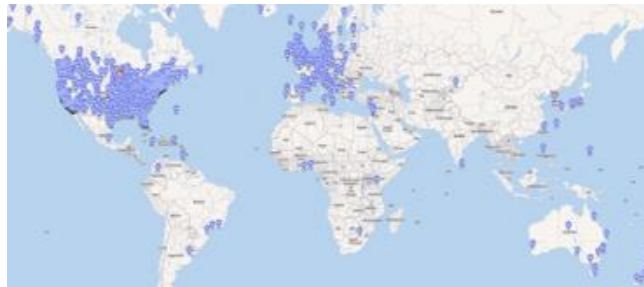
Historically, protests have served as a way for marginalized groups to express their frustrations — and make their demands known. One such example is New York's Stonewall riots, which really began the modern Pride movement and gave the LGBTQ community more visibility.

Protests like those over the death of George Floyd even happened in the midst of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Protesters around the world called for police reform and an end to systemic racism, which saw innocent people like Breonna Taylor killed. Several cities reported

violence against reporters and protesters, and many imposed curfews and boarded up businesses following accounts of looting.

Protests in the last few years

- An ongoing series of protests and civil unrest against the government of Iran began in Tehran on 16 September 2022 as a reaction to the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who had been arrested by the Guidance Patrol for wearing an "improper" hijab — in violation of Iran's mandatory hijab law — while visiting Tehran from Saqqez. According to eyewitnesses, Amini had been severely beaten by Guidance Patrol officers, an assertion denied by Iranian authorities.
- Protests across the world have occurred since the February 2022 when the conflict in Ukraine began.
- Protests across the world following the October 7th Hamas attacks in Israel and the subsequent Israeli attacks on Gaza.
- Protests over the death of George Floyd happened in the USA in all 50 states. On May 25 2020, Floyd, a black man, died after Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin kneeled on his neck for close to nine minutes. The next day, protests began in Minneapolis; by May 27, they had spread across the nation. The map below shows where protests about Floyd also happened elsewhere in the world.

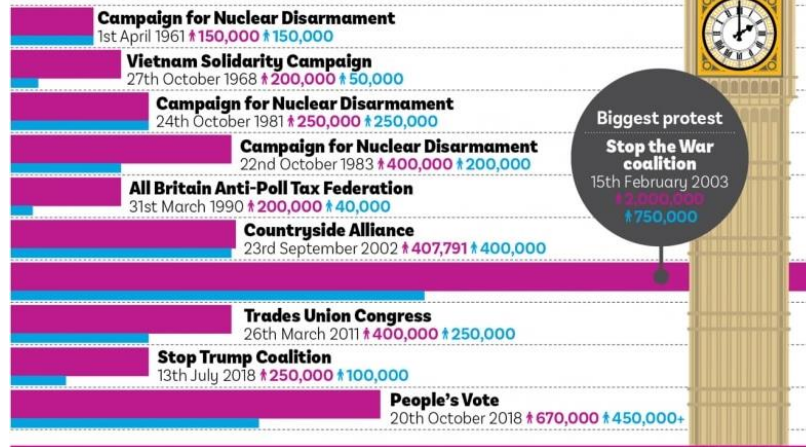


- In the Phillipines, protesters took to the streets over a new anti-terror bill. The Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020, which was created by President Rodrigo Duterte, would broaden the definition of terrorism and give police additional arrest and surveillance powers.
- Protests in Hong Kong happened throughout 2019-2020. The protests were against a new law that would try Hong Kong residents in mainland China, but became a pro-democracy movement. This was because Hong Kong residents felt their human rights weren't as well protected in Chinese courts.

What do we want?

On 20th October, the streets of London were filled with an estimated 670,000 protesters demanding a 'People's Vote' - a second referendum on Brexit. But how do the numbers stack up against other high-profile demonstrations in the UK capital?

Number of protesters: † Organisers' claim ‡ Official or independent estimates



There are a huge number of opportunities for citizens to participate in democracy in the UK. Unlike in countries such as Syria, our governments allow us to participate in politics and even protest against our leaders.

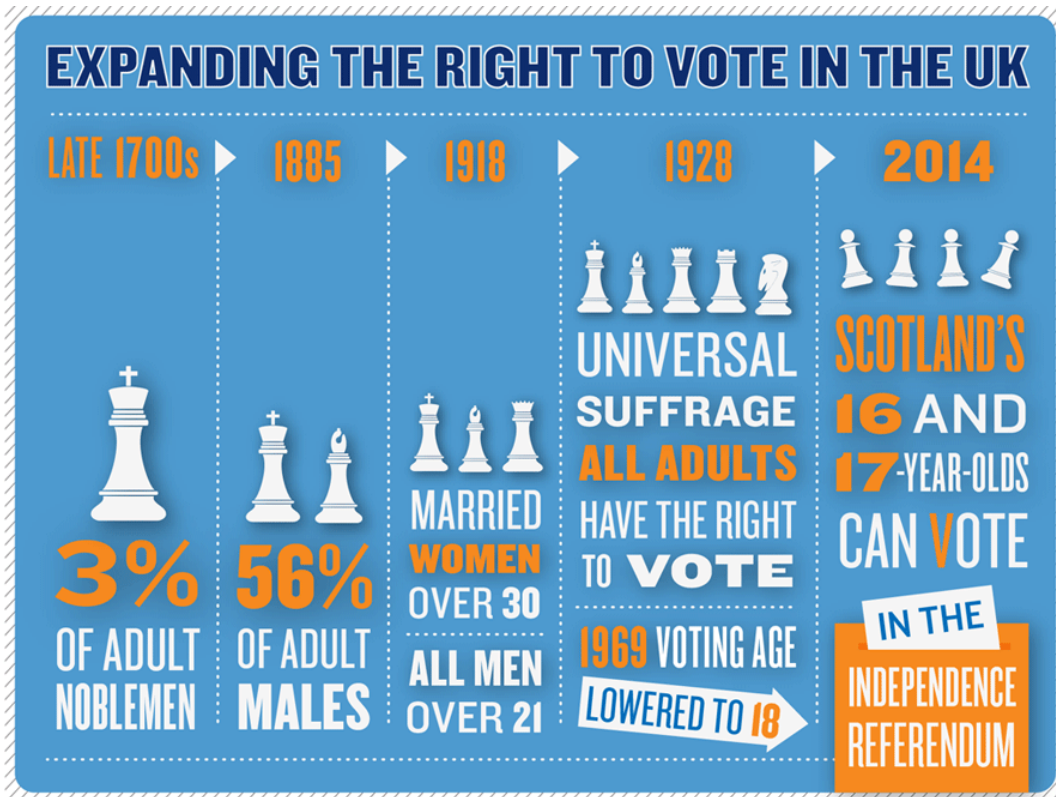
How can citizens participate in the UK?



- Vote
- Join a political party
- Campaign
- Protest
- Stand as a candidate
- Join a pressure group
- Contact representatives
- Stay informed (watch news, read paper, social media etc.)



- Voting – General Elections take place every 5 years, but there are also other types of elections such as local elections (Sutton Council, London Mayor etc.)



- Joining a political party – e.g. it costs around £70 a year to join the Labour Party as an adult, but only £12 for students.
- Campaign – much easier to start with websites such as change.org and with the growth of social media
- Protest – loads of ways to do this but if you want to protest within 1km of Parliament you have to get permission from the Police first.
- Stand as a candidate – you need to be 18, pay £500 and be nominated by people in the community. Just like Lord Buckethead and Count Binface did in 2019.



- Join a pressure group – from the NUS (National Union of Students) to the NUT (National Union of Teachers) there are pressure groups that represent all kinds of groups or causes.
- Contact representatives – don't like the lack of money in schools and the dodgy pcs? Contact your MP or local councillor.
- Stay informed – be aware of what's going on around you – whether by watching the news, reading a paper, or visiting Reddit.
- Create a petition:

How petitions work

1. You create a petition on the UK Government website. Only British citizens and UK residents can create or sign a petition.
2. You get 5 people to support your petition.
3. The petition department check your petition and then publish it.
4. **At 10,000 signatures you get a response from the government.**
5. **At 100,000 signatures your petition will be considered for a debate in Parliament.**

Here's an example of a recent petition:

Petition

End child food poverty – no child should be going hungry

Government should support vulnerable children & #endchildfoodpoverty by implementing 3 recommendations from the National Food Strategy to expand access to Free School Meals, provide meals & activities during holidays to stop holiday hunger & increase the value of and expand the Healthy Start scheme

[More details](#)

Covid-19 has been tough on us all but Government should ensure children don't pay the price:

- 14% of parents & 10% of children have experienced food insecurity over the last 6 months
- 32% of families have lost income as a result of Covid-19
- Demand for food banks this winter is predicted to be 61% higher than last.

With the Child Food Poverty Taskforce, I am calling for Government to allocate money to

- Expand free school meals to all under-16s where a parent or guardian is in receipt of Universal Credit or equivalent benefit
- Provide meals & activities during all holidays
- Increase the value of Healthy Start vouchers to at least £4.25 per week, and expand the scheme.


These 3 recommendations must be implemented without delay to #endchildfoodpoverty.

[Sign this petition](#)

1,101,548 signatures

[Show on a map](#)

100,000

 **Parliament will consider this for a debate**

This petition was done to help ensure that all children in the UK have enough to eat and don't go hungry, which was brought to national attention by Marcus Rashford and his campaign.

BBC News – Nov 2020

The government is to spend more than £400m to support poor children and their families in England, following a campaign by footballer Marcus Rashford.

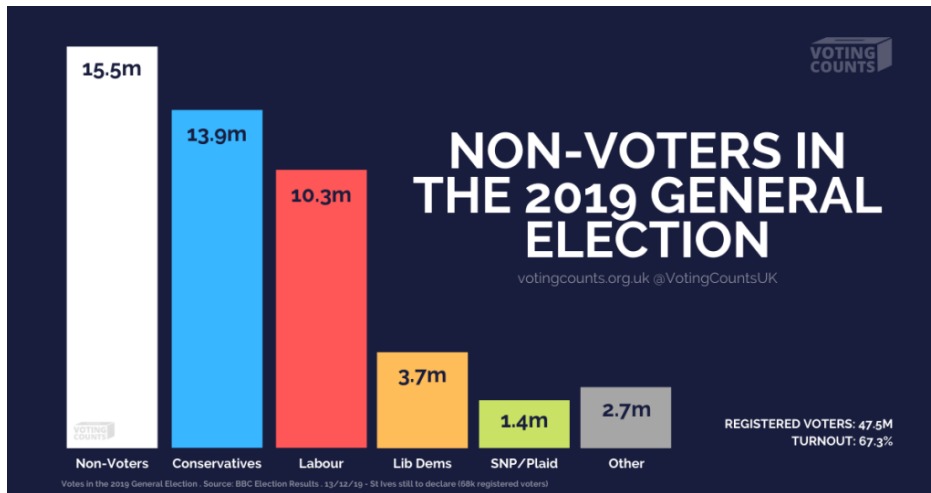
A winter grant scheme, to be run by councils, will provide support with food and bills, and a holiday food and activities programme is to be expanded.

Rashford said it would improve the lives of almost 1.7 million children.

- Our right to freedom of speech is also largely supported:-

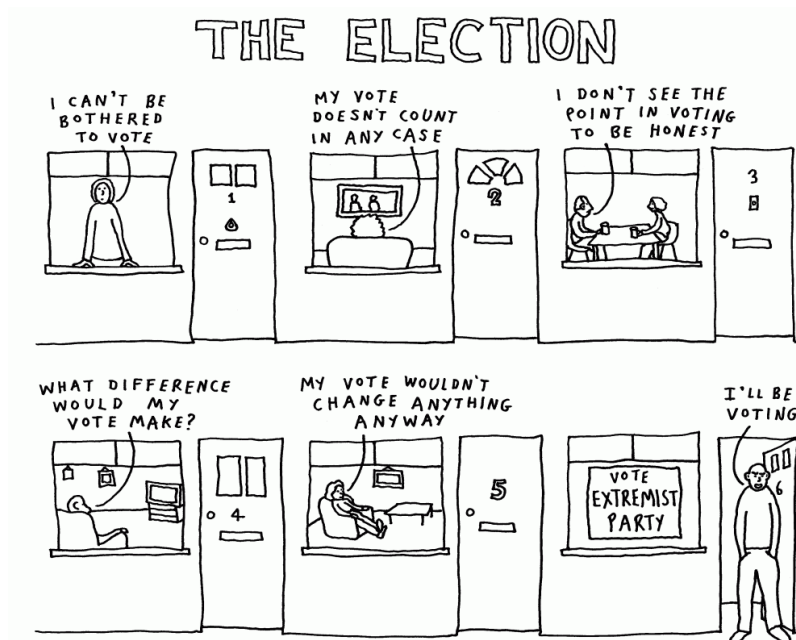


But, still non-voters are the largest group in the UK:-



Is this a problem? People are just expressing their right to not vote, which they're totally entitled to do.

Here's a reason why not bothering to vote might be an issue:-



There are lots of ways in which citizens can contribute to democracy and hold those in power to account and contribute to wider public life, including by voting, joining a pressure/interest group or political party, standing for election, campaigning, advocacy, lobbying, petitions, joining a demonstration and volunteering. We'll look at a few of these in more detail.



What are pressure groups?



Groups of people **campaigning for change** for a particular cause.

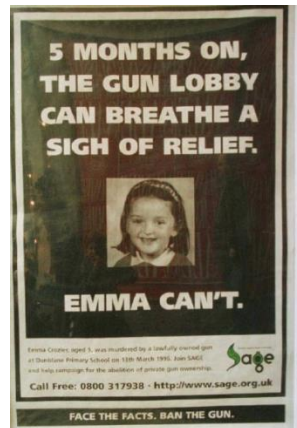


People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is the largest animal rights organization in the world, with more than 5 million members and supporters. PETA works through public education, cruelty investigations, research, animal rescue, legislation, special events, celebrity involvement, and protest campaigns.

- Pressure groups can be small, local and short-lived or they can be much larger, working all over the world with a long history of involvement.
- Pressure groups work to represent or promote the needs of particular groups like animals. Some groups work with **government** to force change in policy or law however some groups like to work as outsiders and campaign for change through **peaceful or violent protests** and other actions.

Pressure groups can represent a section of society (i.e. NUT – teachers, NUS – students, BMA – doctors) or a particular cause (i.e. Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth – environment, Shelter – homelessness). Pressure groups don't want to win power, but to influence those in power to make changes that benefit the pressure group's members or cause.

Some pressure groups disappear once they've achieved their goals. The Snowdrop Campaign was a pressure group that was created after the mass shootings in Dunblane in 1996, where a man shot 16 primary school children and a teacher. They campaigned for much stricter gun control laws which was achieved, making it far harder to purchase and keep guns. The pressure group then broke up as they had achieved their aim.



Black Lives Matter is an example of a modern pressure group

Case Study – Black Lives Matter

The names most associated with Black Lives Matter are not its leaders but the victims who have drawn attention to the massive issues of racism this country grapples with: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, to name a few.

The movement can be traced back to 2013, after the acquittal of George Zimmerman, who shot and killed Trayvon Martin in Florida. The 17-year-old had been returning from a shop after buying sweets and iced tea. Mr Zimmerman claimed the unarmed black teenager had looked suspicious. If calls for justice for Trayvon Martin lit the spark for Black Lives Matter, it was the death of Michael Brown a year later that really brought the movement to national attention.

The unarmed teenager had been shot dead by an officer in Ferguson, Missouri and Black Lives Matter took to the streets, often in angry confrontation with the police. But the killing of George Floyd took the movement to areas it had not reached before.

Chapters of Black Lives Matter have spread across the US and around the globe, with massive protests in the UK, Europe, and Canada. The Black Lives Matter movement has now been nominated for the 2021 Nobel peace prize for the way its call for systemic change has spread around the world.

The movement now includes many of diverse backgrounds, who had previously not felt connected to the cause.

Case Study – Just Stop Oil

Just Stop Oil has hit the headlines in recent months after a series of protests. The group is campaigning for more action on climate change but their tactics, which include blocking busy motorways, have faced criticism. Just Stop Oil is an environmental pressure group.

The movement first came to attention following a series of protests in March. This included pitch invasions at several Premier League football grounds, with one activist tying himself to a goalpost. There have been other notable protests since then, including disruption at oil terminals, throwing soup at a Van Gogh painting in the National Gallery, attempting to disrupt the British Grand Prix and on blocking some of the country's busiest motorways, such as the M25.

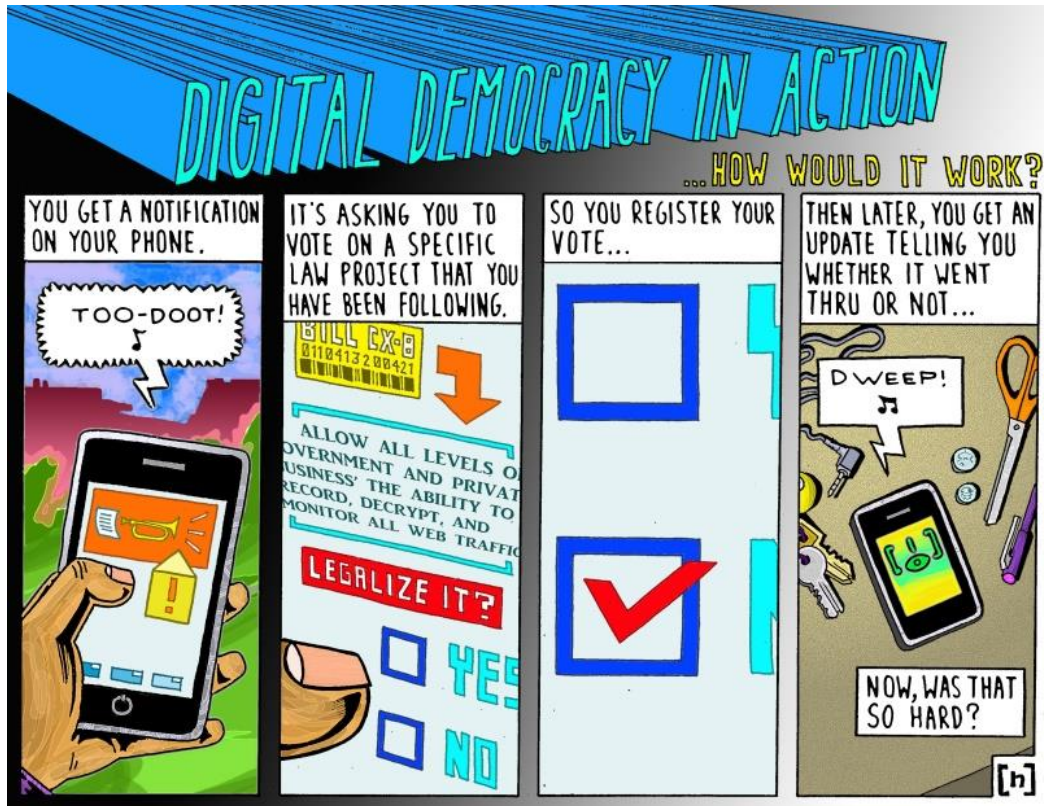
The group wants the government to halt new licences for the exploration of oil and other fossil fuels in the UK. As well as calling for an end to fossil fuels, the group also wants renewable energy investment and for better building insulation to avoid energy waste.

Like Extinction Rebellion and Insulate Britain, Just Stop Oil activists claim to be willing to use "non-violent civil resistance" to make their point in public spaces. According to Just Stop Oil, its supporters have been arrested nearly 2,000 times since April, with five of their supporters currently in prison.

Digital democracy means using phones, pcs etc to participate in politics. This could range from visiting politicians websites, following current affairs topics on Twitter, engaging in online debates to signing e-petitions, backing causes on social media (#MeToo) or just 'liking' a political statement. Other measures are being developed as a means to improve voter engagement and political participation – there have been calls to allow online voting or voting via your mobile. Despite some concerns about potential voter fraud, it is increasingly likely that some sort of electronic voting will be trialled in the future.



Some people feel like we should have digital voting as this would increase turnout (the % of people who actually go and vote – in 2019 it was only 67%). As it would be so easy to vote, people would really have little excuse not to.



In countries such as the USA, there are huge campaigns that encourage people to 'Get Out The Vote' - friends and relatives will encourage others to vote and even give them lifts to vote.



It's important to remember that we live in a liberal democracy in the UK where we do have a lot of freedom and our human and civil rights are largely protected. For the exam it's important that we can compare the UK with a country that has less rights than us.

	UK	North Korea
Right to vote	Almost every citizen over 18 can vote in a range of elections.	Citizens can't vote.
Right to protest	Citizens have the right to protest peacefully. Even though there are restrictions to protesting within 1km of the Houses of Parliament, you can still get Police permission to do so.	If you protest it's likely you will be sent to one of the many concentration camps that exist in North Korea.
Right to stand for elections	Anyone over 18 can stand to be an MP (£500 deposit and must be nominated)	There are no elections.
Right to assembly	UK citizens have the right to meet in groups with like-minded individuals.	Assembly is not permitted. To ensure this doesn't happen, about 1 in every 20 citizens is a member of the secret police and will inform the authorities if their friends or loved ones meet in secret.
Right to freedom of speech	Freedom of speech as long as you don't promote violence or hate speech.	If you speak up against Kim Jong-Un, you're on your way to the concentration camps.

The UK is clearly a democracy whereas North Korea is clearly a dictatorship. This also has huge impact on the lives of both countries' citizens

	UK	North Korea
Life Expectancy	81 years old	71 years old
GDP per capita (per person)	\$43,000	\$1300
% living in poverty	Around 20%	60%
% paved roads	100%	3%
Cities	69	28
Corruption	12 th best in the world (out of 180) meaning there's low corruption	173 rd worst country in the world (out of 180)
Elections	For local councils, MPs, mayors and (before Brexit) MEPS – Members of the European Parliament	None

Case Study – US sinks to new low in rankings of world's democracies

The US has fallen to a new low in a global ranking of political rights and civil liberties, a drop fueled by unequal treatment of minority groups, damaging influence of money in politics, and increased polarization, according to a new report by Freedom House, a democracy watchdog group.

The report details the inequalities that minority groups, especially Black people and Native Americans face when it comes to the criminal justice system and voting. It also illustrates that public trust in government has been damaged by the way rich Americans can use their money to exert outsize influence on American politics.

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/mar/24/us-world-democracy-rankings-freedom-house-new-low>

The role of groups and organisations in democratic society

It's vital that you understand the differences between the types of organisations that play a key role in providing a voice and support for different groups in society. These include:-

- **public institutions** are organisations that fulfil a public need but aren't necessarily paid for by the government, such as the BBC and the Post Office. They serve the public and provide a very important service, be it educating and informing (BBC) or allowing cost effective postal services (Post Office)



- **public services** are the wide range of government-provided services that are paid for by our taxes (although some private money is sometimes used as well). This includes things like the NHS, our education system, the benefits and welfare system, pensions, our army, the police force etc.



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

- **interest and pressure groups** have already been mentioned but include groups like Fathers 4 Justice, Animal Liberation Front etc.



- **trade unions** are organisations that represent a particular type of worker and campaign for their rights, wage rates, working conditions etc. The idea is that all the workers together will have more impact and power than individual workers do. Examples would include ASLEF who represent train drivers and have told their members (train drivers) to strike when they were offered poor new deals.



- **charities** work to raise funds for those in need, increase awareness for the causes for which they are interested and to make the government help sort the problem out. Charities include groups such as Oxfam and The Trussell Trust, who help to create and maintain food banks.



- **voluntary groups** are any groups that are largely run by volunteers and can range from groups like the Scouts/Girl Guides to Neighbourhood Watch schemes that are designed to monitor local communities and help protect against crime. Voluntary groups are primarily designed to improve communities and increase people's skills and enjoyment.



Trade Unions play a vital role in representing workers and looking after their interests and rights in the workplace. The GMB union were recently involved in getting Uber workers better rights.

Case Study

Uber has insisted its fares will not rise after saying that its 70,000 UK drivers will be guaranteed a minimum wage, holiday pay and pensions.

The ride-hailing giant said drivers would earn at least the National Living Wage, or £8.72 an hour, in a move that could shake up the wider gig economy.

It comes a month after it lost a legal battle in the UK over drivers' status.

Uber said it was "turning the page" on workers' rights, but some said it had not gone far enough.

Analysts also warned the company had increased prices in California after a similar ruling and was likely to do the same in the UK.

Union leaders and employment experts said Uber's move would have far reaching consequences for the gig economy. Bates Wells lawyer Rachel Mathieson, who represented Uber drivers fighting for worker rights, called it "a very significant milestone".

However, one union complained Uber would still not pay drivers for the time they spent waiting in between jobs.

Source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-56412397>

Citizens often work together to bring about change. Often using tactics like boycotts can have a huge impact – this is where people refuse to use a product or service until the company involved improves their product/ingredients/workers' conditions etc. One example of this was the Nike boycott of the 1990s. People around the world were appalled at Nike's use of sweatshops, underage workers, poor working conditions and low pay. In 1995 Nike said it thought it had deals with responsible factories in Sialkot, in Pakistan, that would manufacture well-made footballs and provide good conditions for workers. Instead, the work was sub-contracted round local villages, and children were drawn into the production process. Now, it insisted, any factory found to be employing a child must take that worker out of the factory, pay him or her a wage, provide education and re-hire them only when they were old enough.



Mistakes, however, continued to happen. Nike was criticized for its employment of child labour in Cambodia, but the company defended itself by saying fake evidence of age could be bought in Cambodia for as little as \$5. When it was exposed by the BBC as having employed children there, the company claimed it then re-examined the records of all 3,800 employees. The company's critics were also concerned at the level of wages it paid. Nike claimed it pays decent wages, but its critics claimed that only a tiny fraction of the £70 cost of a pair of its shoes went to the workers who made them.

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The impact of the boycott was that Nike's reputation worsened and they had to make immediate changes to improve this. As a result, a noted critic said "For a company which 20 years ago was denying that workers' rights at supplier factories were any of its concern, Nike has come a long way." This was because Nike began paying workers a fairer wage, improved working conditions, reduced long working hours and ensured that they no longer used child workers.

A more recent Nike boycott is explained below:-

Case Study



Protesters burned their Nike shoes, investors sold shares and some consumers demanded a boycott after the footwear and apparel maker launched an advertising campaign featuring Colin Kaepernick, the NFL quarterback who sparked a national controversy by kneeling during the national anthem.

But the brand recognition that comes with the campaign may be just what the company wanted, and marketing experts predicted it would ultimately succeed.

The ad revived a raging debate in the United States that started in 2016 when Kaepernick, then with the San Francisco 49ers, began kneeling to protest multiple police shootings of unarmed black men.

While some fans praised Kaepernick and other players who joined him in kneeling as patriotic dissenters, critics led by U.S. President Donald Trump blasted the protesters as ungrateful and disrespectful.

In the immediate backlash against the campaign, announced on Monday, Nike shares fell nearly 4 percent at one point on Tuesday and closed down 3.2 percent. Calls for a boycott fed social media buzz about the campaign. There were 2.7 million mentions of Nike over the previous 24 hours, the social media analysis firm Talkwalker said at midday, an increase of 135 percent over the previous week.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-nike-kaepernick-idUSKCN1LK1DK>

Another example of an effective citizen led campaign was the Snowdrop campaign, mentioned earlier in this pack.

The Dunblane massacre in 1996 brought gun ownership in Britain to the front of the political agenda for the first time. The Snowdrop Campaign, set up to change gun laws, blossomed into a nationwide movement. Its co-ordinator, Ann Pearston, founded the campaign after discovering that nine victims of Michael Ryan at Hungerford (another mass shooting) and all 17 of Thomas Hamilton's at Dunblane had been killed by legally-held handguns. Her concern was shared by the public, forcing the government to pass the Firearm (Amendment) Act in 1997, banning handguns above .22 calibre and restricting smaller calibre weapons to secure gun clubs. Following a nationwide gun amnesty, 160,000 handguns were surrendered to police and the Snowdrop Campaign disbanded, with its work done. As a result, we've not had a school shooting since Dunblane in 1996. Since then the USA has had over 100 school shootings, with over 300 dead.

Trade Unions

Trade unions are groups of employees who join together to maintain and improve their conditions of employment. It's logical to believe that a large group of workers will have more impact than lots of individual complaints.

The typical activities of a trade union include providing assistance and services to their members, collectively bargaining for better pay and conditions for all workers, working to improve the quality of public services, political campaigning and industrial action.

Nearly seven million people in the UK belong to a trade union. Union members include nurses, school meals staff, hospital cleaners, professional footballers, shop assistants, teaching

assistants, bus drivers, engineers and apprentices. Most trade unions are independent of employers but have close working relationships with them.



What trade unions do

Unions train and organise workplace representatives who help union members with the problems they face at work.

Representatives provide support and advice and campaign for better conditions and pay.

Unions have brought significant changes to society, including:

- a national minimum wage;
- the abolition of child labour;
- improved worker safety;
- improving living standards by reducing the number of hours in the working week and encouraging a healthy work/life balance;
- improved parental leave;
- equality legislation;
- better protection of migrant workers and a reduction in exploitation;
- minimum holiday and sickness entitlements.

Workers' Rights

Workers are entitled to certain employment rights, including:

- getting the National Minimum Wage
- the statutory (state agreed) minimum level of paid holiday
- the statutory minimum length of rest breaks
- to not work more than 48 hours on average per week or to opt out of this right if they choose
- protection against unlawful discrimination
- protection for 'whistleblowing' - reporting wrongdoing in the workplace
- to not be treated less favourably if they work part-time

They may also be entitled to:

- Statutory Sick Pay, Statutory Maternity Pay, Statutory Paternity Pay.

If a worker has a problem with their company then they can go directly to their union (if they are a member), to the company's personnel department (HR – Human Resources) or take their company to a tribunal. A tribunal is an organisation established to settle certain types of disputes, it's a cheaper, easier and quicker form of a court as it often just has one judge/adjudicator.

What role and influence should the media have?

A free press is fundamental to a democratic society. It seeks out and circulates news, information, ideas, comment and opinions and holds those in authority to account. The press provides the platform for a range of voices to be heard. At national, regional and local level, it is the public's watchdog, activist and guardian as well as educator and entertainer.

Free Press refers to newspapers, TV, radio and other media that are not controlled by the government. They can publish anything as long as it does not threaten people's safety, incite violence or promote discrimination.



The newspaper front pages above wouldn't be allowed in a country with no free press – the journalists criticising the leaders would likely be killed or imprisoned as a result. A free press helps citizens make up their minds before voting in an election or in a referendum.

A free press is important because it:

- Provides facts to help citizens form opinions
- Interviews people with different opinions
- Promotes different opinions
- Investigates injustices and lets citizens know about them
- Exposes any wrong doing by politicians
- Reminds citizens about the promises made by politicians

Rights and responsibilities of the media

The media have the right to investigate and report on issues of public interest, as long as they are accurate and respect people's privacy and dignity. There are often conflicts over whether the media have a right to write stories that may cause embarrassment to individuals and their families. The press is allowed to do this if the story is true and if they can show that the news is 'in the public interest'. This means that a story is said to be in the public's interest if it affects the rights, health, or finances of the public at large.

Case Study - Prince Harry and Press Intrusion



Feb 2021 - The Duke of Sussex has said he had to step back from royal duties to protect himself and his family from the "toxic" situation created by the UK press. Prince Harry told TV chat show host James Corden it was "destroying my mental health" and he "did what any husband [or] father would do".

Buckingham Palace confirmed last week that the prince and his wife Meghan would not resume royal duties. The duke insisted they were "stepping back rather than stepping down".

The couple, who are expecting their second child, moved to California with their one-year-old son Archie after announcing their plan to step back as senior working royals last January. They said at the time that they wanted to work to become financially independent.

In January 2020, The Duke and Duchess of Sussex had to issue a warning over continued harassment by paparazzi photographers. It comes after images of Meghan were published in the media showing her taking a stroll through a public park on Vancouver Island.

The duchess can be seen smiling as she walks along with Archie and her two dogs. Lawyers for the couple claim these were taken without her consent - and that the photographer was hiding in the bushes and spying on her. They also claim there were previous attempts to photograph them inside their home using long range lenses and that paparazzi were permanently camped outside their home.

The media are monitored by organisations such as OFCOM (The Office for Communications). For trust in the media and to ensure that the public believe the stories they're told, the media has a duty to write truthfully. In recent years, there have been accusations of the rise of Fake News. There is also an organisation called the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) who monitor the news and articles that the newspapers print. Both organisations can fine the media if they feel their behaviour was wrong/illegal; IPSO can give a fine of up to £1m. They hold newspapers and magazines to account for their actions, protect individual rights, uphold high standards of journalism and help to maintain freedom of expression for the press.

Fake News

Fake news is news or stories on the internet that are not true.

There are two kinds of fake news:

- False stories that are deliberately published or sent around, in order to make people believe something untrue or to get lots of people to visit a website. These are deliberate lies that are put online, even though the person writing them knows that they are made up.
- Stories that may have some truth to them, but they're not completely accurate. This is because the people writing them - for example, journalists or bloggers - don't check all of the facts before publishing the story, or they might exaggerate some of it.

It is happening a lot at the moment, with many people publishing these stories in order to get as many shares as possible.

Fact Check › Fake News

Nope Francis

Reports that His Holiness has endorsed Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump originated with a fake news web site.



Dan Evon
Updated: Jul 24, 2016



69.7K





The Phone Hacking scandal

Phone hacking was a technique used to listen to people's mobile voicemail. Reporters and a private investigator working for the News of the World used it to target people in the news - celebrities, politicians and crime victims - so they could find angles on stories that would get them ahead of the competition. They would listen to private messages left on voicemail, make a recording of them, and use the information to help write stories.

The critical political moment in the affair came when the Guardian newspaper reported that the News of The World had hacked the mobile phone belonging to murdered schoolgirl Milly Dowler.



As a result, the News of the World was closed down, a number of the phone hackers went sent to prison, lots of those hacked received huge damages and new laws and organisations were created to monitor the media.

The use of the media for influence

Keeping up to date with the news helps citizens form opinions on issues such as whether it is right for the British army to be fighting in other countries or whether university tuition fees should be increased.

Most news organisations are owned privately. For example The Sun and The Times are largely owned by the Murdoch family and they like to have some control over the viewpoints expressed. For example in the UK 1997 election, The Sun newspaper supported Labour and urged its 3 million voters to vote Labour. Labour won this election. In 2009 The Sun began to support the Conservative Party and they haven't lost an election since.

Privately owned media also run campaigns to pressurise the government into taking action. In 2009 the Daily Telegraph newspaper ran a campaign called 'Justice for Pensioners'. This was aimed at persuading the government to cut taxes for retired people. In the same year the Daily Mirror ran a campaign to persuade the government to spend more money on inspecting buildings to see if they contained asbestos.



These are all examples of front page headlines from the Daily Express, which is accused of spreading fear of migration through inaccurate and false reporting.

Politicians are also keen to have a positive image in the media and sometimes hire media consultants to help them achieve this. These consultants help politicians adjust their hairstyles, style of dress or even the way they speak. They also employ 'spin doctors'. These are people who try and 'spin' or manipulate news reports so that the politician comes out looking good.

The UK's role and relations with the rest of Europe



The Council of Europe - an international organisation in Strasbourg which comprises 47 countries of Europe. It was set up to promote democracy and protect human rights and the rule of law in Europe. The only European states not in the Council of Europe are Belarus, The Vatican City and Kazakhstan.



The European Union – It grew out of a desire for peace in a war-torn and divided continent. Five years after World War II ended, France and Germany came up with a plan to ensure their two countries would never go to war against each other again. Today the EU has 27 member states (following the UK's departure) with a total population of around 450 million.

The aims of the EU are:

1. To prevent war
2. To take joint action to solve problems around the world
3. To promote human rights in its member countries
4. To make it easier for member countries to trade
5. To promote the use of a single currency in all member countries – the Euro.

The benefits and costs of being a member of the EU

BENEFITS

1. Citizens can live, work, study and retire in any EU country
2. Citizens can travel without a passport
3. Citizens can shop in any EU country without paying extra taxes
4. Member countries have taken joint action to cut pollution
5. Trade is easier
6. War between EU countries is unthinkable
7. Free trade occurs (extra taxes and tariffs not put on imports to and exports from the EU.)

COSTS:

1. Countries lose important powers to the EU – politicians who haven't been voted for have power over countries, make laws that impact on citizens in other countries.
2. It is seen as undemocratic for countries to remain part of the EU when a majority of their people are against it (Austria and France – 65% distrust the EU).
3. Membership is expensive – costs countries £billions each year.
4. Membership might limit trade with the rest of the world.
5. The EU imposes thousands of regulations each year which countries have to follow.

On June 23rd 2016, the UK voted to leave the European Union. The UK then left the EU on 31 January 2020 and is due to leave the trading part of the EU on the 31 December 2020. A referendum - a vote in which everyone (or nearly everyone) of voting age can take part - was held on Thursday 23 June, 2016, to decide whether the UK should leave or remain in the European Union.

Leave won by 51.9% to 48.1%. The referendum turnout was 71.8%, with more than 30 million people voting. England voted for Brexit, by 53.4% to 46.6%. Wales also voted for Brexit, with Leave getting 52.5% of the vote and Remain 47.5%. Scotland and Northern Ireland both backed staying in the EU. Scotland backed Remain by 62% to 38%, while 55.8% in Northern Ireland voted Remain and 44.2% Leave.

The impact that the EU had on our lives

Food and Drink: EU introduced reforms to assist European farmers to produce better quality produce and therefore trade it more easily. Over-fishing of species, like cod was a major concern – EU legislation now monitors the amount and species of fish caught to protect against over-fishing. Countries are limited to how many fish they can get from the sea.

Shopping and Spending: Food must be labelled correctly to indicate if it contains any GM (genetically modified) ingredients. Health warnings on cigarette packets now have to be 65% of the front and back. Mobile phone bills have been cut with calls being made and received in an EU country up to 60% cheaper.

WHAT'S CHANGING ON CIGARETTE PACKS?



Working life: EU citizens are entitled to 4 weeks paid holiday every year with 11 hours rest in every 24 hours. EU legislation also allows mothers and fathers to take time off when their babies are born – ensuring they can return to their jobs afterwards in a fair manner.

Travelling: If you holiday in Europe you are more than likely to only need to change currency once as 15 member states now use a single currency. Lengthy passport checks now occur less, allowing more free movement through countries in EU. Pets can be taken much more easily because of introduction of pet passports.

Environment: EU member states are obligated to clean up their beaches to be good for holiday makers and the environment. By increasing the amount of energy produced by renewable sources the EU aim to cut its energy consumption by 20%.

The UK's role in the rest of the world

The United Nations



The United Nations - is an international organization founded in 1945. It is currently made up of 193 Member States. The UN provides a forum for its members to express their views in the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, and other bodies and committees. By enabling dialogue between its members, and by hosting negotiations, the UN has become a way for governments to find areas of agreement and solve problems together.

The General Assembly is the main debating and lawmaking part of the UN. All 193 Member States of the UN are represented in the General Assembly. Each year, in September, the full UN membership meets in the General Assembly Hall in New York for the annual General Assembly session, and general debate, which many heads of state (Prime Ministers and Presidents) attend and address. Decisions on important questions, such as those on peace and security, admission of new members and budgetary matters, require a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly.

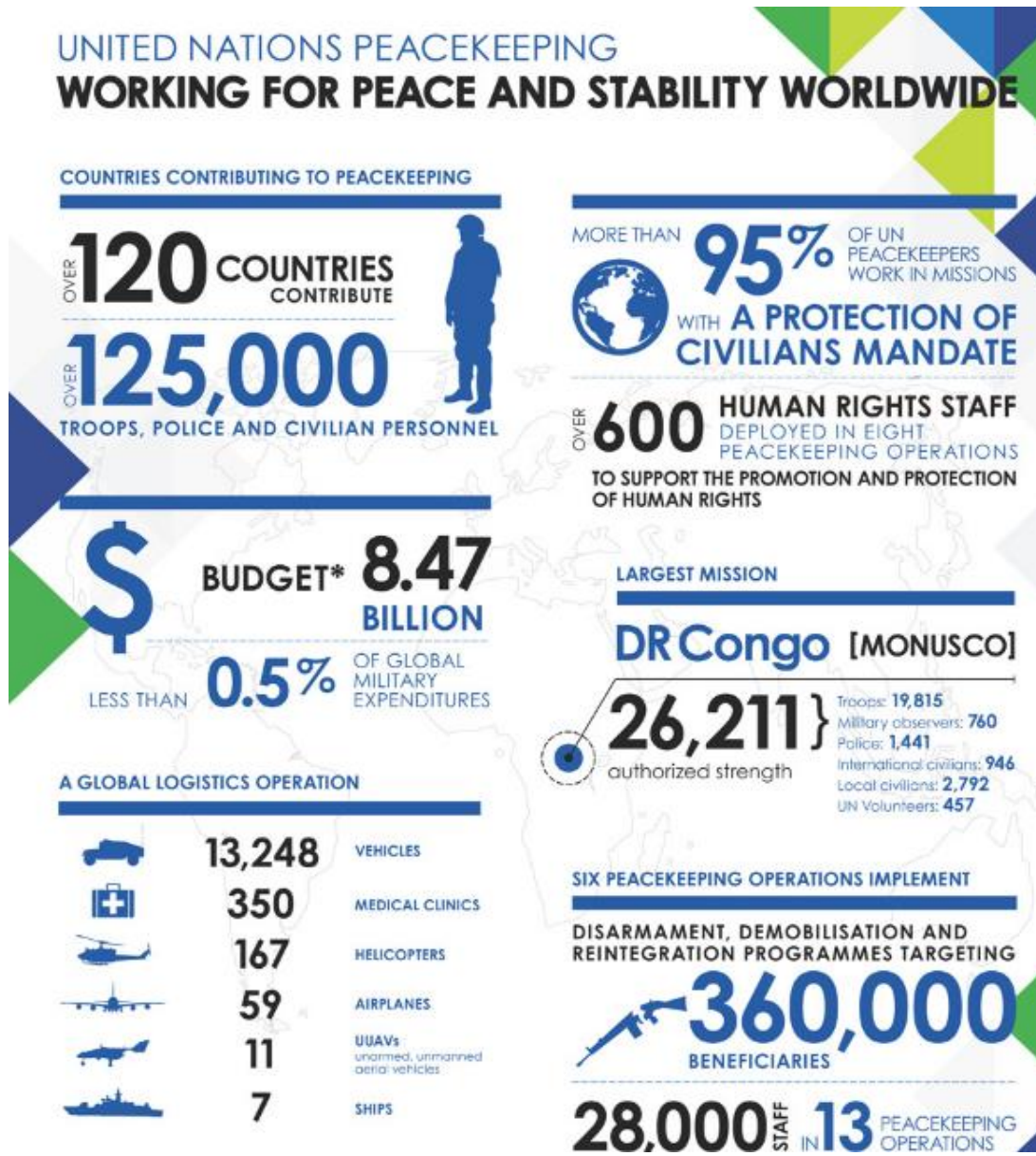
The Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. It has 15 Members (5 permanent and 10 non-permanent members). Each Member has one vote. The Security Council takes the lead in determining the existence of a threat to the peace or act of aggression. It calls upon the parties to a dispute to settle it by peaceful means and gives guidance. In some cases, the Security Council can resort to imposing sanctions or even authorize the use of force to maintain or restore international peace and security.

The International Court of Justice is the main court of the United Nations. The Court's role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advice on major legal questions.

The UK's relationship with the UN

As with other international organisations, the UK should make peace-keeping troops available to the UN; they are then used to help keep civilians safe and to ensure that conflict is avoided.

The UK has quite a powerful role as it is one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, along with China, USA, France and Russia (the victors of the 2nd World War). The UK contributes to the UN budget and the peace-keeping budget and sends representatives to the UN General Assembly meetings



For it's 70th anniversary, The UN listed 70 policy areas in which they play a major role in the world:

- **Maintaining Peace and Security**
- **Clearing Landmines**
- **Combating Terrorism**
- **Fighting Hunger**



- **Improving Literacy and Education**
- **Promoting Human Rights**
- **Promoting Women's Rights**
- **Promoting Press Freedom and Freedom of Expression**
- **Seeking solutions to climate change**
- **Providing Safe Drinking Water**
- **Prosecuting War Criminals**
- **Containing the World Drug Problem**
- **Assisting refugees**
- **Reducing the Effects of Natural Disasters**
- **Fighting Tropical Diseases**

Other International organisations

NATO



- NATO is a political and military alliance whose primary goals are:
 - The collective defence of its members
 - The maintenance of a democratic peace in the North Atlantic area
- Established in 1949
- 28 Member Nations
 - Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
- Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium

NATO is almost like a mini-UN. The benefit of this is that it's 28 members can make decisions much quicker than the 193 members of the UN do. The UK sends delegates to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly twice a year where issues are debated. Its central purpose is set out in Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty, which says that an "armed attack against one" Nato member "shall be considered an attack against them all". At present, NATO is concerned about Russia and it's possible attempts to expand its territory and power after they took Crimea from the Ukraine in 2014. The UK has been asked to contribute 2% of its GDP to NATO.

As part of our membership with NATO the UK makes peace-keeping troops available when they are needed. The most important aspect of membership is that the UK should step in when conflict occurs and act to defend other NATO members who are attacked.

Case Study

US President Donald Trump believes Europe's Nato members are not spending enough to support the alliance, and are relying on the US to shoulder the burden.

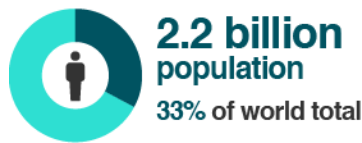
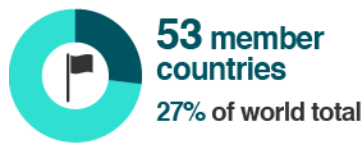
Mr Trump has accused Germany of being "delinquent" in its payments to Nato, and said: "We don't want to be suckers anymore."

The US says it will move nearly 12,000 troops out of the country, some of whom will go elsewhere in Europe.

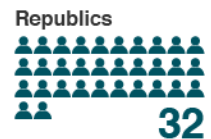
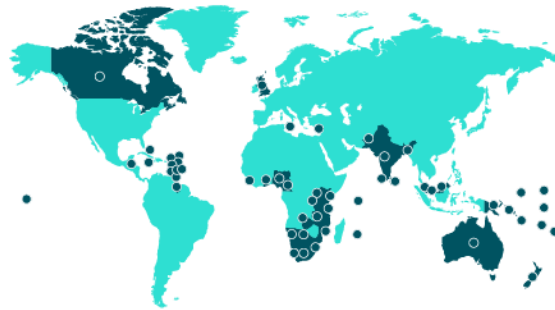
Now that Joe Biden has won the 2020 Presidential Election, the USA's relationship with NATO should improve as he has a more favourable view of the organisation.

The Commonwealth

Global presence



The 53 member countries



Big and small

India Population **1.2 billion**

The world's largest democracy, 554 million people voted at the general election in 2014



Nauru Population **10,000**



Per capita it is the most successful nation in the Commonwealth Games¹

Royal approval



The Queen has sent 175,000 telegrams to Commonwealth **centenarians**



The Queen has sent 540,000 telegrams to Commonwealth couples celebrating their **diamond wedding anniversary** (60 years)

The Commonwealth encompasses almost a third of the world's population, bringing together people of many faiths, races, languages and incomes. 51 of the 53 countries that are members

were part of the British Empire. The Commonwealth works to develop relationships through its members, make trade deals and encourage cooperation.

World Trade Organisation:

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an international organization that helps nations trade their goods and services with one another. There are currently about 150 member countries in the WTO. The aim of the WTO is to set up rules of trade between its member countries, to make sure that trade can happen smoothly and freely. Free trade is a policy that means governments do not charge people to import, or bring in, goods from other countries, or make exporters pay taxes to send their goods abroad.

International Justice

The International Criminal Court was set up in 2002. The United Nations can refer cases to the court – over 100 countries have signed up and more are committed to joining. However some important countries have refused to join because they are critical of the court. These include USA, China and Russia. The court only deals with serious crimes, including genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. The laws that the court uses are called the Geneva Convention and set out the rules for how people should be treated in war, Most countries have agreed to these laws.

The **Geneva Conventions** are rules that apply only in times of armed conflict and seek to protect people who are not or are no longer taking part in hostilities. The experience of one man, a citizen of Geneva called Henry Dunant, led to both the foundation of the Red Cross and the first Geneva Convention. Dunant witnessed the aftermath of the Battle of Solferino in 1859 and was horrified by the sight of thousands of wounded lying helpless and abandoned with no one to care for them.

Protected persons include the sick and wounded of armed forces on the field, wounded, sick, and shipwrecked members of armed forces at sea, prisoners of war (captured soldiers), and civilians.

All protected persons must be:

- treated humanely
- collected and cared for if sick or wounded

They must NOT be:

- attacked
- murdered
- mutilated

- tortured
- used for medical or scientific experiments
- taken hostage
- humiliated or degraded
- executed without regular trial
- discriminated against because of race, colour, religion, sex, birth or wealth
- made the victim of reprisals.

The role of NGOs in conflict

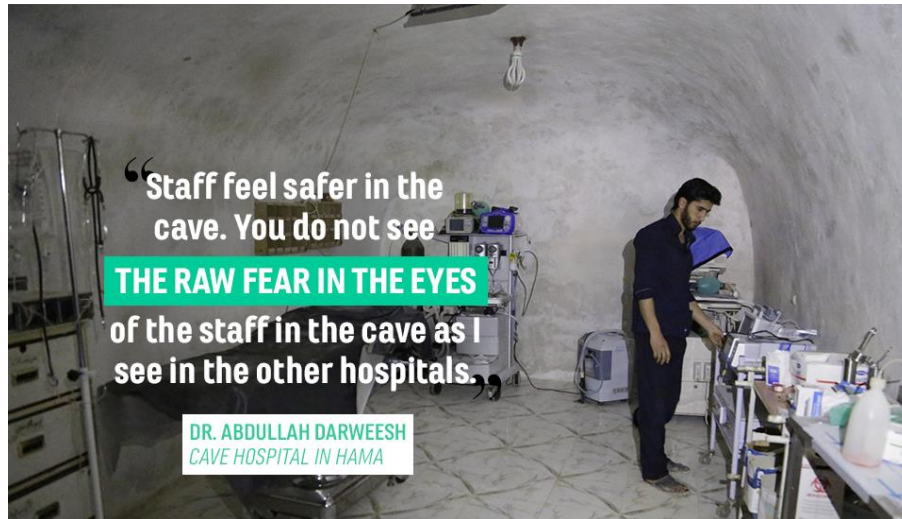
In times of conflict, it's often non-governmental organisations (NGOs) like charities that provide life-saving help and assistance. One such organisation is Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF)/Doctors Without Borders who have been working to save lives and support the innocent civilians who are affected by the civil war there.



“MSF teams first started working in east Aleppo in 2013, running a hospital on the outskirts of the city and developing contacts with the existing network of hospitals in the area.

In 2014, after the kidnapping of an MSF team in another area of Syria, we decided to withdraw staff on the ground. However, MSF continued to support several hospitals, health centres and first aid points by sending cargoes of medical supplies and equipment, maintaining regular phone contacts with the health facilities’ staff, and through visits of the medical staff to Turkey.

When a siege seemed likely, MSF helped these hospitals to build a stock of medical supplies inside the city to help medical facilities continue operations. When the siege started in July 2016, the high number of casualties resulting from airstrikes and ground fighting overwhelmed the hospitals. The stocks of surgical material dwindled and it became impossible to send further supplies into east Aleppo. In August, the siege was briefly broken and MSF teams risked sending 17 trucks across the frontlines. As a result, the hospitals continued to function until the siege ended



During the second siege of the city, the intensity of airstrikes increased dramatically. MSF kept negotiating with all parties to the conflict to try to bring aid to the population. Despite these efforts, we were unsuccessful. In October 2016 we faced an extremely difficult choice. We considered that we had an obligation to speak out and give a voice to the suffering of dozens of thousands of people and show solidarity to them. Even if this process proved challenging, MSF had no other choice. It couldn't remain silent.

In a report issued in February 2016, MSF detailed the toll of the conflict on civilians, based on data from 70 hospitals and clinics that MSF supports in north-western, western and central Syria. In all, 154,647 war-wounded people and 7,009 war-dead were documented in the facilities in 2015, with women and children representing 30 to 40 percent of the victims.”

Case Study – The Red Cross in Ukraine

The Ukrainian Red Cross (URCS) is the lead humanitarian organisation in Ukraine, and since the onset of this conflict, is being supported by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement to step up its response. Together, they have supported 3.6 million people so far.

In the months since, Red Cross volunteers have provided mental health and psychosocial support support, first aid, health care, hygiene items, child-friendly spaces, and access to clean water. The Ukrainian Red Cross has also set up nearly a dozen mobile health teams in the country, with more on the way.

In addition, the International Committee of the Red Cross has donated medical supplies (including defibrillators, war wound kits and PPE to prevent Covid-19), treatment, evacuations of wounded and the deployment of mobile clinics. Supplies for immunisation, including tetanus and diphtheria and supplies for treating on-going illness and diseases such as diabetes and asthma have also been provided.

An ICRC surgical team has also been deployed to support and care for critically injured people and provide training to local medical staff in weapon-wound surgery and mass-casualty management.

From the beginning of the conflict, the Red Cross has been supporting people with immediate needs, including shelter, food, clean water, hygiene products, clothing, medical and first aid, as well as mobile SIM cards so that families and loved ones can reconnect.

The role of the UK in a recent conflict

In 2011 Libyans were inspired by revolutions in other Arab countries, especially neighbouring Egypt and Tunisia. Violent protests broke out in the city of Benghazi, which then spread to other cities, leading to escalating clashes between security forces representing President Gaddafi and anti-Gaddafi rebels.



The UK was involved in international operations against Muammar Gaddafi's forces, with the RAF and Navy taking part in Nato strikes. Special forces also provided secret on-the-ground training and support to opposition rebels. Gaddafi was captured and killed on 20 October 2011, and Nato forces withdrew at the end of that month.

The UK don't just send troops into conflicts and provide military support. They can also conduct boycotts of a country's products, begin sanctions (restricting trade), encourage peace treaties or provide support to one of the sides fighting (financial, equipme

Case Study – UK in Ukraine

The full-scale invasion of Ukraine began on February 24, 2022, and has displaced millions of Ukrainian families in the country and across the region, triggering the biggest and fastest growing refugee crisis in Europe since the Second World War. Two years later, nearly 6.5 million

people have fled from Ukraine into neighboring countries and an estimated 3.7 million Ukrainians remain internally displaced.

When did the war in Ukraine begin?

The war in Ukraine began on February 24, 2022 following the Russian Federation's large-scale invasion of Ukraine. The situation in Ukraine rapidly deteriorated as fighting, heavy shelling, missile and rocket attacks occurred in several regions throughout the country. The death, devastation and destruction inside Ukraine have been staggering—forcing millions of Ukrainians to flee and uprooting a third of the entire population.

The war in Ukraine comes on the heels of almost eight years of active fighting in Ukraine which has profoundly impacted the lives of millions of people. At least 2.9 million people living in the conflict-affected regions of eastern Ukraine were already in need of humanitarian assistance before the war began. The ongoing war has only deepened humanitarian needs in the frontline regions of the country.

Who is impacted by the ongoing war in Ukraine?

Ukraine has a total population of 41.4 million people. In the first year of the war, one-third of the entire population of Ukraine was uprooted—forced to flee their homes to safer areas in Ukraine, neighboring countries in Europe or abroad. As the war continues, humanitarian needs are multiplying and spreading. An estimated 14.6 million people in Ukraine will need humanitarian assistance in 2024.

People in Ukraine face targeted attacks and shelling on civilian and other energy infrastructure, resulting in the tragic loss of life and exacting a cruel toll on the population during winter. They are unable to meet basic needs and have difficulties accessing water, electricity, heating, healthcare, education and social protection. Many Ukrainians are living in damaged homes or in buildings ill-prepared for life-threatening freezing temperatures.

Who is fleeing Ukraine and where are they going?

Since the war began two years ago, nearly 6.5 million people have fled Ukraine and crossed borders into neighboring countries in the region including Poland, Hungary, Moldova and other countries across Europe. Poland has seen the largest influx of Ukrainian refugees, hosting nearly 60 percent of all refugees from Ukraine.

The majority of the people fleeing Ukraine are women and children who account for approximately 90 percent of refugees. Women face significant challenges and are at the greatest risk for sexual exploitation and abuse, human trafficking and forced prostitution.

How is the war in Ukraine impacting the rest of the world?

Beyond the direct impacts the war is having in Ukraine and on its neighbors, the war has also caused ripple effects across the world. Ukraine supplies a significant portion of the world's agricultural commodities including wheat, barley, corn and sunflower. As the war in Ukraine continues, it is causing supply chain disruptions globally and increasing the price of food, fuel and other commodities.

Displaced people living in already vulnerable situations are at risk of gender-based violence and other forms of abuse. UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, saw an unprecedented \$700 million funding gap in the first year of the war in Ukraine, placing great strain on operations in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sudan, Iraq, Ethiopia and other countries in dire need of support.

What is UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, doing to help?

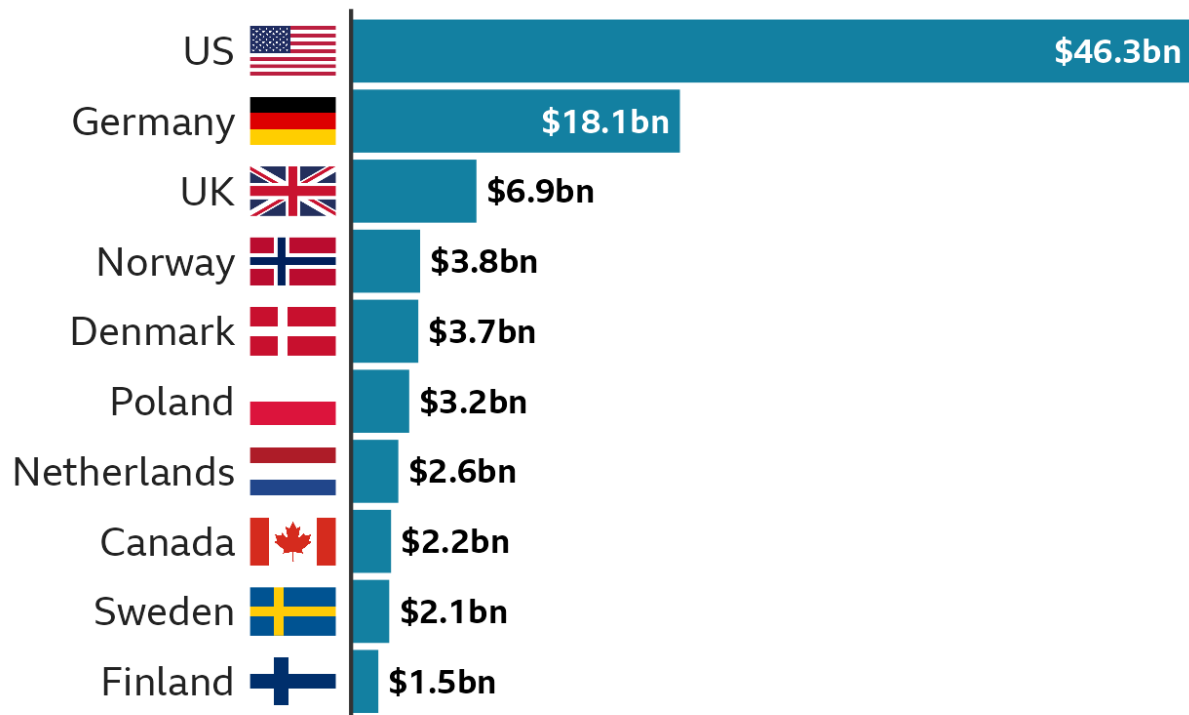
UNHCR has been working in Ukraine since 1994, alongside local authorities, partners and community organizations to deliver protection and humanitarian assistance to people in need and remains on the ground to help now.

As the war continues, UNHCR and its partners are on the ground providing critical humanitarian assistance and protection. In Ukraine, UNHCR is expanding operations further east and south to hard-to-reach areas, delivering cash and in-kind assistance to Ukrainians, delivering emergency shelter repair kits to those with damaged homes, carrying out housing repairs and providing legal support and psychological counseling.

While the full impact of the war is not yet clear, people continue to flee and there remains large-scale displacement in and out of the country. UNHCR has reinforced its operations in Ukraine and in neighboring countries, sending more resources and staff. UNHCR is working with national authorities to identify and support people forced to flee within Ukraine and scaling up response in neighboring countries currently receiving refugees.

Top donor countries of military aid to Ukraine

Commitments made for weapons and equipment, to 31 Oct 2023



Note: Figures also include financial assistance tied to military purposes

Source: Kiel Institute for the World Economy

