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[Press release](#) | 19.05.2025

UK-EU Summit: Quotes from Greens/EFA MEPs

UK & EU

Today, the UK and EU have announced at the first EU-UK Summit, a series of agreements which will forge closer ties with the UK. The Greens/EFA Group have long been calling for closer ties between the UK and the EU following Brexit.

Ville Niinisto MEP, Greens/EFA Member of the AFET Committee, comments:

“Today’s announcement is welcome but we need to see the full details of the various agreements as they are finalised. These deals must be about making people’s lives better and our world safer.

“The EU and the UK are natural allies in defence and security and we welcome that today’s summit also saw the adoption of the security and defence partnership. Our common security is linked by both geography and values. The key focus on Ukraine in the agreement is essential to our collective support for the people of Ukraine.”

Vicent Marzà MEP, Greens/EFA Member of the INTA Committee, comments:

“Today’s announcement must mark the start of a journey towards much stronger ties between the UK and EU. The post Brexit status quo hasn’t worked for everyone, with economic downturn, queues at the borders, and difficulties for people’s lives on both sides of the border.

“This must be the start of a pragmatic partnership that will strengthen trade cooperation, make things easier for students, workers and businesses on both sides and move forward on our shared goals of fighting climate change, supporting the rule of law and defending democracy. We also look forward to enhanced cultural and scientific cooperation by welcoming the UK and its constituent nations to take part in EU programmes. The decision to work towards linking the UK and EU emissions trading systems is a positive step towards greater cooperation on climate policies.”

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