

Research Briefing

9 July 2024

Number 10025

By Claire Mills

Ukraine: The Swiss peace summit and what comes next?

1	Ukraine’s Formula for Peace	3
1.1	Ukraine-led dialogue ahead of the summit	4
2	A summit on Peace in Ukraine	5
2.1	What were the aims of the summit?	5
2.2	Who attended?	6
3	Outcomes of the summit	7
3.1	Non-signatories	9
4	Russia’s alternative peace proposals	9
4.1	Russia’s latest ceasefire terms	10
4.2	Response to Russia’s demands	11
5	Where next?	12
5.1	A second peace summit?	12

At the request of President Zelenskyy, a Summit on Peace in Ukraine was held in Switzerland on 15 and 16 June 2024.

The aim of the summit was to bring heads of state and government together to try and chart a course for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine based upon the principles of the UN Charter and Ukraine's own 'Formula for Peace', which President Zelenskyy presented in November 2022.

The Russian Government was not invited, leading to questions of what the summit could realistically achieve. In response, President Putin offered his own terms for a ceasefire and peace negotiations which were described by Ukraine and its allies as an ultimatum and not a genuine proposal for compromise or peace.

1

Ukraine's Formula for Peace

In a speech to the G20 in November 2022, President Zelenskyy laid out [a ten-point plan for peace](#) and said that Ukraine “should not be offered to conclude compromises with its conscience, sovereignty, territory and independence”.¹

Based upon the principles of international law and the UN Charter, the plan centres on the cessation of Russian aggression, the withdrawal of Russian forces from occupied Ukrainian territories, and justice and reparations.²

While welcoming the efforts of other countries to promote the peace agenda, Ukraine has said it will not accept any proposals which call on the country to compromise its sovereignty and cede any Ukrainian territory to Russia.³

Other countries and groups of countries have proposed plans for peace, which are described in the box below.

1 Previous proposals and attempts to establish peace

- China: In February 2023, [China presented peace proposals](#) which were largely rejected by Ukraine and its allies for failing to acknowledge Russia's invasion and violation of Ukrainian sovereignty, and for echoing many of the arguments put forward by the Russian Government that the West is ultimately responsible for the conflict.⁴ China's attempt to present itself as a neutral mediator, while also providing Russia with economic and diplomatic support, was also questioned.⁵ Library research briefing [Ukraine: China's pathway to peace](#) examines the proposals and international reaction to them.
- Brazil: President Lula da Silva has, in the past, proposed the creation of a “G20 for peace”, a group of neutral countries that could play a mediating role in the conflict.⁶ Although holders of the G20 Presidency in 2024, in March 2024 the Brazilian Government has said that the G20 itself should not be a platform for talks but should “help communicate the idea that it is necessary to achieve peace”.⁷

¹ President of Ukraine, [Speech](#), 15 November 2022

⁴ [“China calls for Russia-Ukraine ceasefire as claims to neutrality questioned”](#), CNN, 24 February 2023. Russia's claims are examined in Library briefing: [Ukraine: Russia's “red line”](#).

⁵ [“China calls for Russia-Ukraine ceasefire as claims to neutrality questioned”](#), CNN, 24 February 2023

⁶ [“Lula suggests group of nations to negotiate peace for Ukraine, Russia”](#), Agencia Brasil, 31 January 2023 and [“Lula da Silva: “Both sides want to win war, but a war doesn't always need a winner””](#), El País, 27 April 2023

- African peace delegation: In June 2023, representatives of seven African countries (Zambia, Comoros, Senegal, South Africa, Egypt, Republic of Congo and Uganda) visited [Ukraine](#) and [Russia](#) to hold talks on possible ways to resolve the Ukraine conflict. [The aim of the delegation](#) was not to present proposals or offer to mediate a solution to the conflict, but to make a plea for both sides to open dialogue.

1.1

Ukraine-led dialogue ahead of the summit

Ukraine's allies and partners such as the UK, US and EU, support President Zelenskyy's peace formula as the basis for establishing a durable peace in the country.⁸

Over the last 18 months Ukraine has initiated a series of talks with government officials aimed at promoting the principles of Ukraine's peace formula among a wider audience, including many countries who have opted to maintain a neutral stance over the conflict.⁹

In January 2024, ahead of the meeting of the World Economic Forum, Ukraine held a fourth round of talks in Davos with the national security advisers of 82 countries.¹⁰ At that meeting President Zelenskyy asked the Swiss Government to take that dialogue forward and convene a peace summit involving global leaders. President Zelenskyy expressed the hope that such a summit would allow "the world's majority" to "force Russia into a peace".¹¹

⁵ ["China calls for Russia-Ukraine ceasefire as claims to neutrality questioned"](#), CNN, 24 February 2023

⁶ ["Lula suggests group of nations to negotiate peace for Ukraine, Russia"](#), Agencia Brasil, 31 January 2023 and ["Lula da Silva: 'Both sides want to win war, but a war doesn't always need a winner'"](#), El País, 27 April 2023

⁷ ["Brazil's G20 Sherpa doesn't see group as platform for Ukraine talks"](#), TASS Russian News Agency, 14 March 2024

⁸ US Department of State, [Remarks by Secretary Anthony J. Blinken](#), 28 March 2023; [HL Deb 9 February 2023](#), c1426 and EU External Action Service, [The world is demanding a just peace for Ukraine](#), 26 February 2023

⁹ Forty countries either abstained, or voted against resolutions presented in the UN General Assembly on the Ukraine conflict in [March 2022](#), [October 2022](#) and [February 2023](#).

¹⁰ Previous meetings have been held in Copenhagen (June 2023), Jeddah (August 2023) and Malta (October 2023). President of Ukraine, [Press release](#), 14 January 2024

¹¹ President of Ukraine, [Press release](#), 10 May 2024

China, however, did not participate in the Davos meeting.¹² The country is considered a key participant in any discussions given its close relationship, and potential influence, with Russia.¹³

2 A summit on Peace in Ukraine

[A summit of heads of state and government was convened in Switzerland](#) on 15 and 16 June 2024.

2.1 What were the aims of the summit?

The overarching aim of the summit was to bring heads of state and government together to try and develop “a common understanding of a path towards a just and lasting peace in Ukraine”. This path could then form the basis of a longer-term peace process.¹⁴

To achieve this overarching aim, the Swiss Government identified three objectives for the summit:

- Provide a platform for dialogue on ways towards a comprehensive, just and lasting peace for Ukraine based on international law and the UN Charter;
- Promote a common understanding of a possible framework to reach this goal;
- Jointly define a roadmap on how to involve both parties in a future peace process.¹⁵

The exchange of differing views on how to achieve peace in Ukraine was considered “of vital importance”.¹⁶ To manage expectations, however, the Swiss President, Viola Amherd, said the summit would not immediately result in a peace plan, indicating that a second conference was likely. However, she also went on to say that to do nothing would be “irresponsible”.¹⁷

¹² China did previously participate in the talks in Jeddah in August 2023

¹³ [“Russia’s ally China needed to end Ukraine war, Swiss diplomat says”](#), Reuters, 14 January 2024 and [“More countries join talks on Ukraine’s peace formula, but China is missing”](#), Euronews, 15 January 2024

¹⁴ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#) (accessed 3 May 2024)

¹⁵ Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#) (accessed 13 May 2024)

¹⁶ As above

¹⁷ [“Switzerland to host peace conference in June”](#), SWI, 10 April 2024

2.2

Who attended?

Over 160 delegations were invited to the summit, including members of the G7, G20, BRICS (an intergovernmental organisation including Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), the EU, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the UN and the Council of Europe, along with two religious representatives from the Vatican and the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople.

However, the Swiss Government said that Russia had not been invited after it had made clear its opposition to the summit.¹⁸ Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba argued that there was little sense in inviting Russia if it is impossible to ensure that they act in good faith.¹⁹

In addition to Switzerland, [92 countries and eight organisations attended the summit](#) (PDF), including India, South Africa and Brazil (as an observer) who had initially been non-committal.²⁰ In April 2024 the Ukrainian Government acknowledged that the participation of the rest of the global community was crucial and in particular countries such as China, India, Brazil and South Africa.²¹

Despite attempts to pitch the summit as a high-level meeting of global leaders, many countries sent envoys and diplomats.

Russia and China's absence

The Russian Government has consistently said it is willing to engage in peace talks and ahead of the peace summit, President Putin offered terms for a ceasefire in Ukraine (see [Russia's alternative peace proposals](#)).

The government denounced the Swiss peace summit, however, saying that Moscow would not accept any implemented agreement that ignores its interests.²² Russian Foreign Minister, Sergey Lavrov, further called Switzerland “an openly hostile state”, questioning Switzerland’s credibility as a neutral broker given its adoption of sanctions against Russia.²³ Russia also criticised the summit as an attempt to rally international support for Ukraine’s position,

¹⁸ Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on peace in Ukraine](#)

¹⁹ [“Russia uninterested in Ukraine peace summit in Switzerland”](#), VoA News, 2 May 2024

²⁰ [“India mum on joining Swiss meet despite Ukraine push”](#), Times of India, 3 May 2024; [“Why Switzerland’s Ukraine peace summit might struggle with no-show concerns”](#), Euractiv, 8 May 2024

²¹ [“Yermak: Ukraine strongly encouraging Chinese participation in upcoming global peace summit”](#), The Kyiv independent, 3 May 2024; [“Switzerland to host peace conference in June”](#), SWI, 10 April 2024 and President of Ukraine, [News release](#), 20 April 2024

²² President of Russia, [Meeting with President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko](#), 11 April 2024

²³ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, [Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov’s interview with the radio stations Sputnik, Govorit Moskva and Komsomolskaya Pravda](#), 19 April 2024

in particular among countries of [the 'Global South'](#).²⁴ In a news briefing on 3 May 2024, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zhakarova said the summit was “disconnected from reality” and urged “our partners from the Global Majority countries not to be drawn into another anti-Russian venture by the West and the Kiev regime”.²⁵

China's position

In March 2024 the Chinese Ambassador to Switzerland said that the country was in favour of promoting peace talks and was examining the possibility of participation.²⁶ China's foreign ministry subsequently made clear, however, that the summit did not meet its expectations for an international peace conference, namely: “the equal participation of all parties and fair discussion of all options for peace”.²⁷ On 31 May Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Mao Ning, confirmed that China would not be attending and that it would “continue to promote talks for peace in our own way”.²⁸

Indeed, only days before, the Chinese Foreign Minister, Wang Yi, and Chief Adviser to the Brazilian President, Celso Amorim, had presented a joint proposal for convening an international peace conference “held at a proper time” and “recognized by both Russia and Ukraine, with equal participation of all parties as well as fair discussion of all peace plans”.²⁹

In a speech at [the Shangri-La Dialogue](#) at the end of May 2024, President Zelenskyy accused China of helping Russia to derail the summit by pressuring countries not to attend.³⁰ EU High Representative, Josep Borrell, said “the absence of China in Switzerland and its outreach to discourage participation do not strengthen China's claims of neutrality”.³¹

3

Outcomes of the summit

The Swiss Foreign Ministry said that the [Joint Communiqué on a Peace Framework](#) (PDF), issued at the end of the summit, provided “the foundation

²⁴ See Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, [Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's interview with the radio stations Sputnik, Govorit Moskva and Komsomolskaya Pravda](#), 19 April 2024 and [“Russian Minister casts prospective Russian peace talks as Western plot to win hesitant Global South”](#), Associated Press, 4 April 2024.

²⁵ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, [Press briefing](#), 3 May 2024

²⁶ [“Chinese Ambassador: Beijing considering participation in peace formula summit”](#), The Kyiv Independent, 18 March 2024

²⁷ [“Ukraine peace conference should include Russia, says Chinese Ambassador”](#), SWI, 5 May 2024

²⁸ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, [Regular press conference](#), 31 May 2024

²⁹ Government of Brazil, [Press release](#), 23 May 2024

³⁰ [“Zelenskyy accuses China of helping Russia sabotage peace summit”](#), Politico, 2 June 2024

³¹ EU External Action Service, [A step towards peace in Ukraine](#), 12 June 2024

for initiating a peace process” and the summit itself was not a “negotiating forum” but an opportunity for high-level dialogue.³²

The final document reiterated the overarching commitment to working towards a framework for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine based on international law and the UN Charter. Respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states, including Ukraine, within their internationally recognised borders and the resolution of disputes through peaceful means were set out as underlying principles.

The Final communique subsequently focused on three main areas “that could potentially build trust”:

- Nuclear safety and security – any use of nuclear energy and nuclear installations must be safe, secure, safeguarded and environmentally sound. All nuclear power plants and installations, including Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant must operate under the full sovereign control of Ukraine, and supervised by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The threat, or use, of nuclear weapons within the context of the Ukraine conflict is inadmissible.

- Food security – Food security must not be weaponised in any way and Ukrainian agricultural products should be securely and freely provided to interested third countries. Free and secure commercial shipping must therefore be guaranteed, as well as access to ports in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov. Attacks on merchant shipping, civilian ports and infrastructure are unacceptable.
- Humanitarian issues, including the exchange of prisoners of war and the return to Ukraine of deported and unlawfully displaced Ukrainian children, and unlawfully detained civilians.³³

Considered the least contentious of the issues set out in President Zelenskyy’s Formula for Peace (see above), they were therefore regarded as the issues most likely to achieve consensus on.³⁴ EU High Representative, Josep Borrell, also suggested that “progress in these areas could open avenues for engagement with Russia in other areas over time”.³⁵

³² Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#) (accessed 18 June 2024)

³³ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#) (accessed 18 June 2024) and [Joint Communiqué on a Peace Framework](#), 16 June 2024

³⁴ “A peace conference over Ukraine is unlikely to silence the guns”, *The Economist*, 13 June 2024

³⁵ EU External Action Service, [A step towards peace in Ukraine](#), 12 June 2024

3.1

Non-signatories

At the time of writing, 90 countries and organisations have endorsed the summit communiqué.

The Communiqué was initially signed by 84 participating countries and organisations.³⁶ Fourteen countries who attended the summit did not back the final agreement however, including India, Brazil, South Africa, and Saudi Arabia.

Those states have largely adopted a neutral stance toward Russia and the conflict in Ukraine. India and South Africa abstained in all three votes of the UN General Assembly condemning Russia's actions and calling for the withdrawal of Russian forces.³⁷ Brazil has offered its own version of peace talks (see [Ukraine's Formula for Peace](#) and [Russia and China's absence](#)), while Saudi Arabia, which has cordial relations with both sides, has been touted as potential future intermediary in any peace talks between Ukraine and Russia.³⁸ These countries also do not support Western-led sanctions against Russia.³⁹

However, South Africa's National Security Adviser, Sydney Mufamadi, also expressed concern at the participation of Israel, reportedly questioning the legitimacy of a communiqué, endorsed by Israel, that has respect for international law as an underlying principle.⁴⁰ [South Africa has accused Israel of genocide in Gaza](#) in case brought before the International Court of Justice.

The Swiss Foreign Ministry has said that those states, along with any states who did not attend the summit, could endorse the Communiqué at a later date if they so wished.⁴¹ Indeed, since the summit several countries including Iraq, Rwanda and Jordan have chosen to opt out of the communiqué. Other countries have also joined and, as of 28 June 2024, the number of signatories stands at 90.⁴²

4

Russia's alternative peace proposals

Prior to the Swiss summit, Russia's long-held position has been that any peace settlement must give consideration to "the legitimate security interests of the parties", and that the Ukrainian Government must recognise

³⁶ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Joint Communiqué on a Peace Framework](#),

³⁷ There have been three votes in the UN General Assembly on the Ukraine conflict, in [March 2022](#), [October 2022](#) and [February 2023](#).

³⁸ ["Kyiv hopes to achieve peace with Russia through intermediaries"](#), Politico, 16 June 2024. Saudi Arabia also held pre-summit talks in Jeddah in August 2023 (see Ukraine-led dialogue ahead of the summit)

³⁹ For more detail see Library research briefing: [Sanctions against Russia](#)

⁴⁰ ["Ukraine peace summit: Why some countries refused to sign the plan"](#), Al Jazeera, 17 June 2024

⁴¹ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#) (accessed 18 June 2024)

⁴² As above, Changes to the list of supporters since the first publication

the “new territorial realities” (Russia controls approximately 20% of Ukraine’s internationally recognised territory and has [attempted to annex Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson Oblasts](#)).⁴³ On that basis, Russia has, from the outset, dismissed President Zelensky’s peace formula, which calls for the return of annexed territory and Russian reparations, saying that “we will certainly not talk to anyone on such terms”.⁴⁴

4.1

Russia’s latest ceasefire terms

A day before the peace summit was due to begin in Switzerland, President Putin presented fresh terms for a ceasefire and peace negotiations which he said represented not “a freezing of the conflict” but its “definitive resolution”:

- Ukraine must withdraw from all regions annexed by Russia: Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson, as defined by their 1991 administrative borders. Russia only partially occupies those regions however, with Ukrainian forces still in control of some territory, including major cities in Kherson and Zaporizhzhia.
- Ukraine must demilitarise and adopt a neutral, non-nuclear status.
- Ukraine must renounce its ambition to join NATO.
- The status of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Crimea and Sevastopol must be internationally recognised as part of the Russian Federation.
- The rights, freedoms and interests of Russian-speaking citizens in Ukraine must be ensured, in full.
- All sanctions against Russia must be lifted.⁴⁵

In separate comments, Kremlin Spokesperson Dmitry Peskov also said that Russia would not hold talks with President Zelensky, who it considers to be an illegitimate leader.⁴⁶ President Putin had previously questioned President

⁴³ President of Russia, [Meeting with heads of delegations of African states](#), 17 June 2023 and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, [Press briefing](#), 3 May 2024. Russia’s security interests were at the centre of diplomatic negotiations in early 2022 that sought to avert the invasion of Ukraine. These negotiations are examined in Library research briefing: [Ukraine: Russia’s “red line”](#)

⁴⁴ [“Russia will not negotiate under terms of Zelensky’s peace formula, Lavrov says”](#), The Independent, 29 December 2022

⁴⁵ Russian Foreign Ministry, [President of Russia Vladimir Putin’s speech at the meeting with senior staff of the Russian Foreign Ministry](#), 14 June 2024

⁴⁶ [“After Ukraine peace summit, questions remains whether Russia will come to the table”](#), Radio Free Europe, 17 June 2024. President Zelensky’s term expired in March 2024. Under the constitutional terms of martial law elections cannot be held in Ukraine until the conflict is over.

Zelenskyy's legitimacy in remarks to the St Petersburg Forum on 7 June 2024.⁴⁷

In a statement on 17 June 2024, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Maria Zakharova, said that “the West and Kiev...have to understand that there is no reasonable alternative to the Russian President's peace plan” and that “the sooner they comprehend this, the faster the real process of resolving the conflict and ending hostilities will begin”.⁴⁸

4.2 Response to Russia's demands

President Putin's terms have been rejected by Ukraine and its allies and partners as an ultimatum, rather than a genuine proposal for compromise and peace.

President Zelenskyy likened President Putin's proposals to [Hitler's demands to the Sudetenland in western Czechoslovakia in 1938](#), calling them a “renaissance of Nazism”.⁴⁹ Presidential Adviser, Andriy Yermak, said that Ukraine “will not respond to ultimatums” and that there will be “no compromise on independence or territorial integrity”.⁵⁰

Speaking at the Swiss summit, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen called the proposals a demand for “capitulation” and said: “no country would ever accept these outrageous terms”.⁵¹ US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin also dismissed Putin's demands saying Russia was not “in any position to dictate to Ukraine what they must do to bring about a peace”.⁵²

⁴⁷ President of Russia, [Plenary Session of the St Petersburg International Economic Forum](#), 7 June 2024

⁴⁸ Russian Foreign Ministry, [Comment by Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova on the Ukraine conference in Switzerland](#), 17 June 2024

⁴⁹ [“Zelenskyy says Putin's terms on Ukraine are a ‘renaissance of nazism’”](#), Associated Press, 14 June 2024

⁵⁰ [“Ultimatums don't work with Ukraine -Zelenskyy's Chief of Staff responds to Putin's peace proposal”](#), Politico, 15 June 2024

⁵¹ European Commission, [Press statement](#), 16 June 2024

⁵² US Department of Defense, [Press conference following NATO Ministers of Defense Meeting in Brussels, Belgium](#), 14 June 2024

5

Where next?

“Peace will be a journey”.

European Commission President, [Ursula von der Leyen](#), 16 June 2024

Although Russia’s offer is not considered by many countries and observers to be a genuine offer of peace, many concur that it does nonetheless “reinforce the reality that the Kremlin eventually will have to be dealt with”.⁵³

At the close of the Swiss peace summit, President Zelenskyy said Ukraine would be prepared to hold peace talks with Russia if it withdrew from all Ukrainian territory, including Crimea.⁵⁴ Emboldened by recent Russian gains on the battlefield, however, President Putin continues to call for victory. Alongside his latest terms for peace, those calls make any voluntary Russian withdrawal from Ukraine highly unlikely.⁵⁵

5.1

A second peace summit?

The Ukrainian government has committed to taking work forward, at the level of national security advisers (see Ukraine-led dialogue ahead of the summit), on implementation of the Joint Communiqué. The intention is to develop a “step-by-step plan” on the three issues set out in the Communiqué: nuclear and energy security, food security and the release of all captured and deported Ukrainians.

Working groups will be established, under the leadership of other countries with an interest in these specific issues. President Zelenskyy suggested that preliminary agreements were already in place with several countries, including Turkey, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Chile, Ghana and the UK, to lead or co-lead these groups. He said it was important that “all these meetings take place on different continents, in the territories of countries that may not share borders with us, but which definitely share the same values”.⁵⁶

Each working group will work towards an action plan, which it is hoped will lay the groundwork for a second peace summit, to which Russia could be invited.⁵⁷ How that action plan will address broader issues such as the status of territory and the withdrawal of forces, however, is unclear.

At the close of the first summit, the Swiss Government said it was “convinced that Russia must be included in this process as it progresses” and that “a

⁵³ [“Russia’s ghost loomed over Ukraine peace summit”](#), Politico, 16 June 2024

⁵⁴ [“Peace talks tomorrow if Russia leaves Ukraine – Zelenskyy”](#), BBC News, 16 June 2024

⁵⁵ See institute for the Study of War, [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessments](#) and [Interactive map: Russia’s invasion of Ukraine](#), and President of Russia, [Plenary Session of the St Petersburg International Economic Forum](#), 7 June 2024

⁵⁶ President of Ukraine, [Press release](#), 16 June 2024 and [Statement by President of Ukraine](#), 16 June 2024

⁵⁷ [“Ukraine begins work on second summit, top Zelenskyy aide says”](#), SwissInfo, 18 June 2024

peace process without Russia is inconceivable”.⁵⁸ A timeframe, and location, for a second summit has not yet been determined.

In the meantime, calls for peace are set to continue with [China and Brazil’s recent proposals for an international peace conference](#) involving all parties the most likely to gain attention.⁵⁹

⁵⁸ Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, [Summit on Peace in Ukraine](#) (accessed 18 June 2024)

⁵⁹ [“Why China is sabotaging Ukraine”](#), Foreign Affairs, 14 June 2024

Disclaimer

The Commons Library does not intend the information in our research publications and briefings to address the specific circumstances of any particular individual. We have published it to support the work of MPs. You should not rely upon it as legal or professional advice, or as a substitute for it. We do not accept any liability whatsoever for any errors, omissions or misstatements contained herein. You should consult a suitably qualified professional if you require specific advice or information. Read our briefing '[Legal help: where to go and how to pay](#)' for further information about sources of legal advice and help. This information is provided subject to the conditions of the Open Parliament Licence.

Sources and subscriptions for MPs and staff

We try to use sources in our research that everyone can access, but sometimes only information that exists behind a paywall or via a subscription is available. We provide access to many online subscriptions to MPs and parliamentary staff, please contact hoclibraryonline@parliament.uk or visit commonslibrary.parliament.uk/resources for more information.

Feedback

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in these publicly available briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated to reflect subsequent changes.

If you have any comments on our briefings please email papers@parliament.uk. Please note that authors are not always able to engage in discussions with members of the public who express opinions about the content of our research, although we will carefully consider and correct any factual errors.

You can read our feedback and complaints policy and our editorial policy at commonslibrary.parliament.uk. If you have general questions about the work of the House of Commons email hcenquiries@parliament.uk.

The House of Commons Library is a research and information service based in the UK Parliament. Our impartial analysis, statistical research and resources help MPs and their staff scrutinise legislation, develop policy, and support constituents.

Our published material is available to everyone on commonslibrary.parliament.uk.

Get our latest research delivered straight to your inbox. Subscribe at commonslibrary.parliament.uk/subscribe or scan the code below:



 commonslibrary.parliament.uk

 [@commonslibrary](https://twitter.com/commonslibrary)