ifa ECP Monitor Fact Sheet

# United Kingdom



## 1. Key Indicators

		2019	% change since 2015
Population	Number/rank	66.64 million / 22 <sup>nd</sup>	64.85 million / 3%
GDP	Rank	6 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
GDP per capita	Number	37,770	- 7
Cultural economy	As share of GDP	0.20 (2018)	- 0.1
Education economy	As share of GDP	4.80 (2018)	- 0.4
R&D economy	As share of GDP	1.73 (2018)	0.1
Media economy	As share of GDP	0.20 (2018)	0
Geopolitical position	Hard power rank	8 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup> 🛧
	World trade rank (\$ million)	4 <sup>th</sup> / 1,704,004	4 <sup>th</sup> / 1,660,134 -
	Soft power rank	2 <sup>nd</sup> / 79.47	1 <sup>st</sup> / 75.61 ↓
	Diplomacy rank	11 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th (2016)</sup> ↓

Sources: Eurostat, World Bank

## 2. Government funding as percent of total government outlays, by selected fields

	2019	% change since 2015
Culture	0.60 (2018)	-0.1
Education	11.80 (2018)	- 0.6
R & D	1.04	- 0.2
Media	0.50 (2018)	-0.1

Source: Eurostat

## 3. Overview of External Cultural Policy

	2019
Number of countries with ECP activities	at least 169 <sup>1</sup>
Total number of institutions abroad	about 4,400
Total number of FTE staff engaged in ECP activities	about 22,000 <sup>2</sup>
Freelance and local ECP staff	about 38,000 <sup>3</sup>
Financial scale of all ECP activities	-
Government financial support (€ million)	1,669 <sup>4</sup>
Comparative ECP ranking	major

#### **MAIN ECP OBJECTIVES**

- Promote the values and influence of Global Britain
  - the international campaign GREAT aims to bolster "the reputation of the UK as an innovative, diverse and creative nation".
- Promote UK's economic security and opportunities globally
  - Export-oriented ECP strategies to support domestic industry
    - e.g. the 2019 International Education Strategy aims to increase education exports to £35 billion per year, and the number of international students to 600,000 per year, by 2030
  - Promotion of successful innovations and expertise to connect UK organisations with overseas bodies and new markets, often as a form of aid
    - e.g. Connecting Classrooms 2018–21 global education programme, a £38 million, joint programme between the British Council and DFID.

#### **ECP CONTEXT**

- Following Brexit, the UK will have to strengthen bilateral relationships with individual EU members, North America as well as other countries.
- The new ECP strategy will be the building of a "Global Britain", with a renewed sense of the UK's global positioning.
- To maintain its global standing, the UK is looking to strengthen its overseas network, especially in the Commonwealth and with emerging markets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) posts abroad, as of 31 March 2019, FCDO (2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> British Council, BBC Studios, UKRI staff combined.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This should be read as approximation. It is based on the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office local workforce (8178) and estimated 30,000 local teachers and staff at British Schools Overseas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> £1,514,804,000, based on the FCDO's expenditure on the strategic objective "SO2—Project Our Global Influence", FCDO (2019).

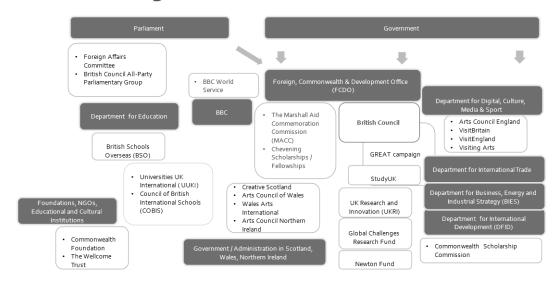
#### **REGIONAL FOCUS AND INSTITUTIONAL EMPHASIS**

- · The refugee crisis-affected countries: Syria, Iraq, and neighbouring countries
- the Middle East, Africa and South Asia
- India, China, and developing countries
- the European Union,
- Russia and neighbouring countries

The British Council has most international offices in India (10).

#### **INSTITUTIONAL MAP**

## **United Kingdom**



## 4. Fields of External Cultural Policy

	2019	2015
Culture and the Arts: British Council		
Number of countries present	116 5	110
Number of institutes	177	196
Number of FTE staff	10,963	9,624
Number of artists in programmes	24,000 artists and 4,000 arts organisations in 87 countries (2017/18)	n/a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> British Council is active in additional 20 countries but without physical presence.

	2019	2015
Budget (€ million)	1,333 <sup>6</sup> Culture: 115.8 <sup>7</sup>	1,075 <sup>8</sup> Culture: 81 <sup>9</sup>
Government financial support (€ million)	201 <sup>10</sup> Cultural Protection Fund (CPF): 32 (2016-2020) 11	177 <sup>12</sup>
Language: British Council		
Number of countries where courses are offered	53 (teaching centres) (2018) (Language exams in 124)	over 50 (teaching centres)
Number of students in class	- 420,000 learners -168,000 teachers trained	400,000 learners <sup>(2016)</sup>
Number of students online reach	1.8 million (2016) 13	1.2 million
Number of candidates for English language qualifications (IELTS)	3.9 million British Council: 4.4 million exams <sup>(2017/18)</sup>	2.7 million
Number of language teachers	2,548 <sup>14</sup>	2,632
Budget (€ million)	749.70 (2017-18) 15	593.44 <sup>16</sup>
Government financial support (€ million)	n/a	n/a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The original sum, £1,219 million, refers to the total expenditure of British Council in 2018/19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Original sum: £105,887,000. It refers here to the budget item "Encouraging cultural scientific and technological co-operation"., British Council.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> £982 million total expenditure in 2015/16, British Council.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> In 2015/16, 8% of the British Council budget or £74 million went to "Encouraging cultural, scientific and technological co-operation".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> £184 million of government grant-in-aid, or 14.7% of the British Council budget.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The £30 million Cultural Protection Fund (2016-2020) supports cultural heritage in conflict-affected countries. CPF is managed by the British Council in partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> £162 million of government grant-in-aid, or 17% of the British Council budget.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> This includes English language MOOCs. The overall digital reach is much larger with over 100 million language learners and teachers globally in 2018/19. British Council (2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Additionally, 2,000 young graduates from 176 UK HEIs worked overseas as English language assistants.

 $<sup>^{15}</sup>$  £683.3 million, 58.6% of the British Council budget was dedicated to "Developing a wider knowledge of the English language".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> £541 million or 55% of the British Council budget for "Developing a wider knowledge of the English language".

	2019	2015
Education - Primary & Secondary:  British Schools Overseas (BSO)		
Number of countries	-	-
Number of schools	about 4,000 Independent Schools Council (ISC): 58 campuses overseas <sup>17</sup>	about 3,700 <sup>(2017)</sup>
Number of students	about. 1,200,000 <sup>(p) 18</sup> ISC: 39,616	n/a
Number of staff / teachers	30,000	n/a
Budget (€ million)	n/a	n/a
Government financial support (€ million)	n/a	n/a
Education - Tertiary		
Number of countries	TNE: 225 countries and territories	only 15 countries did not offer UK TNE
Number of universities / colleges abroad	139 (2017/18)	132
Number of foreign students <sup>19</sup>	452,079 <sup>(2018)</sup>	430,833
Number of students at transnational higher education (TNE)	693,695 <sup>(2017/18)</sup>	701,010
Number of government scholarships awarded (Chevening, Marshall and Commonwealth Scholarships)	- Chevening: 1,750 <sup>(2018)</sup> - Commonwealth: 1,620 <sup>(2018/19)</sup> - Marshall: 83	-
Number of staff / teachers	n/a	-
Budget (€ million)	n/a	-
Government financial support (€ million)	GREAT/British Council education campaigns: about 25 million <sup>20</sup>	Scholarship schemes: 80.32 <sup>21</sup>

<sup>-</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Furthermore, there are approximately 127 ISC affiliated schools, i.e. overseas schools in membership of ISC associations. ISC is only a small part of the BSO network. ISC (2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> This is a provisional value, assuming that at least 3,000 BSO campuses have an average of 400 pupils each (the average for ISC schools in the UK). Oxford Economics (2018).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Data based on Global Flow of Tertiary-Level Students | UNESCO UIS. (2020). Retrieved 2 September 2020, from http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Original sum £22.5 million, FCDO (2019).

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 21}$  £73 million for 2015/16. The total budgeted spend (including partnership income) was £89m.

	2019	2015
Science and Research:  UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)		
Number of countries	130 <sup>22</sup>	-
Number of institutes	4 offices <sup>23</sup> GCRF: 12 research hubs	-
Number of researchers / staff	7,800	-
Number of projects	1,750	-
Number scientists in exchange programmes	3,829 research grants 441 fellowships	-
Budget (€ million)	390 <sup>24</sup>	-
Government financial support (€ million)	n/a	-
Media: BBC World Service		
TV (Audience / weekly, million)	138	91
Radio (Audience / weekly, million)	173	144
Total		
Number of countries broadcasted to	more than 200 countries and territories worldwide	1
Number of languages	more than 40	29
Number of channels	-	more than 30
Audience / weekly (million)	319 <sup>25</sup>	246.3
Global reach <sup>(Including BBC News and BBC studios)</sup>	426	320
Budget (€ million)	-	340 <sup>26</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The number of countries involved across the projects of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). The UK Science and Innovation Network (SIN) is present in over 40 countries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> UK Research and Innovation is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. It comprises of 7 UK Research Councils, Innovate UK, and Research England. UKRI (2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> £356m in international collaborations with the developed world through the new Fund for International Collaboration (FIC), and with developing countries through the Global Challenges Research Fund and the Newton Fund. UKRI's total investment across

GCRF and Newton is £1 billion. UKRI (2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Includes TV, radio, online and social media in English and other languages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> £260 million, BBC World Service expenditure in 2015-16, BBC (2016).

	2019	2015
New Media		
Social networks following <sup>27</sup>	British Council: Facebook: 2,275,295 Twitter: 283,400 Instagram: 75,400	-
Audience / unique monthly visitors (million)	British Council: 180 <sup>(2017/18)</sup> BBC World Service: 55	BBC World Service: 41.6

### 5. Current Issues and Developments

- The challenge of Brexit amidst the COVID19 pandemic and economic recession
- The UK will have to better coordinate its many soft power assets for maximum effect.
- To achieve its "Global Britain" ambition, the UK will need to invest considerable resources.

## 6. Contributions to multilateral cultural organisations

	2019	Change since 2015
UNESCO (€ million) <sup>28</sup>	6.09	
Council of Europe (€ million)	33.40	31.96
Creative Europe (€ million)	9.53	11.97

Source: UNESCO, CoE, European Commission

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Last data update on 17 September 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Assessed contributions to UNESCO are mandatory contributions due from States by virtue of their membership.

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#### **Imprint**

The External Cultural Policy Monitor

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