



Britain in the World

British people used to be proud of what our country stood for. But our reputation has been damaged by dodgy arms deals with dictators, allegations of involvement in torture, and of course the disastrous and illegal invasion of Iraq. Liberal Democrats will put British values of fairness and the rule of law back at the heart of our foreign policy. We will always put the country's security first. But the national interest demands that we work with allies, stand up for human rights, and help people in the poorest parts of the world. We will not repeat the errors of Iraq. We will establish a full, independent public inquiry into allegations of British government involvement in torture. We will make tough rules on corruption and arms sales. By working closely with our allies, Britain will have more influence in tackling international problems like poverty climate change and terrorism.

A full inquiry into allegations of British complicity in torture and state kidnapping.

Liberal Democrats are completely opposed to the use of torture and state-kidnapping known as extraordinary rendition. The Government has consistently failed to tell the truth about the extent of its involvement in these practices by foreign intelligence agencies, including the CIA. Only a full inquiry will get to the bottom of the issue and restore Britain's reputation for decency and fairness.

Critical supporters of the Afghanistan mission. We support the mission in Afghanistan. Failure would have devastating consequences for Afghanistan, the region, for NATO and for Britain's security. But we owe it to our troops to ask tough questions about how success can be achieved. We will continue to demand that the strategy in Afghanistan pushes for a more legitimate government, tackles corruption and involves others players in the region. There must be a political surge alongside the planned military surge to bring over moderate Taliban.