

ENGLAND

Region: United Kingdom (Global North)

Population (2022): 56.5 million (25th)

Life Expectancy at Birth (Women): 83.0 years (UK)

Governance System: Constitutional monarchy with parliamentary system

Capital: London

Land Area (km²): 130,278 (92nd)

Major Languages: English

Select Global Rankings

GDP (UK 2022): 6th (3,070,668 US\$ Millions)

Human Development Index (UK): 18th (Very High)

Fragile States Index - Inverted (UK): 32nd (Cat. 4)

Good Country Index (UK): 14th

Human Freedom Index (UK): 14th

World Happiness Ranking (UK): 19th

Select Global Rankings (Gender-Focus)

Gross National Income Per Capita (UK Women): 21st

Gender Social Norms Index (UK): 3rd

Women's Power Index (UK): 40th

Social Institutions and Gender Index (World Cup rank): 10th

Gender Inequality Index (UK): 27th

Global Gender Gap Index (UK): 15th

Women Peace & Security Index (UK): 9th

Elite Sport System Rankings

2020 Summer Olympic Women's Medals (% of Total - Great Britain): 26.5 (41% of 64)

2022 Winter Olympic Women's Medals (% of Total - Great Britain): 1 (50% of 2)

Global Cup Ranking (Great Britain Women): 5th

Football/World Cup Profile

FIFA Region: UEFA

FIFA Ranking: 4

World Cup Appearance: 6th

Best World Cup Performance(s): 3rd place (2015)

Qualification: Winner Qualifying Group D

World Cup Group: D

Last World Cup Appearance: 2019

ENGLAND in International Affairs (by Mallory Haggith)

England is a part of the United Kingdom (UK) which comprises England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. England is the largest country in the UK. The UK is a constitutional monarchy—while the King or Queen is the Head of State, the ability to make and pass legislation resides with the Parliament. The current Head of State is King Charles III, who ascended the throne in September 2022 after the death of Queen Elizabeth II—the longest-reigning British monarch. The current Prime Minister (PM) is Rishi Sunak, who was appointed in October 2022. PM Sunak is the first British Asian Prime Minister.

Before the UK was established, England was a part of Great Britain. Beginning in the sixteenth century and lasting until the twentieth century, Great Britain colonized or established rule over countries in the Americas, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Australasia. The British Empire—the term used to describe the dominions and colonies—was the largest empire by land area. The saying “the sun never sets on the British Empire” has been used to convey the vastness—it was always daytime somewhere in

the empire. Great Britain notably fought in the two world wars, and [the mobilization of the empire](#) was crucial to the British victory. Following the Second World War (1939–45), the UK gradually [granted independence to the remaining colonies](#). Almost all the former colonies became Commonwealth members.

Although the end of the British Empire signalled a decline in power, the UK today has continued to exert considerable international influence. Regionally, the UK is a member of the [Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe](#) (OSCE). The UK was also a member of the [European Union \(EU\)](#). The EU amplified the UK's power on the world stage. However, in June 2016, a referendum resulted in a majority vote to leave the EU. [Following prolonged negotiations, the UK left the EU in January 2020](#). Brexit is the name given to the UK's withdrawal from the EU. By leaving the EU, other international actors believe that the UK abandoned a [position of strength in the world's largest economic bloc](#).

Despite the decision to leave the EU, the UK has continued to embrace internationalism. The UK is a [founding member of the United Nations \(UN\)](#) and is a permanent member of the UN Security Council—[which means the UK has a special voting power](#). At the UN, [the UK has worked to make the UN more effective and efficient](#) at delivering peace, sustainable development, human rights, justice, and humanitarian assistance. The [UK is also a member of](#) the Commonwealth, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Group of Seven major industrialized nations (G7) and the Group of 20 major industrialized and important emerging market nations (G20).

Additionally, the UK has strong international alliances. According to PM Sunak, [the United States \(US\) is the UK's closest ally](#). Other international alliances include the [CANZUK countries—Canada, Australia, and New Zealand](#)—France, and Germany. Thus, the UK has strong international memberships and alliances making it a relevant international actor.

Gender Equity (by Alanna Harman)

“Women are still missing from the top jobs in the United Kingdom's politics, law, civil service, media, professional and sports administration [sectors](#)”. The same study also found that the situation was much worse for women of colour, as well the gap in full time employment is much wider in couples with children than those [without](#). “The 2020 Sex and Power Index highlighted the ‘dismally’ slow pace of change across sectors ranging from business to [courts](#)”. In 2020 the UK was ranked 6th in the EU on the Gender Equity [Index](#), the UK's ranking has remained the same from 2010 – 2020. “Gender inequalities are most pronounced in the domain of power...its lowest ranking is in the domain of [money](#)”. The UK was also recently criticized for their announcements of “a new strategy to advance gender equality around the world on the same day that MPs announced plans to investigate the impact of UK aid cuts on women and [girls](#)”. The global strategy launched on International Women's Day makes gender equality central to its work including “supporting sexual and reproductive health programmes and funding grassroots women's rights [groups](#)”. In 2021 the same group (Foreign,

Commonwealth and Development Office - FDCO) confirmed that they would be cutting four billion pounds from the aid budget.

In 2020 the Football Association (FA) announced that “England’s men’s and women’s national soccer teams are being paid the same appearance fee to represent their [country](#)”. National men’s and women’s team athletes are to be compensated the same both in terms of match fees and match bonuses.