

**BUCC and USUBC Host the Business Roundtable for the UK's
All-Party Parliamentary Group on Ukraine**

On 23 February 2026, the BUCC held, jointly with USUBC, the Business Roundtable (Roundtable) with the visiting Delegation from the UK's All-Party Parliamentary Group on Ukraine (Parliamentary Group).

The Roundtable involved the Delegation's British MPs, Ukrainian MPs from the UK-Ukraine Interparliamentary Relations Group, and representatives from British, Ukrainian and American businesses. Its discussion focused on the investment and business opportunities being created by Ukraine's groundbreaking 100-year partnership with the UK covering, in particular, Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction, development of its energy sector, and UK-Ukraine collaboration in the defence sector.

The panelists were:

- **Alex Sobel MP**, Chair of UK MPs Delegation
- **Nia Griffith MP** (UK)
- **Graham Stuart MP** (UK)
- **Lesia Vasylenko**, Ukrainian MP, Co-Chair of the UK-Ukraine Interparliamentary Relations Group.
- **Francesca Scott**, Director for Trade and Investment, British Embassy in Kyiv
- **Leon Skarshinski**, U.S. Embassy, Commercial Counselor
- **Yannis Kyriakopoulos**, CEO and Chairman of the Management Board, Piraeus Bank Ukraine
- **Adam Bott**, Director, P&B Energy Consulting LLC
- **Andriy Tanchak**, Senior Regulatory Engagement Manager, British American Tobacco Ukraine
- **Oleksandr Pochkun**, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Baker Tilly Ukraine

The discussion was jointly moderated by **Colin Ross**, Country Director, Gleeds Ukraine and a BUCC Board Member, and **Mykola Stetsenko**, Managing Partner, AVELLUM, President of the Ukrainian Bar Association and a USUBC Executive Committee Member.

To begin with, Alex Sobel, Chair of the UK Delegation, observed that “the UK-Ukraine hundred year partnership is a unique agreement globally. The agreement's nine pillars gives a framework for comprehensive and long-lasting joint working with Ukraine. UK and Ukrainian businesses are at the heart of this.” These nine pillars, cited by the UK Government, are:

1. **Strengthening Defence Capabilities:** Deepening defense cooperation, strengthening industrial bases, and establishing joint production of weapons and ammunition to support Ukraine's long-term security and NATO interoperability.
2. **Strengthening Security:** Promoting a just peace based on the UN Charter, supporting Ukraine's NATO membership aspirations, enhancing cyber capabilities, combatting serious/organized crime, and protecting critical national infrastructure.
3. **Maritime Security Partnership:** Focused on restoring Ukrainian control over occupied territories, ensuring freedom of navigation in the Black, Azov, and Baltic Seas, and deepening cooperation between the Ukrainian Navy and the Royal Navy.
4. **Economic and Trade Cooperation:** Modernizing the 2020 Partnership Agreement, improving market access, reducing reliance on aid, supporting small/medium enterprises (SME) through the UK's programme on Triggering Investment, Growth and Economic Resilience for Ukraine (TIGER programme), and creating a Grain Verification Scheme to stop grain theft.
5. **Energy, Climate, and Clean Energy Transition:** Developing a partnership focused on sustainable, renewable energy, reducing dependency on Russian energy, promoting green steel production, and establishing a critical minerals strategy.
6. **Justice and Accountability:** Collaborating on holding Russia accountable for atrocities, supporting the International Criminal Court (ICC), establishing a special tribunal for aggression, and enhancing sanctions enforcement.
7. **Countering Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI):** Building resilience against propaganda and disinformation, supporting independent media, and developing joint strategic communication initiatives.

8. **Science, Technology, and Innovation:** Launching partnerships in space, artificial intelligence (AI), healthcare, and Agri-tech, including using the "UK-Ukraine TechBridge" to boost innovation.
9. **Socio-Cultural, Sport, and Youth Ties:** Harnessing long-term social links through education (twinning 100 schools), sport (rehabilitation programmes for veterans), cultural exchange (Ukrainian-British Cultural Commission), and facilitating migration/mobility."

Colin Ross of the BUCC noted, following up on the comments by Alex Sobel, MP, and Lesia Vasylenko, MP, that "whilst the financial and military support commitments take centre stage at present, it is wonderful to be reminded of the humanitarian, trade and economic elements that are still being actioned despite the war. It was especially pleasant to note that last month, on the 1st anniversary of the partnership, an MOU was signed agreeing to address non-price criteria in tenders, something I have personally championed with UK DBT as part of my work as an industry advisor in their Strategic Trade and Industry Group (STIG) programme".

Following further presentations by the MPs and the UK and US commercial counsellors, the representatives of BUCC and USUBC member businesses put questions to the panel. During this discussion, Andriy Buzarov of the BUCC's Advisory Counsel asked what would happen if the war does not stop. The response by Alex Sobel, Chair of the UK Delegation, was that if the negotiations fail, the UK has a plan to continue to support Ukrainian military production, the energy sector and trade during wartime. The US Embassy Senior Commercial Officer, Leon Skarshinski, also added that the US is ready to provide considerable financial support to Ukraine, if no progress is reached at the negotiations and the war continues.

Yannis Kyriakopoulos of Piraeus Bank Ukraine observed that "Ukraine today represents not only resilience in the face of war, but also one of Europe's most compelling long-term investment stories. Businesses that engage now are not simply entering a market — they are participating in the rebuilding of an economy with strong human capital, deep industrial capacity, and clear European ambitions. At Piraeus Bank, we are committed to helping British and international partners navigate this environment confidently and turn opportunity into sustainable growth".

Colin Ross concluded by thanking the Roundtable sponsors Piraeus Bank Ukraine and B. C. Toms & Co Law Offices.

The Roundtable participants then had an opportunity to informally speak with the members of the UK Delegation as well as the Ukrainian during the reception that followed the formal session.

Mr Ross also announced that the BUCC's next Monthly Meeting, to be held on Thursday, 5 March 2026 at the Premier Palace Hotel, would cover insurance for investments and business in Ukraine with a presentation by Vyacheslav Andriyko of the international Insurance Broker Willis.