

## UK Defence at a Crossroads: Place, Policy, and Global Influence in the Strategic Defence Review

*Friday, 20 June 2025 16:45 (1h 30m)*

The UK Strategic Defence Review (SDR) is scheduled for publication in the first half of 2025. The Review received over 3,000 responses from across the Ministry of Defence, services, academia, think tanks, and the public. It is the first defence review of its scale in the new security environment, reflecting likewise the significant progress Defence has made in adopting human-centred approaches to security. It also comes within the broader policy context of a Labour government focused on devolution and regional approaches. This panel examines the SDR to understand what it reveals about the future of UK Defence, Britain's role globally, and its impact on the UK itself. Key questions include: What role does place-based decision-making have in UK Defence? How should the UK respond to the current security environment? How far can the UK spread itself globally and what should be prioritised? What are the implications of a second term President Trump for UK Defence and NATO? In what ways does Human Security enhance the UK's defence posture, and how can it be better prioritised going forward?

**Track Classification:** Security Policy and Practice