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Foreword by
The Rt Hon David Cameron MP,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

When we came to government we brought a vision of a new foreign policy. More commercial in earning our way in the world, more strategic in meeting the new and emerging threats to our national security, and firmly committed to upholding our values and defending Britain's moral authority even in the most difficult of circumstances.

Since the speeches by William Hague in this booklet were delivered, these principles have been tested in the tumultuous upheaval in the Arab World. I believe they have met that challenge. For decades, some argued that countries like Britain faced a choice between our interests and our values. But, as these speeches make clear, that is a false choice.

Our interests lie in upholding our values – in insisting on the right to peaceful protest, in freedom of speech and the internet,

in freedom of assembly and the rule of law. These are not just our values, but the entitlement of people everywhere.

As we have seen, denying people their basic rights does not preserve stability, rather the reverse. If people's hunger for a job and a voice are denied there is a real risk that they become cut off from society or worse drawn to more violent and extremist responses. That's a problem for the Arab world but it's a problem for the rest of the world too.

Britain has the resources – commercial, military and cultural – to remain a major player in addressing these policy challenges. We have the relationships, with the established powers and the fastest-growing nations, that can benefit our economy. And we have the values that drive us to do good around the world.

These speeches set out how we will go about this and some of our achievements already. **F**

RT HON DAVID CAMERON MP