

The UK Government, in a 2011 [White Paper](#), named Israel a key strategic partner. Since then, the two countries have gone on to foster a robust economic relationship, with strong ties promoting investment in science, cybersecurity, medical science, and technology and innovation. This paper sets out the key areas of expanding cooperation.

went public in London than from any other foreign country. The London Stock Exchange recently noted that “London has an [active and fast growing](#) community of Israeli companies on its markets”.

- Today, the UK is [Israel’s second-ranking](#) export market in the world, and the biggest in Europe.

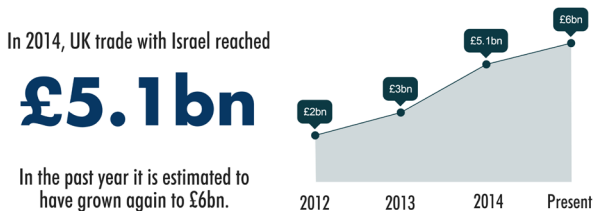
Economy and Trade

Today UK-Israeli trade is at an all-time high, nearing [£6bn](#) in bilateral trade in the last year.

- Israel is the UK’s 33rd largest market worldwide and its fourth largest market in the Middle East North Africa region.
- Among the top ten UK exports to Israel are vehicles, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and plastics. The top Israeli exports to the UK include pharmaceuticals, precious metals and agricultural products.

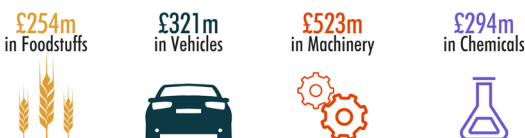
BILATERAL TRADE

Over the past decade, bilateral UK-Israel trade has doubled



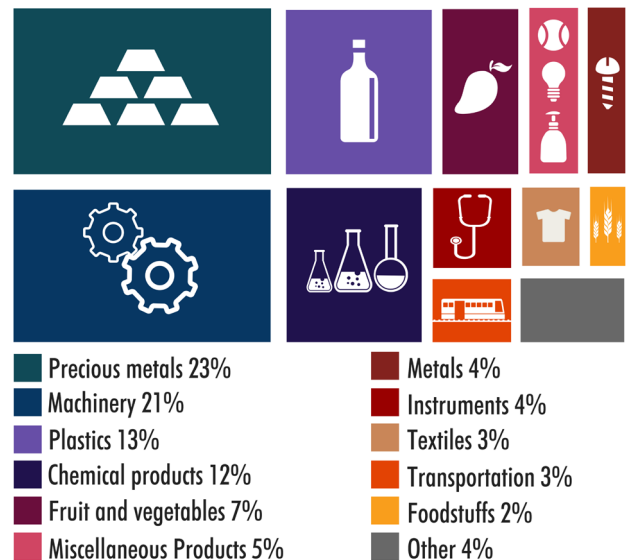
The UK exports a variety of goods to Israel

In 2014 this included:

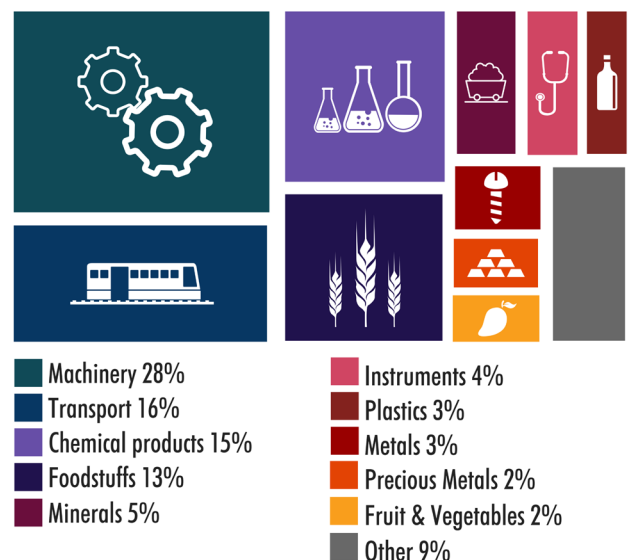


- Israel has increasingly turned to London as its gateway to Europe. In 2014, Israel outpaced all other countries for IPOs on the London Stock Exchange. That year, more Israeli firms

ISRAEL EXPORTS TO THE UK



UK EXPORTS TO ISRAEL



Since the 2011 White Paper, trade and investment has increased, with Israeli investment spurring job creation in the UK.

- The UK is now Israel's top destination for foreign direct investment in Europe.
- During a trade delegation to the UK in 2012, Israeli tech companies announced a [£3m investment](#) in South Wales and growth plans that would create 100 jobs, with nearly £13m spent with local suppliers benefiting the local economy.
- In 2014 Israel's Noy Infrastructure and Energy Investment Fund pledged to invest £50m in the UK's renewable energy sector.
- UKTI reported that Israeli companies expanding their operations in the UK led to the creation of [560 UK jobs](#) in 2015.

Education, Research & Development, Health Care

Israeli based pharmaceutical companies have increasingly come to play a vital role in UK health care. Following Prime Minister David Cameron's visit to Israel in 2014, Teva, an Israeli-based pharmaceutical company specialising in affordable prescription drugs, announced a £12m investment in clinical development in the UK, and pledged an additional £600,000 to support research into dementia.

That same year Israel-based [AposTherapy announced](#) a £10m investment in UK in the next three years, with the promise of creating hundreds of UK jobs. Prior to 2014, AposTherapy had already created 50 jobs in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Kent and Sussex, whilst TEVA employs 1,500 staff across a number of UK sites – 220 in West Yorkshire alone.

UK ISRAELI MEDICINES IN THE UK

Israel provides **1 in 7**  prescribed medicines

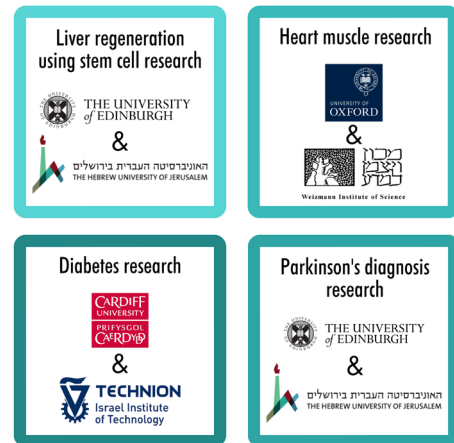


100m prescription items used by patients in the UK come from Israel

BIRAX, the Britain Israel Research and Academic Exchange Partnership, is a £10m initiative supported by the British Council and the British Embassy in Israel, together with the Pears Foundation and the UJIA, aimed at funding research in cutting-edge stem-cell and regenerative medicine therapies.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

BIRAX (Britain Israel Research and Academic Exchange Partnership) funds 8 projects at 11 universities in the UK and Israel, amounting to **£10m**



A new [scientific cooperation](#) agreement was signed between the UK and Israel in April 2015. Signed by the British Royal Society and the Israel Academy of Science and Humanities, the new multi-year agreement is intended to fund research in a number of scientific areas, as well as providing funding for 12-15 post-doctorate exchange fellows to advance their research.

Technology & Innovation

In 2012 the UK became the first, and thus far the only, country to have established a special government-sponsored mission in Israel to bolster tech cooperation between the two countries. Given the programme's success, in 2013 the then Prime Minister David Cameron appointed a special Tech Envoy to Israel. As of 2015, the UK-Israel Tech Hub has been credited with creating 80 business partnerships between the two countries. In addition, the UK-sponsored [TexChange](#) programme brings Israeli entrepreneurs to the UK, allowing them to network with other entrepreneurs, investors and potential customers.

UK-ISRAEL TECH HUB

The UK is the first and only country to create a government-sponsored tech mission to increase tech cooperation with Israel



Gaming


E-commerce


Mobile technology


Social Media


By 2015, the Tech Hub had created **80** UK-Israel business partnerships

By 2015, a number of Israeli-starts up have expanded beyond the Israeli market, finding greater commercial success in the UK. Among such companies are:

- Tadaqu, an Israeli start-up which, since 2011, monitors London’s water system from its base of operations in Tel Aviv, and works to alert Thames water to find leaks and save water in the event a problem is detected.
- As of March 2016, the Israeli created [Gett Taxi](#) app has become the largest black cab taxi app in the UK.

ISRAELI BUSINESS IN THE UK

As of March 2016, **Gett Taxi** became the largest black cab taxi app in the UK

It operates in **25** major UK cities, including:

London



Manchester



Birmingham



Leeds



Liverpool



Edinburgh



Already partners in [cybersecurity cooperation](#), in February 2016, the UK and Israel agreed to extend their cooperation, including by strengthening the relationship between their respective Cyber Emergency Response Teams (CERT-UK and CERT-IL).

CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION

2014

UK Israel MOU signed on bilateral digital cooperation

2015

£1.2 m in UK-Israel research partnerships with 3 academic institutions



2016

Cyber security relationship strengthened, launched new avenues for cyber defence of national infrastructures

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