

D-Day Proclamation

75 years ago, our countries were about to embark on a decisive battle.

On 6 June 1944, 160,000 Allied troops landed at Normandy, signalling the beginning of the end of the war in Europe. Casualty figures on all sides were immense, with hundreds of thousands of soldiers, sailors, aviators and civilians killed or wounded in the days and weeks that followed.

We stand together today to honour the memory of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice on D-Day, and those many millions of men and women who lost their lives during the Second World War, the largest conflict in human history.

We affirm that it is our shared responsibility to ensure that the unimaginable horror of these years is never repeated.

Over the last 75 years, our nations have stood up for peace in Europe and globally, for democracy, tolerance and the rule of law. We re-commit today to those shared values because they support the stability and prosperity of our nations and our people. We will work together as allies and friends to defend these freedoms whenever they are threatened.

We commit to work constructively as friends and allies to find common ground where we have differences of opinion and to work together to resolve international tensions peacefully.

We will act resolutely, with courage and tenacity, to protect our people against threats to our values and challenges to peace and stability.

In this way, we salute the surviving veterans of D-Day and we honour the memories of those who came before us.

We will ensure that the sacrifices of the past are never in vain and never forgotten.