



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 May 2021

Dear Andrej,

I had hoped to speak to you recently on the phone before the news came through of revelations about the perpetrators of the Vrbovec explosions in 2014, and the link to the crimes committed by those same individuals later in Salisbury.

I am writing now to express my strongest possible support for the action taken to address malign Russian activity in your country. Your assertive defence of your nation's sovereignty will no doubt have a positive impact beyond your borders and will help to deter further hostile state activity. As your NATO ally, the United Kingdom stands ready to work with you to confront future challenges. On mutual threats such as terrorism, stability in the Western Balkans, China, cyber and disinformation, I want the UK to work as closely as possible with the Czech Republic.

I was delighted that the United Kingdom was able to dispatch a team of Army medics to assist the Czech Republic in combating COVID-19. This pandemic is a global challenge that needs a global response, so I hope such international collaboration – whether sharing scientific expertise, challenging disinformation or keeping vaccine supply lines open – continues as both our countries tackle this terrible virus.

Finally, I wanted to mention the Powering Past Coal Alliance, a British initiative committed to the principle of phasing out coal as far as possible by 2030. We know from our own experience the challenges of such a shift, and part of the group's remit is to provide mutual support and share experiences. As we move towards COP26, which the UK is delighted to host later this year, I believe that Czech membership of that initiative would be a valued contribution to tackling the challenges of climate change and reducing global emissions.

Yours sincerely
Boris Johnson

His Excellency Mr Andrej Babiš