

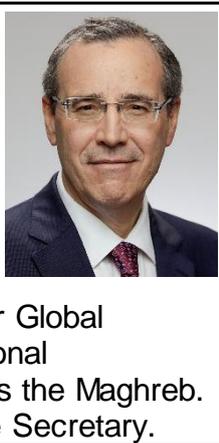
ENGAGEMENT REPORT – ANGUS ROBERTSON MEETING WITH MIGUEL BERGER	
Minister	Angus Robertson (AR) Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, External Affairs and Culture
Type of engagement	Introductory meeting with the German Ambassador to the UK, Miguel Berger
Date	17 November 2022
Attending Official(s)	Ewan Crawford – Special Advisor [redacted] – Senior Policy Delivery Manager, Scotland House London
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miguel Berger (MB), German Ambassador to the UK (since May 31 2022) • [redacted] – First Secretary Political, German Embassy, UK
Key Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AR reflected on his personal connections to Germany. • AR and MB exchanged on their upcoming visits to Berlin and Scotland respectively. • AR set out Scotland's significant potential for green hydrogen. He noted that Scotland's potential exports would match Germany's predicted future demand and that Scotland was an important trading partner for Germany. • AR added that this is thanks to the extensive offshore wind potential in Scotland, as evidenced by the outcomes of the first ScotWind leasing round. • MB noted the opportunities here and showed interest in current operational offshore wind, as well as the size of near and long-term pipeline projects. He indicated that the infrastructure to enable the transfer of power is another question. AR highlighted the importance of North Sea cooperation. • MB noted the Berlin Energy Transitions Dialogue, in late March 2023. He suggested that the Scottish Government should take part. • MB asked for a briefing on Scotland's renewable industries, particularly offshore wind and hydrogen, during his upcoming visit to Scotland. He was interested to understand the current capabilities as well as future potential. • [redacted – out of scope]
Action points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officials to provide German counterparts a copy of Scotland's EEZ map. • Officials to coordinate a renewables briefing for the Ambassador on his upcoming visit.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Officials to provide German counterparts with suggestions and relevant contact details for meetings on business links, such as Chambers of Commerce or SE.</i> • <i>Officials to investigate the potential for participation at the Berlin Energy Transitions Dialogue</i> • <i>Officials to provide an overview of Laender co-operation</i>
Comment	<p><i>Warm first meeting between the Ambassador and Cabinet Secretary.</i> [redacted – s.32(1)(a) International relations]</p>

BRIEFING E: INTRODUCTORY LUNCH WITH MIGUEL BERGER, GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UK

MEETING WITH GERMAN AMBASSADOR MIGUEL BERGER

What	Lunch with German Ambassador Miguel Berger (MB)
Where	Scotland House London
When	Thursday 17 November, 12:00 – 14:00
Key discussion topics with points to make	<p>MB engagement with Devolved Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We look forward to welcoming you to Scotland in December. I will be visiting Berlin at the same time. However, I know that others – including FM – look forward to engaging with you across trade and investment, climate change, renewables and more. [redacted – out of scope] <p>[redacted – out of scope]</p> <p>Hydrogen / Renewables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You will be aware of Scotland’s potential to ensure security of supply of green hydrogen to Europe. In contrast to rUK, Scotland is aligned with Germany on the aim of phasing out nuclear energy, and we have a common strategic focus on green hydrogen as the mainstay of our decarbonisation. We have been delighted to welcome delegations from Länder with an interest in hydrogen, such as Bavaria, Lower Saxony and Baden-Württemberg, and have several MoUs on hydrogen. To move onto the next phase of practical co-operation, we need to bring together politics, industry, finance and research to unlock the investment required for structures for import/export. My team in Germany is working with the BMWK and BMBF, as well as UKG, to hold a high-level conference on hydrogen in Berlin in early 2023. <i>(MB’s support would be welcome)</i> I hope to meet State Secretary Stefan Wenzel <i>(BMWK energy)</i> during my visit to Berlin to discuss Scotland’s hydrogen offer. [redacted – out of scope]
Why	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An introductory lunch postponed from September. MB’s first engagement with SG provides Mr Robertson the opportunity to give an overview of our shared policy priorities with Germany, ahead of MB’s visit to Scotland on 1-2 December
Supporting officials	[redacted] Ewan Crawford – Special Advisor – [redacted]
Comms	@ScotGovInter tweet and picture, RT @ScotGovLondon

<p>Who</p>	<p>Miguel Berger, German Ambassador to the UK since May 2022. After studying economics at the University of Mannheim, Berger joined the German diplomatic service in 1988. His first postings included Bucharest and Mexico City. Between 2002-4 he headed the German representative office in the Palestinian Territories.</p> <p>In Berlin he worked as head of the Parliamentary and Cabinet Council, Commissioner for Global Issues, External Energy and Climate Policy and Regional Commissioner for the Near and Middle East as well as the Maghreb. From May 2020 until Jan 2022, Berger acted as State Secretary.</p>	
<p>Attached documents</p>	<p>Annex A – Core brief Annex B – Germany country brief Annex C – [redacted – out of scope]</p>	

CORE BRIEF

Sensitivities

- The First Minister's trip to Germany (13-15 October) was cancelled due to diary pressures. This trip would have included signing an MOU with Baden-Württemberg on green hydrogen, though we hope it will be possible to sign this virtually shortly.
- [redacted – out of scope]

Scotland's engagement in Germany

- Scotland's Germany Hub is focusing on agreements with five key states (Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg, Hamburg, North-Rhine Westphalia and Rhineland Palatinate), alongside an emerging partnership with Lower Saxony on renewable energy, critical both to Germany's hydrogen import strategy and to Scotland's hydrogen export plans.
- Our growing engagement with H2 Bavaria has been positive and productive – a delegation from Bavaria visited Scotland in May, and a further delegation from Baden-Württemberg are undertaking a 3-day hydrogen themed visit to Glasgow and Aberdeen at the end of November.
- We are looking to develop three potential export routes from Scottish ports into Germany and northern Europe, potentially focusing each on different forms of hydrogen transportation in this rapidly developing sector (liquid / gas and tanker / pipeline), using Hamburg and Wilhelmshaven or Cuxhaven.

Ambassador's visit to Scotland

- 1 Dec – Morning trade and energy roundtable with **Mr Matheson**, DITI, DECC, SDI, Glasgow Chambers of Commerce and other stakeholders
- 1 Dec – Dinner with **Ms Slater**
- 2 Dec – Meeting with the **First Minister**

[redacted – out of scope]

Hydrogen

- Scotland has the resources, the skills and the ambition to become a world leader in hydrogen production. Our **Hydrogen Action Plan** (to be launched early December) will set out how we will work collaboratively with the energy sector to drive progress between now and 2026, with a specific chapter on exports.
- Scotland is already taking action to enable the future trade of hydrogen, including through our **Scot2Ger** project which reinforced our capability to **supply the German market with green hydrogen as early as 2025**.
- Where Germany's hydrogen strategy stated that **Germany is looking to import ~90-110 TWh of green hydrogen**, analysis from 2020 shows that **Scotland will be able to produce up to 94 TWh of green hydrogen for export by 2045**, generated to a large extent from the 28 GW of offshore wind capacity from the recent ScotWind leasing round.
- We are working with European partners to support the development of the **infrastructure and global supply chains** required to enable the trade of

hydrogen, and to ensure Scotland is connected to the European Hydrogen Backbone.

- We are currently assessing the most cost-effective options for transportation of hydrogen. Scotland is only 750km from the German coast and so it is likely that a number of different options could all be used. Pipelines have been illustrated to be the cheapest option for transporting large volumes of hydrogen across long distances.
- [redacted – s.28 UK relations]
- It is crucial to ensure that regulations and certification schemes developed in the UK are **aligned with the EU**, providing a clear and cohesive methodology for export to promote the flow of trade between the UK and Europe and reduce market access barriers.

[redacted – s.32(1)(a) International relations]

Offshore Wind

- In Scotland, nearly 100% of our net electricity demand already comes from renewable sources and we are focused on reducing energy demand and accelerating the deployment of renewable energy.
- ScotWind will deliver a new era in Scotland's offshore wind industry, representing the world's largest commercial round for floating offshore wind and breaks new ground in putting large-scale floating wind technology on the map at Gigawatt scale. It will provide several billion pounds more in rental revenues once projects become operational, to be invested for the benefit of the people of Scotland.

[redacted – out of scope]

Upcoming engagement

- **2-5 Dec** – **Mr Robertson** visit to Berlin for St Andrew's Day reception, launching the Scottish folk festival (Showcase Scotland).

Recent engagement

- **7 Nov 2022** – **FM** meeting with Climate Envoy Jennifer Morgan at COP27, discussing hydrogen and loss & damage
- **26 – 29 Sep 2022** – **Mr McKee** attended the WindEnergy Hamburg conference
- **21 Sep 2022** – **Mr McKee** spoke virtually at the Nuremberg Hydrogen Dialogue
- **24-25 May** – **Mr Gray** attended Institute for Trade and Investment Offenburg Symposium in Baden-Württemberg
- **April 2022** – **Mr Robertson** attended Ludwig Erhard Summit in Bavaria
- **4-8 April 2022** – **Mr Hepburn** attended Joint Conference by Universities Scotland and U15 group on Excellence in Learning and Teaching, plus HE engagements in Bonn, Mainz and Frankfurt
- **11 Feb 2022** – **Mr Robertson** spoke at LSE German Symposium
- **Feb 2022** – **Ms Forbes** and NRW Economy Ministry signed Joint Declaration of Intent on co-operation in the areas of Economy, Energy and Climate
- **25 Nov 2021** – **Mr Matheson** signing of Scotland / Hamburg MoU on hydrogen

GERMANY COUNTRY BRIEF

Head of State (Federal President) – Frank-Walter Steinmeier
(since March 2017) (SPD)

Chancellor – Olaf Scholz (SPD)

Government – Federal Parliamentary Republic

Foreign Minister – Annalena Baerbock (Greens)



Ambassador to UK – Miguel Berger (since May 2021)

UK Ambassador – Jill Gallard (since Nov 2020)

Consul-General in Edinburgh – Dr Andreas Zimmer (since May 2021)

Residents in Scotland – 31,000 (2021 ONS estimate)

Policy priorities

- The German government views renewables as central to achieving their climate goals, with targets to be climate neutral by 2045, and to end coal use by 2035.
- Hydrogen forms a key part of Germany's push towards decarbonisation and achieving a greater deal of energy security. Currently, Germany relies on the import of green hydrogen and is in exchange with potential supplier countries. The German government maintains strategic energy partnerships with more than 20 countries. Many of these agreements include joint hydrogen initiatives. Most recently a hydrogen partnership was agreed with **UAE** who delivered a first hydrogen test shipment to Hamburg in September 2022. By 2030, a production capacity of at least ten gigawatts should also be established in Germany. Germany has also agreed partnerships with **Spain**, and in mid-October a pipeline linking Barcelona with Marseille was agreed, which could facilitate the future export of Spanish hydrogen to central Europe.
- Encouraging low carbon alternatives for heating and transport will also be an important focus.
- Chancellor Scholz recently resolved a coalition quarrel by announcing that three German nuclear plants that had been due to close will remain open until mid-April 2023 in response to the energy crisis. For the Greens especially, bringing nuclear power to an end had been a priority.

Overview of engagement with German regions

- **Rhineland-Palatinate:** higher education, teacher education, student mobility, languages, history and culture
- **Baden-Württemberg:** environment, Under2 Coalition, low carbon technologies, hydrogen, public sector innovation, smart cities, AI and digital economy
- **Hamburg (City State):** hydrogen, renewables, low carbon transport, energy T&I
- **North Rhine-Westphalia:** reinvigoration of 2003 MoU, covering science, tech and entrepreneurship. New joint declaration to cover economy, energy and climate
- **Bavaria:** reinvigoration of existing 2017 Statement of Intent, covering business, innovation, research collaboration and trade links

[redacted – out of scope]

ANNEX C