

JOINT STATEMENT BY U.S. PRESIDENT BIDEN AUSTRALIAN PM MORRISON & UK PM JOHNSON

OVER THE HISTORIC STEP AUKUS ALLIANCE

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USPA NEWS - U.S. President Joe Biden, delivered on 15 September 2021 (5pm East Room, of White House), remarks alongside Prime Minister Morrison of Australia and Prime Minister Johnson of the UK, as they have announced the creation of a new trilateral security partnership between our three nations focused on the Indo-Pacific region. The partnership is named AUKUS — that is A-U-K-U-S, represents Australia, United Kingdom, and the United States, is “a historic step”, as said President Biden. According to Senior administration officials, it reflects the Biden administration’s determination to build stronger partnerships to sustain peace and stability across the entire Indo-Pacific region. This is designed not only to strengthen our capabilities in the Indo-Pacific but to link Europe, and particularly Great Britain, more closely with our strategic pursuits in the region as a whole. Other efforts to spur cooperation across many new and emerging arenas — cyber; AI — particularly applied AI; quantum technologies; and some undersea capabilities as well, senior administration officials said. We publish the full text of the Joint Statement by the three leaders amid AUKUS historic step of the alliance.

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"The Hon. Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister of Australia, The Rt. Hon. Boris Johnson MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States of America : 'As leaders of Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, guided by our enduring ideals and shared commitment to the international rules-based order, we resolve to deepen diplomatic, security, and defense cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, including by working with partners, to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. As part of this effort, we are announcing the creation of an enhanced trilateral security partnership called “AUKUS” -- Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.-----

Through AUKUS, our governments will strengthen the ability of each to support our security and defense interests, building on our longstanding and ongoing bilateral ties. We will promote deeper information and technology sharing. We will foster deeper integration of security and defense-related science, technology, industrial bases, and supply chains. And in particular, we will significantly deepen cooperation on a range of security and defense capabilities.-----

As the first initiative under AUKUS, recognizing our common tradition as maritime democracies, we commit to a shared ambition to support Australia in acquiring nuclear-powered submarines for the Royal Australian Navy. Today, we embark on a trilateral effort of 18 months to seek an optimal pathway to deliver this capability. We will leverage expertise from the United States and the United Kingdom, building on the two countries' submarine programs to bring an Australian capability into service at the earliest achievable date.-----

The development of Australia's nuclear-powered submarines would be a joint endeavour between the three nations, with a focus on interoperability, commonality, and mutual benefit. Australia is committed to adhering to the highest standards for safeguards, transparency, verification, and accountancy measures to ensure the non-proliferation, safety, and security of nuclear material and technology. Australia remains committed to fulfilling all of its obligations as a non-nuclear weapons state, including with the International Atomic Energy Agency. Our three nations are deeply committed to upholding our leadership on global non-proliferation.-----

Recognizing our deep defense ties, built over decades, today we also embark on further trilateral collaboration under AUKUS to enhance our joint capabilities and interoperability. These initial efforts will focus on cyber capabilities, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and additional undersea capabilities. The endeavour we launch today will help sustain peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. For more than 70 years, Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, have worked together, along with other important allies and partners, to protect our shared values and promote security and prosperity. Today, with the formation of AUKUS, we recommit ourselves to this vision." Prime Ministry of Australia

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