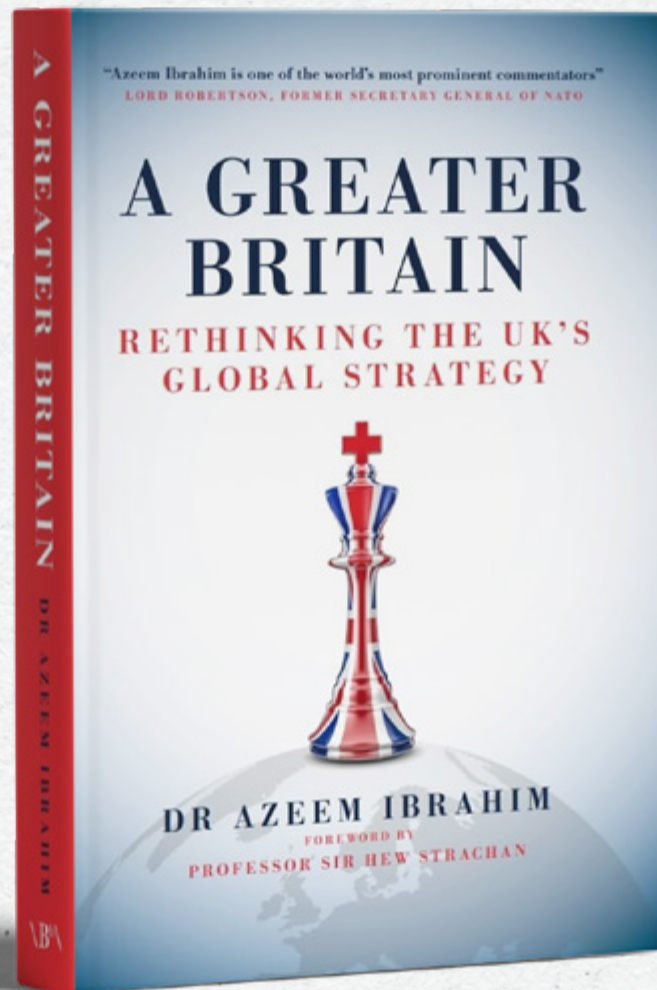


PRESS KIT



**The first serious
integrated blueprint
for restoring Britain's
strategic purpose - by
one of the UK's most
respected scholars of
statecraft.**



Publisher info@bitebackpublishing.com **Author** ai@greater-britain.com

This book addresses the strategic vacuum at the heart of Britain's future and argues that renewal is only possible through disciplined, long-term statecraft.

OVERVIEW

A Greater Britain: Rethinking The UK's Global Strategy is a landmark work on how modern states preserve influence and purpose in an era of fragmentation, competition, and uncertainty. It addresses a central paradox of contemporary Britain: a country with deep capabilities and global reach, yet increasingly unsure how to deploy them coherently.

Rather than responding to events piecemeal, the book asks the foundational questions Britain has avoided for too long. What are its enduring interests? Which trade-offs should it be willing to make? How should power, values, and resources be aligned in a harsher strategic environment? Dr Azeem Ibrahim situates Britain's challenges within wider global transformations, including shifting alliances, economic competition, demographic change, and the return to hard power.

By reconnecting strategy to institutions and national purpose, the book offers a disciplined framework to guide long-term thinking – with urgent implications. Neither a manifesto nor a polemic, the book is a work of serious statecraft that shows Britain's route to prosperity is incoherent without purposeful and deliberate domestic reform.

BOOK DESCRIPTION

Britain faces a future shaped by intensified geopolitical rivalry, economic insecurity, and institutional strain, yet continues to operate without an integrated grand strategy. The result is a pattern of reactive and unimaginative policymaking in which defence, diplomacy, economics, and domestic reform are treated as separate challenges rather than elements of a single strategic whole.

In *A Greater Britain*, Dr Azeem Ibrahim argues that this fragmentation, not any intrinsic national weakness, is the source of Britain's diminishing influence. Drawing on historical case studies and contemporary policy analysis, he shows how successful states develop the vision to translate advantage into power, and power into prosperity – and why Britain is failing.

The book sets out a practical roadmap for renewal that reflects modern realities rather than past assumptions. Clear-eyed and unsentimental, it challenges readers to move beyond managing decline and instead think seriously about what British strategic success would look like in the twenty-first century.

The book argues that Britain must rediscover how to think strategically if it wishes to remain a serious actor on the world stage.

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**AZEEM IBRAHIM IS ONE OF THE
WORLD'S MOST PROMINENT
COMMENTATORS.**

Rt. Hon. The Lord Robertson

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**A POWERFUL CALL FOR BRITAIN TO
REVIVE THE STRATEGIC TRADITIONS
THAT ONCE MADE IT FORMIDABLE.**

Prof. John Bew

WHY THIS BOOK MATTERS NOW

GLOBAL FRAGMENTATION

The international order is breaking apart, with renewed great-power competition, persistent regional conflicts, and rising security risks reshaping how states must think about power, deterrence, and defence.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Economic globalisation is giving way to industrial policy, supply-chain resilience, and strategic competition over energy, critical minerals, and advanced technologies, yet Britain lacks a coherent response.

DEMOGRAPHIC PRESSURES

Ageing populations, migration flows, and labour constraints are placing long-term strain on economic growth, public finances, and social cohesion across advanced economies – including Britain.

MILITARY READINESS

Modern warfare is being transformed by drones, cyber operations, space, and sustained high-intensity conflict, yet Britain's armed forces face significant capability gaps, readiness challenges, and unclear strategic prioritisation.

NATO UNCERTAINTY

The transatlantic alliance faces internal strain at a time when deterrence, burden-sharing, and strategic clarity are more important than at any point since the Cold War.

RISE OF AUTHORITARIANISM

Russia and China are actively exploiting Western fragmentation, institutional weakness, and strategic indecision to expand their influence and reshape the global balance of power.

POST-BREXIT REALITY

Britain has exited the European Union without articulating a clear strategic role in Europe or a wider global framework to replace what was lost.

INSTITUTIONAL DRIFT

Britain's political and economic institutions remain geared toward a bygone era, increasingly disconnected from the realities of long-term competition and systemic risk.

DOMESTIC SHORT-TERMISM

Public debate is dominated by immediate crises and cultural conflict, crowding out serious discussion of national purpose, priorities, and long-term strategy.

KEY ARGUMENTS & TAKEAWAYS

Britain does not suffer from inevitable decline but from strategic incoherence

Power without purpose leads to drift and reactive policymaking

Economic resilience is now a core component of national security

Institutions matter more than slogans or short-term political wins

Values cannot be sustained without credible power and strategy

Grand strategy is not nostalgia, but disciplined long-term thinking

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**A BOLD GRAND
STRATEGY.**
Emma Sky OBE

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**TIMELY, INCISIVE AND
URGENTLY NEEDED.**
Rt. Hon. Sir Sajid Javid

MEDIA Q&A

WHAT IS THE CENTRAL ARGUMENT OF THE BOOK?

The central argument of *A Greater Britain* is that Britain's predicament is not one of inevitable decline, but of strategic drift. The country still possesses significant assets in diplomacy, defence, finance, intelligence, and soft power, yet it lacks an integrated framework that links these strengths to a clear sense of national purpose. Over time, policy has become reactive and fragmented, driven by short-term crises rather than long-term thinking, and by large parts of the administrative and judicial state having adopted a decadent obscurantism – uncomfortable with policy realism and British nationalism. The book argues that without a coherent grand strategy, even capable states lose direction, waste resources, and gradually forfeit influence. Strategic renewal, not decline management, is therefore the core task facing Britain today.

IS THIS A PRO- OR ANTI-BREXIT BOOK?

This is neither a pro- nor an anti-Brexit book. It takes Brexit as a strategic fact and examines its consequences rather than revisiting the arguments that preceded it. The book's central claim is that Brexit created a set of strategic obligations that Britain has yet to fully confront, let alone meet. Leaving the European Union increased Britain's need for clarity about its role in Europe, its relationship with the United States, and its position in a more competitive global economy. The problem is not Brexit itself, but the absence of a serious post-Brexit strategy to replace what was lost.

IS BRITAIN STILL A GREAT POWER?

Britain retains many of the attributes associated with serious power, including a capable military, world-class intelligence services, deep diplomatic networks, and global economic and cultural reach. However, power without strategy erodes over time. The book argues that greatness is not a permanent status but a condition that must be sustained through disciplined statecraft. Without a clear understanding of priorities, trade-offs, and long-term objectives, even strong states gradually diminish their own influence. Britain's challenge is therefore not a sudden collapse of capability, but the slow attrition that follows prolonged strategic incoherence.

WHAT MAKES THIS BOOK DIFFERENT FROM OTHER DECLINIST ACCOUNTS?

Unlike many declinist accounts, *A Greater Britain* does not dwell on nostalgia or lament the loss of past status. Nor does it assume that decline is inevitable or irreversible. Instead, it offers a practical framework for renewal grounded in how successful states actually think and act in periods of systemic change. The book integrates security, economic resilience, institutional reform, and national purpose into a single strategic vision, rather than treating them as separate policy silos. Its focus is constructive rather than elegiac, asking not what Britain has lost, but what it can still realistically achieve if it thinks and acts strategically.

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**A MASTERFUL
WAKE-UP CALL.**
Dr. Nile Gardiner

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**SOBER AND
COMPELLING.**
Prof. Brendan Simms

MEDIA Q&A

WHO SHOULD READ THIS BOOK?

This book is written for policymakers, journalists, students of strategy, and citizens who are concerned with Britain's long-term future. While it is grounded in serious scholarship, it is not an academic exercise. It is intended to inform public debate and provide a shared framework for thinking about Britain's role in the world. Anyone interested in how states maintain influence, adapt to changing global conditions, and avoid strategic drift will find it relevant. Above all, it is for readers who believe Britain's future should be shaped deliberately rather than left to drift.

WHY DID YOU WRITE THIS BOOK?

I wrote *A Greater Britain* because there is a striking gap between the scale of the challenges Britain faces and the seriousness with which they are discussed in public life. Too much of the national conversation oscillates between nostalgia and pessimism, or becomes trapped in short-term political cycles that avoid deeper questions of purpose and strategy. Having spent years studying how states succeed or fail during periods of systemic change, I became convinced that Britain's problem was not a lack of capability but a lack of strategic thinking. This book is an attempt to bring clarity, discipline, and long-term perspective back into how Britain thinks about itself and its role in the world.

WHAT DO YOU HOPE THIS BOOK WILL ACHIEVE?

My hope is that this book helps reframe the national conversation away from decline management and towards strategic renewal. I want it to encourage policymakers and opinion-formers to think in terms of long-term trade-offs rather than short-term fixes, and to reconnect domestic policy, economic resilience, and foreign policy within a single strategic framework. More broadly, I hope it contributes to a shared language of statecraft that has been missing in Britain for some time. If the book helps readers think more clearly about what Britain is for, what it should prioritise, and how it can act coherently in a fragmented world, it will have achieved its purpose.

WHY ARE YOU BEST PLACED TO WRITE THIS BOOK?

I am well placed to write this book because my work sits at the intersection of scholarship and practice. As a researcher of grand strategy and geopolitical competition, and as someone who works closely with policymakers across the United States, the United Kingdom, and Europe, I have seen first-hand how strategic thinking shapes real outcomes. My career has involved analysing how states adapt under pressure, how institutions succeed or fail, and how long-term power is built or squandered. This book draws on that experience to bridge the gap between theory and policy, combining rigorous analysis with a practical understanding of how statecraft actually works in the real world.

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**A RIGOROUS BLUEPRINT
FOR BRITISH STATECRAFT.**
Rt. Hon. Sir Brandon Lewis

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**AN URGENT CALL TO CHOOSE
RELEVANCE OVER DRIFT.**
Dr. Alan Mendoza



AUTHOR

Dr. Azeem Ibrahim OBE

Dr. Azeem Ibrahim OBE is a leading scholar of strategy and statecraft. He is the Chief Strategy Officer at the New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy in Washington DC and a Research Professor at the US Army War College's Strategic Studies Institute. He is the author of several acclaimed books on geopolitics and security, including *Authoritarian Century*. *A Greater Britain* is his most ambitious work to date.

Dr. Azeem Ibrahim OBE is an award-winning scholar-practitioner specialising in grand strategy, geopolitical competition, and national resilience. He is a Research Professor at the US Army War College's Strategic Studies Institute and Chief Strategy Officer at the New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy in Washington DC. He received his PhD from the University of Cambridge and subsequently held fellowships at the universities of Oxford, Harvard, and Yale.

Over the past two decades, Dr Ibrahim has advised senior political leaders and governments across the United Kingdom, the United States, and the developing world on long-term strategy and policy design. In the UK, he served as an adviser to the 2021 Integrated Defence and Security Review, was a member of the G7 Leaders' Panel on Economic Resilience, and acted as Team Leader of the Prime Minister's Social Mobility Task Force. He was also a founding member of the UK Commission for Countering Extremism. In the United States, he regularly briefs the White House, Congress, the Senate, the State Department, and the Pentagon. Internationally, he has held senior advisory roles including advising Prime Minister Imran Khan on governance reforms, anti-corruption efforts, and education policy.

Dr Ibrahim is the author of several influential books on geopolitics and authoritarian power, including *The Rohingyas: Inside Myanmar's Genocide*, *Radical Origins*, and *Authoritarian Century*. He is a columnist for *Foreign Policy* magazine and has written extensively for leading international outlets including *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Times*, *Newsweek*, and *The National Interest*.

Outside academia, Dr. Ibrahim has served as a reservist in the IV Battalion Parachute Regiment, the UK's elite airborne infantry reserve, and is a multi-award-winning entrepreneur. His work has been recognised internationally: he was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum, ranked among the Top 100 Global Thinkers by a leading European think tank, and received the International Association of Genocide Scholars' Engaged Scholar Award. In 2022, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to international relations. *A Greater Britain* reflects more than a decade of work examining why some states renew their power and purpose while others drift in periods of systemic global change.