



LVA

En vous appuyant uniquement sur les documents du dossier thématique qui vous est proposé, vous rédigerez une synthèse répondant à la question suivante :

How does America's 250th anniversary reflect Britain's changing relationship with the United States?

Votre synthèse comportera entre 450 et 500 mots et sera précédée d'un titre. Le nombre de mots rédigés (titre inclus) devra être indiqué à la fin de votre copie.

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2. "250 years after independence: how do Britons see the USA?", YouGov, July 3, 2026.
3. "'Intertwined histories' to be celebrated in USA's 250th birthday year", BBC News Northern Ireland, January 25, 2026.
4. "King Charles III highlights US–UK bond during busy day of diplomacy with Trump and Congress", Associated Press, April 29, 2026.
5. Social media post presenting the UK's commemorative coin for America 250, British Embassy Washington (@UKinUSA), X, April 28, 2026.

Document 1 – Americans are celebrating their split from Britain – how is the UK marking it?

BBC News, July 1, 2026

[...] Grant is one of many people across the UK marking the 250th anniversary of American independence by holding special events - whether walks like this, a parade, or even cookery.

Organisers are eager to show that 4 July is not just a date for fireworks and barbecues in the US. It's a cause for wider reflection - and even a little fun, too. [...]

Grant's tours are designed to reveal the often-overlooked links between the City of London and the young United States. The history buffs include people from both sides of the pond.

Grant says the two groups have been appreciating different things about the sessions, which are being run on a time-limited basis by the City of London Guides Lecturers Association.

For the Brits, "it's interesting facts among other interesting facts", Grant says, noting that there's also plenty of Roman and medieval heritage in the City to take the interest of a local. "Whereas with the Americans, they feel more personally involved."

Patricia Windham, visiting from Chicago, wanted to understand how American independence was experienced in Britain at the time of the rupture. "You only get one side of the picture from the US," she explains. "I think it's important to get various perspectives from people, not just the one that you get from home, because that's the party line."

Windham enjoys the many tour stopoffs. Whether it's the church where US Founding Father Benjamin Franklin worked for a time as a printmaker, or the sites of old coffee houses where merchants made transatlantic trade deals, the American-ness of the Square Mile runs deep. [...]

Saturday's semiquincentennial, as it is formally known, marks 250 years to the day since the United States adopted its foundational document - the Declaration of Independence.

The text itself has become a focal point of special events across the UK. The events consider how those words were received by Brits at the time, and how they might be understood today.

The ancestral home of George Washington's family - Washington Old Hall, Tyne and Wear - is just one such location, where local young people are set to read from the document on 4 July itself.

Meanwhile, the American Museum & Gardens in Bath has become the first location in England to display a certain rare printed edition of the declaration.

This particular copy is remarkable not just because it was printed on 4 July 1776, but because it was intercepted by British soldiers and sent back home - with their annotations added. [...]

The 4 July milestone might not sound like an obvious patriotic moment on these shores, but some groups in the UK are using the event to highlight that many of the ideas and thinkers behind American independence were British or had British connections.

The town of Lewes, in East Sussex, will hold a Festival of Democracy on Saturday, promising a colourful parade inspired by the same values that drove the American Revolution.

Leading the parade will be a giant puppet depicting Thomas Paine. This English philosopher, a former resident of the town, is seen by scholars as one of the US Founding Fathers on account of a pamphlet he penned in 1776 that argued for the cause. [...]

250 years on, only 10% seem to still hold a grudge about the US declaring independence

Do you think it was a good or a bad thing for the Thirteen Colonies that would go on to become the United States of America to declare independence from Great Britain in 1776? %

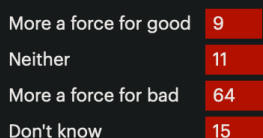


YouGov

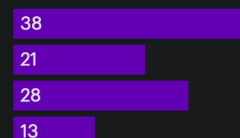
10-11 June 2026

While most Britons think the USA is currently more a force for bad in the world, when thinking about its entire 250 year history they tend to be more positive

Do you think the USA TODAY is more a force for good or more a force for bad in the world?



And thinking about the USA over its entire history, do you think the USA overall has been more a force for good or more a force for bad in the world?

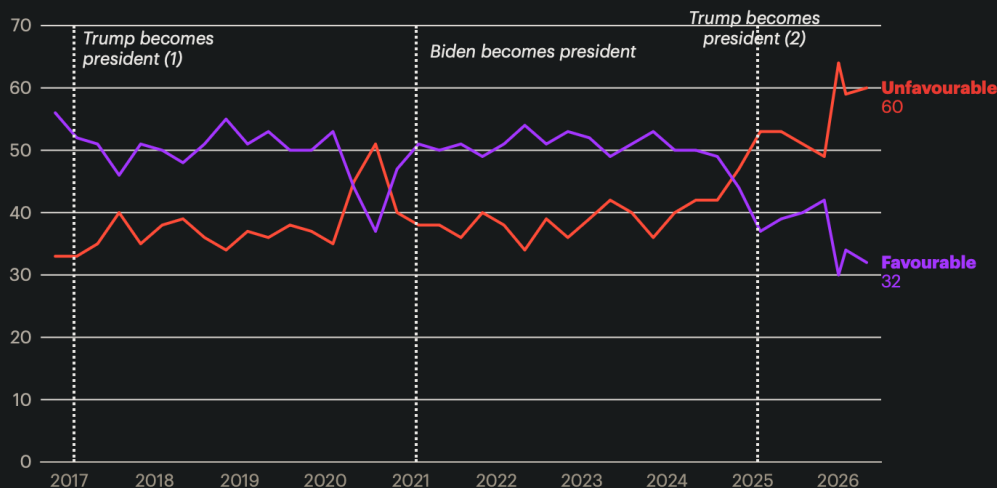


YouGov

10-11 June 2026

British attitudes towards the USA have been significantly more negative during Donald Trump's second term in office

Overall, do you have a favourable or unfavourable view of the following countries? [The United States] %



YouGov

Latest data: 19-20 May 2026

Document 3 – ‘Intertwined histories’ to be celebrated in USA’s 250th birthday year

BBC News Northern Ireland, January 25, 2026

When you think of the 250th birthday of America, it might not be Cullybackey or Strabane that first comes to mind.

But Ulster-Scots enthusiasts and American history buffs are hoping to cement some links in the public's minds throughout 2026.

More than 20 organisations across Northern Ireland have been awarded a share of £250,000 to commemorate the contributions made by people of Ulster-Scots heritage to the Declaration and bonds that endure between the US and Northern Ireland today.

Projects will include a conference on the ideas that shaped American democracy, educational schemes for American and NI schoolchildren, the making of a 30-panel narrative quilt, and a US Independence Day concert at Belfast City Hall, with American artists joining by videolink.

One beneficiary told BBC News NI: "Learning how intertwined our histories are feels especially important now. It connects local families to a global story." [...]

The most prominent historical figures of the time are those who signed the Declaration of Independence 250 years ago.

On 4 July 1776, 13 states declared their independence from Britain, saying King George III had established "an absolute tyranny" over the British North American colonies.

Of the document's 56 signatories, three were Ulster born.

Matthew Thornton left the Bann Valley as a four-year-old and grew up to practice as a doctor in Londonderry, New Hampshire - a Scots-Irish township.

George Taylor left Antrim aged 20 and became known as an iron producer who represented the Scots-Irish in south-east Pennsylvania.

And James Smith, who left Ireland as a 10-year-old in 1719, went on to become a formidable lawyer who in 1774 published a polemic questioning the constitutional power of Great Britain over the colonies, calling for a boycott of British goods.

Another important figure in 1770s US history came from Maghera, County Londonderry - Charles Thomson.

Though Thomson, who emigrated 1729, aged 10, was not a signatory to the final document, his name was one of only two etched on the original printing of the Declaration of Independence, where he was listed as a witness.

It was Thomson, too, who designed the first Great Seal of America - the official emblem that is still used today.

And the many copies that were brought around the states to show the public were printed by John Dunlap, a 29-year-old from Strabane. [...]

Another history buff delighted when the successful USNI250 applicants were announced earlier this week was Martyn Todd of Saintfield Community Association - which received £7,650 to run a programme of events looking at the influence Scots-Irish philosopher Francis Hutcheson had on the founding fathers.

"American academics now widely believe that Hutcheson was Thomas Jefferson's main inspiration when he was drafting the Declaration," Todd said.

Hutcheson, who was born in Drimalig, located between Saintfield and Carryduff in County Down, was the son of a Presbyterian minister of Scots descent, and a tenured professor of moral philosophy at the University of Glasgow.

Todd said: "His ideas that people possess an innate goodness, that everyone is created equal, and that we all should be protected by a set of inalienable rights forms the bedrock of the American constitution.

"There may be nobody that had a bigger impact on the political thought of the leaders of the American Revolution than Hutcheson." [...]

Document 4 – King Charles III highlights US–UK bond during busy day of diplomacy with Trump and Congress

Associated Press, April 29, 2026

King Charles III marked the 250th anniversary of American independence from Britain with gratitude that the two countries united to build “one of the most consequential alliances in human history” while urging “that we ignore the clarion calls to become ever more inward-looking.”

Speaking Tuesday to a joint session of the U.S. Congress, Charles repeatedly highlighted the historical and cultural ties that he said have cemented an enduring bond between the United States and the United Kingdom. But even as he spoke in unifying, optimistic terms, he delivered a series of nuanced warnings encouraging leaders in the U.S. to remain collaborative and engaged in global affairs.

He said the alliance between the U.S. and the U.K., tested anew by President Donald Trump’s war in Iran, “cannot rest on past achievements.” Charles urged “unyielding resolve” in backing Ukraine against Russia and heralded the NATO alliance that Trump has consistently undermined. [...]

At one point, Charles traced the notion of checks and balances on executive power to the Magna Carta, the foundational legal document sealed by King John in 1215. Trump told The New York Times earlier this year that he was constrained only by “my own morality.” [...]

Charles is on a four-day visit to the U.S. intended to both celebrate American independence and to repair the country’s fraying relationship with the U.K. He hardly arrived in Washington as an oppositional figure to Trump. Joined by Queen Camilla, Charles had a warm greeting with the president and first lady Melania Trump at the White House earlier Tuesday.

In his welcome remarks, Trump also highlighted the shared history between the two countries.

“American patriots today can sing, ‘My country, ’tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,’ only because our colonial ancestors first sang, ‘God save the king,’” Trump said. [...]

Charles is just the second British monarch to address a joint session of Congress. His mother, Queen Elizabeth II, delivered a similar speech in 1991 highlighting the historic ties between both countries and the importance of their democratic values. [...]

While the king paid tribute to those remarks, he acknowledged that today’s environment is “more volatile and more dangerous than the world to which my late mother spoke.” [...]

Meanwhile, Trump’s up-and-down relationship with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has taken a particularly sour turn over the past several months as the Republican president has sought to rally international support for the war in Iran. Trump criticized Starmer, who has largely resisted his overtures, by saying, “This is not Winston Churchill that we’re dealing with.”

Trump has also imposed tariffs on the U.K. and warned of additional levies despite a Supreme Court ruling earlier this year that has made such unilateral moves more challenging. Trump threatened just last week to slap a “big tariff” on the U.K. if it doesn’t scrap a digital services tax on U.S. technology companies. [...]

If Charles offered low-key criticism of Trump, the president didn’t seem to mind. He said later that the king “made a great speech.”

“I was very jealous,” he said.

Document 5 – British diplomacy through a commemorative gift

British Embassy Washington (@UKinUSA), X, April 28, 2026



**British Ambassador
Delivers Commemorative
Coin to White House**



The smaller coin pictured here for scale, is one of 250 produced to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary.



 **British Embassy Washington** ✓
@UKinUSA

A lasting symbol of friendship, history and partnership. 🇬🇧 🇺🇸

His Majesty's Ambassador to the United States presented a bespoke large format commemorative coin at Blair House on Monday, produced by @RoyalMintUK as part of the United Kingdom's contribution to America's 250th anniversary commemorations.

Around the edge, the coin records the succession of American Presidents and British Monarchs since 1776, including Queen Elizabeth II and His Majesty King Charles III, reinforcing a story of continuity, shared history and enduring ties across generations.

From the portrait of His Majesty The King to the high relief American eagle emerging on the reverse, every detail tells a story of independence, partnership and the values that continue to unite our two nations.

[#America250](#) [#GreaterTogether](#) [#UKUS](#) [#StateVisit2026](#) [#RoyalMint](#)
[@RoyalFamily](#) [@WhiteHouse](#) [@crawley_mo8067](#)