# UK and US to accelerate AI and quantum collaboration with multibillion-dollar tech deal



The United Kingdom and the United States are poised to finalise a multibillion-dollar technology agreement during President Donald Trump’s upcoming state visit to London. This strategic pact aims to bolster trans-Atlantic leadership in advanced technology sectors, encompassing artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors, telecommunications, and quantum computing. The British Embassy in Washington confirmed the agreement, which is intended to drive investment, safeguard critical supply chains, and expand commercial opportunities for firms on both sides of the Atlantic.

President Trump is scheduled to arrive in London on September 16 for a three-day visit, accompanied by a delegation of leading US tech executives, including Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang and OpenAI’s Sam Altman. UK Technology Secretary Liz Kendall said the partnership is designed to ensure that businesses and consumers directly benefit from innovations such as AI and quantum computing, which she described as transformative for everyday life.

This agreement arrives amidst a backdrop of accelerated national AI strategies in both countries. Washington and London have each released AI action plans earlier in 2025, and major US tech firms like OpenAI and Anthropic have expanded their UK operations. Meanwhile, the UK’s DeepMind, owned by Alphabet, has strengthened its collaborations with American research partners. Industry analysts suggest that the pact could channel billions of dollars into joint ventures, infrastructure projects, and research and development initiatives. Such investment would reinforce London’s position as a global hub for AI and data science while providing US companies with enhanced access to European markets.

Central to the expected announcements during the visit is a major AI infrastructure investment in the UK, led by OpenAI and Nvidia. The initiative seeks to establish new data centres worth potentially billions of dollars, aiming to create ‘sovereign’ AI infrastructure within allied nations. The UK government is expected to support this with energy resources as OpenAI and Nvidia provide AI tools and hardware. This move mirrors a global trend towards AI sovereignty, with Nvidia projecting revenues of over $20 billion in 2025 from similar deals. Such efforts align with broader Western ambitions to develop independent AI capabilities separate from major non-aligned powers.

Alongside AI, the quantum computing sector also features prominently. US firm IonQ announced a $1.1 billion acquisition of Oxford Ionics, a UK start-up specialising in ion-trapped quantum technology using semiconductor chips. This acquisition forms part of IonQ’s strategy to develop fault-tolerant quantum computers with unprecedented scale, aiming to exceed current ambitions from competitors such as IBM. The deal highlights the growing integration of UK and US technology firms in cutting-edge fields and underscores the commitment by both sides to leadership in next-generation technologies.

Telecommunications infrastructure is also gaining momentum, evidenced by Verizon Business’s contract to build private 5G networks at Thames Freeport, a key UK shipping and industrial hub. Partnering with Nokia, Verizon aims to deliver dedicated 5G connectivity supporting AI-driven analytics, automation, and real-time logistics, underscoring the digital transformation of major economic corridors.

The UK government’s broader AI ambitions frame these developments. A recent strategic partnership with OpenAI focuses on advancing AI security research and increasing UK compute capacity, with plans to invest £1 billion to expand public AI infrastructure significantly over five years. UK officials estimate that AI-driven productivity gains could contribute £47 billion annually to the economy within a decade, reflecting the high economic stakes attached to maintaining technological leadership.

Collectively, these moves reflect a concerted effort by the UK and US to deepen their technological collaboration and secure competitive advantages in a rapidly evolving global tech landscape. The forthcoming agreement and associated investments underscore not only the economic value of such cooperation but also the geopolitical importance of maintaining innovation leadership in AI, quantum computing, and telecommunications.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.businesstoday.com.my/2025/09/14/uk-us-to-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-agreement-this-week/), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-during-trumps-visit-2025-09-13/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.businesstoday.com.my/2025/09/14/uk-us-to-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-agreement-this-week/), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-during-trumps-visit-2025-09-13/)
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* Paragraph 4 – [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/522c141a-39dc-4fb7-a7d8-8fa01e6ef27d), [[1]](https://www.businesstoday.com.my/2025/09/14/uk-us-to-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-agreement-this-week/), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-during-trumps-visit-2025-09-13/)
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* Paragraph 8 – [[1]](https://www.businesstoday.com.my/2025/09/14/uk-us-to-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-agreement-this-week/), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-during-trumps-visit-2025-09-13/), [[3]](https://www.ft.com/content/522c141a-39dc-4fb7-a7d8-8fa01e6ef27d), [[4]](https://www.ft.com/content/dde7bac2-cacb-4deb-9223-5bcfe285db15), [[5]](https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/verizon-wins-private-5g-contract-uks-thames-freeport-2025-06-25/), [[6]](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-chatgpt-maker-openai-sign-new-strategic-partnership-2025-07-21/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.businesstoday.com.my/2025/09/14/uk-us-to-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-agreement-this-week/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-during-trumps-visit-2025-09-13/> - The United Kingdom and the United States are set to sign a significant multibillion-dollar technology agreement during President Donald Trump's upcoming state visit to the UK. The deal aims to strengthen collaboration in emerging tech sectors, including artificial intelligence, semiconductors, telecommunications, and quantum computing. UK Technology Secretary Liz Kendall highlighted the transformative potential of these technologies. President Trump's three-day visit, beginning Tuesday, will include a delegation of top U.S. tech leaders such as Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang and OpenAI’s Sam Altman. As part of the broader set of deals, investment firm BlackRock is expected to invest $700 million in UK data centers. The agreement underscores increasing transatlantic collaboration, with U.S. tech firms like OpenAI expanding operations in London and UK companies such as DeepMind deepening ties with American counterparts, in line with shared AI Action Plans launched by both nations earlier this year. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-us-sign-multibillion-dollar-tech-deal-during-trumps-visit-2025-09-13/?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.ft.com/content/522c141a-39dc-4fb7-a7d8-8fa01e6ef27d> - OpenAI’s Sam Altman and Nvidia’s Jensen Huang are set to announce a significant artificial intelligence infrastructure investment in the UK during a state visit with US President Donald Trump next week. The initiative aims to support the development of new data centers across the UK, potentially worth billions, as part of a broader push to establish 'sovereign' AI infrastructure among US allies. The UK government will contribute energy resources, while OpenAI and Nvidia will provide AI tools and hardware. This deal follows a global trend, with Nvidia estimating its sovereign deals could bring in over $20 billion in revenue in 2025. Similar efforts have taken place in the Gulf region and the EU, where major AI investment funds and strategies have been launched. The announcement continues a series of collaborations between tech giants and governments, including the massive $500 billion Stargate project in the US. While the full details of the upcoming UK investment are yet to be finalized, it signals deepening ties between American tech firms and Western governments seeking AI independence. Neither Nvidia, OpenAI, nor UK and US government bodies have commented yet. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/522c141a-39dc-4fb7-a7d8-8fa01e6ef27d?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/dde7bac2-cacb-4deb-9223-5bcfe285db15> - IonQ, a leading US quantum computing firm, has announced a $1.1 billion all-stock acquisition of Oxford Ionics, a UK tech start-up spun out of Oxford University. This move is part of IonQ’s strategy to cement its position as the world’s leading pure-play quantum computing company. Oxford Ionics, founded in 2019 by physicists Chris Ballance and Tom Harty, specializes in highly accurate ion-trapped quantum technology using standard semiconductor chips. The acquisition, set to close in 2025, includes a $10 million cash component and share-based incentives tied to performance, with Oxford Ionics’ investors receiving up to 11.9% of IonQ stock. IonQ's CEO Niccolo de Masi sees the merger as a pivotal step toward creating fault-tolerant quantum computers with 80,000 logical qubits and 2 million physical qubits by decade’s end. This surpasses IBM’s current quantum capabilities and ambitions. IonQ, valued at nearly $10 billion, has a growing client base including Oak Ridge National Laboratory, AstraZeneca, and Airbus. The company anticipates revenues of $75-$95 million in 2025. The deal marks IonQ’s sixth acquisition since December 2022, and its stock rose nearly 11% upon the announcement. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/dde7bac2-cacb-4deb-9223-5bcfe285db15?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/verizon-wins-private-5g-contract-uks-thames-freeport-2025-06-25/> - Verizon Business has secured a contract, in partnership with Nokia, to construct private 5G networks at Thames Freeport, a major UK shipping and logistics hub. This collaboration involves deploying dedicated 5G infrastructure across industrial sites along the River Thames Estuary, including DP World London Gateway, Port of Tilbury, and Ford's Dagenham manufacturing plant. While financial details are undisclosed, the project aims to support a 'multibillion-dollar operational transformation' of the area. The private 5G connectivity will enable advanced industrial applications like AI-driven analytics, predictive maintenance, automation, and real-time logistics coordination. Thames Freeport, designated a Free Trade Zone in 2021, spans a 34 km-wide economic corridor offering tax incentives and is central to revitalizing the region. The project highlights early-stage 5G adoption in European ports and underscores Verizon and Nokia's ongoing collaboration to provide private network solutions in markets where Verizon lacks public infrastructure. Nokia will exclusively provide the hardware and software for the networks. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/verizon-wins-private-5g-contract-uks-thames-freeport-2025-06-25/?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-chatgpt-maker-openai-sign-new-strategic-partnership-2025-07-21/> - The UK government and OpenAI have announced a new strategic partnership aimed at advancing artificial intelligence (AI) security research and bolstering the UK's AI infrastructure, including investments in data centers. The initiative is part of the UK's broader strategy to become a global AI leader, responding to growing competition from the United States, China, and India. Technology Secretary Peter Kyle emphasized AI’s potential to transform public sectors such as healthcare, education, and the economy. The government plans to invest £1 billion to expand public compute capacity twenty-fold over the next five years. OpenAI, acknowledging the UK’s proactive stance through Prime Minister Keir Starmer's 'AI Opportunities Action Plan,' may also expand its London operations and contribute to AI applications in legal, defense, and education fields. The Labour government sees AI as a key driver to boost annual economic productivity by 1.5%, estimating a potential economic benefit of £47 billion ($63.37 billion) annually over the next decade. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-chatgpt-maker-openai-sign-new-strategic-partnership-2025-07-21/?utm_source=openai))