

LONDON
Political Summit

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**11th ANNUAL LONDON
POLITICAL SUMMIT
& AWARDS 2026**

 **Institute of Directors,
Pall Mall, London**

 **House of Lords,
Westminster Parliament**



12th – 14th October

2026



**Summit Chair
Prof. Kishan Devani
BEM, FRSA**

In Honour of the One-Year Remembrance of the
LATE RT. HON. RAILA AMOLO ODINGA
Summit Global Grand Patron

THEME

**PAN-AFRICANISM AND THE
AFRICAN UNION: THE PEOPLE, PLACE,
POLITICS, POWER AND PEACE —
TRADE BY PEACE AND THE RAILA
ODINGA DIPLOMACY APPROACH**

Executive Summary

The 11th Annual London Political Summit and Awards (LPSA) 2026 convenes political leaders, diplomats, academics, policymakers, civil society actors, youth leaders, and private sector stakeholders from Africa, the United Kingdom, and the Commonwealth to reflect, reimagine, and reposition Africa's trajectory within a rapidly evolving global order.

Held in solemn remembrance of the one-year memorial of the Late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, Summit Global Grand Patron, this edition honours his lifelong commitment to democratic values, Pan-African solidarity, constitutional governance, and peace diplomacy as instruments of economic transformation – a philosophy captured in the concept of “Trade by Peace.”

The Summit will evaluate Africa's continental integration efforts under frameworks such as Agenda 2063 and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), while strengthening Commonwealth cooperation and UK-Africa partnerships.

Through high-level dialogues, business engagement sessions, memorial reflections, and awards recognition, the Summit will generate actionable recommendations advancing governance, diplomacy, peacebuilding, and inclusive economic development.





Conceptual Framework

The 2026 Summit is structured around five interlocking pillars:

A. The People

- Youth and Women in Political Leadership
- Civic Participation and Democratic Accountability
- Diaspora Engagement as Development Capital

B. The Place

- Africa's Geopolitical Position in a Multipolar World
- Commonwealth Cooperation and UK-Africa Relations
- Regional Connectivity and Economic Corridors

C. The Politics

- Democratic Governance and Electoral Integrity
- Institutional Strengthening within AU Member States
- Constitutionalism and Rule of Law

D. The Power

- AfCFTA and Economic Sovereignty
- Resource Governance and Energy Transition
- Digital Transformation and Innovation Leadership

E. The Peace

- Conflict Mediation Mechanisms
- Peacebuilding as Economic Strategy
- The Raila Odinga Diplomacy Model



Sub-Themes and Strategic Dialogues

1. Pan-Africanism and Africa's Future Evolution from liberation ideology to economic integration framework.
2. African Union Agenda 2063 Institutional reforms, financing, and measurable outcomes.
3. AfCFTA and Regional Integration Trade facilitation, SME inclusion, infrastructure, and digital trade.
4. Trade by Peace – Diplomacy as Development Negotiation, peace dividends, and investment confidence.
5. Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding Strengthening AU and regional security mechanisms.
6. Youth and Women in Governance Inclusion strategies and leadership pipelines.
7. Governance and Democracy Transparency, accountability, and institutional resilience.
8. Africa in Global Politics Climate diplomacy, debt restructuring, and multilateral engagement.
9. Legacy Dialogue Session Honouring the diplomatic legacy of Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.

Historic Perspective and Institutional Legacy

Now in its 11th year, the London Political Summit and Awards has evolved into a respected transcontinental platform advancing dialogue between Africa, the United Kingdom, and the global diaspora.

Foundational Keynote Legacy

A defining milestone was the inaugural keynote delivered by the Late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, whose address articulated enduring principles of:

- democratic governance,
- Pan-African unity,
- and peace diplomacy as a pathway to development.

This laid the intellectual foundation of the Summit's guiding philosophy.

Raila-Uhuru Africa Peace Accord Award (2018)

In 2018, the Summit instituted the Raila-Uhuru Africa Peace Accord Award, inspired by Kenya's historic reconciliation between Raila Odinga and Uhuru Kenyatta.

The Award symbolises:

- reconciliation over conflict,
- dialogue over division,
- and leadership committed to peace and national unity.

Global Grand Patron Conferment (2019)

In 2019, Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga was formally conferred as:

“Global Grand Patron of the London Political Summit and Awards”
cementing his enduring influence on the Summit's mission and direction.

Historic Perspective and Institutional Legacy

Achievements of the Summit

Over the years, the Summit has:

- Convened high-level African and international leaders
- Strengthened UK-Africa parliamentary dialogue
- Facilitated investment and policy engagement
- Promoted youth and women leadership
- Recognised excellence in governance and diplomacy

Notable Guest Speakers and Award Recipients

The Summit has hosted and honoured distinguished leaders across government, diplomacy, academia, and the private sector through categories such as:

- Raila-Uhuru Africa Peace Accord Award
- Africa President of the Year
- First Lady of the Year
- Parliamentary Speaker of the Year
- Pan-African Leadership Awards

These recognitions celebrate transformative leadership, democratic reform, and peacebuilding.





Acknowledgement of Key Contributors

The Summit acknowledges the contributions of:

- Prof. Kishan Devani BEM, FRSA (Summit Chair)
- H.E. Amb. Dr. Josephine Ojiambo
- Prof. Pauline Long
- Cllr. Rakhia Ismail
- Julius Mbaluto
- Alan Mandindi
- and numerous partners and collaborators

Summit Structure (2026 Edition)

→ Day One – Business Dialogue Summit

Venue: Institute of Directors, Pall Mall

Date: 12th of October

Time: 09:30–17:00

- OSHA special presentation/investiture
- Book Donation by Book Aid Africa – Presented by Prof. Mrs. Elewechi Okike, Founder & CEO
- Policy dialogues
- Economic diplomacy sessions
- Investment and governance discussions
- FINAL INVESTITURE OF FELLOWSHIP AWARDS



Summit Structure (2026 Edition)



DAY TWO – POLITICAL SUMMIT, DIPLOMACY & PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE

Venue: Special Committee Meeting Room, House of Commons, Westminster Parliament

Date: 13th of October

Time: 18:00–20:00

Led by: Prof. Kishan Devani, BEM, FRSA – Summit Chair

- Parliamentary opening and welcome address
- UK–Africa political and diplomatic dialogue
- Keynote address by the Governor of Benue State
- High-level leaders' dialogue on Pan-Africanism, peace and governance
- Special political, diplomatic & institutional awards



Summit Structure (2026 Edition)



DAY THREE – PART A – SPECIAL INTEGRATED STUDY TOUR & COLLABORATION

Venue: Cambridge University / Selected Faculty and Institutional Facilities

Date: 14th of October

Time: 11:00–17:00

Led by: Prof. Chris Imafidon, CEO, Excellence in Education UK

- Special integrated study tour of Cambridge University and selected institutions
- Academic and institutional collaboration discussions
- Education, AI, innovation and human-capital development
- Student and youth leadership engagement
- Partnership opportunities, including research, scholarships, faculty exchange and knowledge transfer



Summit Structure (2026 Edition)

→ DAY THREE – PART B – AWARDS GALA DINNER

Venue: to be confirmed

Date: 14th of October

Time: 18:00–23:00

- VIP arrival and diplomatic/corporate networking
- Formal opening and welcome dinner
- LPSA International Awards Presentation
- Special business and diplomatic addresses
- Raila Odinga Memorial Reflection, partnership recognition and closing ceremony



Special Guest of Honour & Keynote Speaker



H.E. William Samoei Ruto
President of the Republic of Kenya

Brief Overview

President Ruto represents a new generation of African leadership, with key contributions including:

- Service as Deputy President (2013–2022)
- Election as President in 2022
- Advocacy for economic inclusion and bottom-up development
- Promotion of regional integration
- Leadership in climate diplomacy and global economic engagement

His participation reinforces Kenya's leadership in African diplomacy and Pan-African cooperation.

Special Guest of Honour & Guest Speaker



H.E. Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika
President of the Republic of Malawi

Brief Overview

President Mutharika is an experienced statesman committed to democracy and regional cooperation. His key contributions include:

- Serving as President of Malawi from 2014–2020
- Returning to the presidency following the 2025 general election
- Promoting democratic governance and institutional development
- Advancing regional cooperation and Malawi's engagement within SADC
- Championing economic development, investment and international partnerships

His participation reinforces Malawi's role in African diplomacy, democratic governance, regional cooperation and Pan-African development.

Sub-National Governor, Guest of Honour, Special Guest of Honour & Keynote Speaker



H.E. Rev. Fr. Dr. Hyacinth Iormem Alia
Executive Governor of Benue State, Nigeria

Brief Overview

PGovernor Hyacinth Iormem Alia is committed to rebuilding Benue State through people-centred governance, infrastructure development and economic renewal.

- Elected Executive Governor of Benue State in 2023
- Focus on security, peacebuilding and social cohesion
- Investment in agriculture, infrastructure and industrial growth
- Promotion of youth empowerment and job creation
- Strengthening healthcare, education and rural development

His leadership continues to drive sustainable development and lasting impact for the people of Benue State.

Aims and Objectives

1. Advance Pan-African policy discourse
2. Evaluate AfCFTA implementation
3. Promote peace-driven economic development
4. Strengthen UK–Africa–Commonwealth cooperation
5. Empower youth and women leadership
6. Institutionalise Raila Odinga’s diplomacy legacy
7. Produce a formal Summit Communiqué

Why Attend

- High-level policy engagement
- Strategic networking opportunities
- Trade and investment insights
- Institutional partnerships
- Diaspora engagement
- International recognition

Special Awards Recognition



Including the establishment of:

Raila Odinga Memorial Award for Distinguished African Diplomacy

Recognising leaders advancing peace through dialogue and continental cooperation.

Participation

Open to:

- Heads of Government and Ministers
- Parliamentarians
- Diplomats and High Commissioners
- AU and Commonwealth representatives
- Academia and policy institutions
- Private sector leaders
- Civil society and youth organisations



Expected Outcomes

- London Political Summit 2026 Communiqué
- Policy Recommendation Framework
- Youth & Women Leadership Charter
- Raila Odinga Diplomacy Lecture Series



Conclusion

The 11th Annual London Political Summit and Awards 2026 stands as both remembrance and renewal – honouring the enduring legacy of the Late Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga while advancing Africa's future through diplomacy, democratic values, and peace-anchored economic cooperation.

The Summit calls upon leaders to embrace:

- dialogue over division,
- integration over isolation,
- and peace as the foundation of shared prosperity.

Thank You

11th **ANNUAL LONDON** **20**
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