

## NEWSFEED



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# World leaders visit Australian Parliament

The leaders of three of Australia's largest trading partners addressed special sittings of the House of Representatives in November.

Senators were invited to join Members in the House to hear Prime Minister of the United Kingdom the Rt Hon David Cameron MP, President of China His Excellency Xi Jinping and Prime Minister of India Mr Narendra Modi, who were in the country for the G20 leaders' summit.

Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, told Parliament the visits were an opportunity to strengthen some of Australia's most crucial international relationships.

"It's a chance to showcase our country and to promote jobs and growth with the leaders of the world's largest and most representative economies. These leaders represent two thirds of the world's population and some 85 per cent of the world's gross domestic product," Mr Abbott said.

UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, said his second visit to Australia as Prime Minister felt like visiting family. He described Australia as a can-do country that wants to shape the world it lives in—not be shaped by it.

He said that each year, more than 600,000 Britons visit Australia and a million Aussies travel to the UK. He also said that our mateship runs deep.

"In almost every major conflict for 100 years, we have fought and bled and died alongside each other—in the Second World War, from the ingenuity of the Dam Busters to the endurance of Tobruk, and in our lifetimes, in Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq. Ours is an alliance that has been forged



▶ UK PRIME MINISTER DAVID CAMERON: Visiting Australia 'like visiting family'.

in adversity and tested over time," Mr Cameron said.

The UK Prime Minister stressed that there is no opt-out from today's struggles and that we must deal with terrorist extremism by addressing its root cause.

"It is not poverty and it is not exclusion from the mainstream. Of course we have more to do, but we are both successful, multicultural democracies where opportunities abound.

"It is not foreign policy. In our democracies, we must never give in to the idea that disagreeing with a foreign policy in any way justifies terrorist outrages. No. The root cause of the challenge we face is the extremist

narrative. So we must confront this extremism in all its forms," said Mr Cameron.

The UK Prime Minister concluded his speech to the special sitting saying that we should never take our good fortune for granted.

"We live in countries where the press is free, the law is fair, the right to redress is universally available, property rights are universally enforceable and freedom of speech is the foundation of our democracy.

"These things have made our countries great, and if we have the courage to stand by them they will continue to do so now and for generations to come." ■

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