

## Is it strategic to invest in the UK?

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July 16, 2016



Right now, in light of the Brexit decision, governments and businesses around the world are considering the strategic value of investing into the United Kingdom. In a curious parallel, I am currently in Korea aiming to convince True Mother and other leaders from around the world that the UK should be selected as one of seven strategic nations for special investment over the next four years.

I have been invited to Korea by the International Headquarters because the UK was nominated as a country in with a shout of restoring a nation by 2020. Twenty-two countries are represented here – Albania, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, DR Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Israel, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Nepal, Paraguay, Philippines, Russia, Solomon Islands, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Zambia – and we're all competing to be selected as a Cheon Il Guk Special Strategic Nation. Back in September last year, at the time of the 3rd anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa, True Mother explained:

“From now on, our providence, True Parents' providence is to search for a nation. When relating with the world, we should be able to restore at least seven nations in 2020 and meet God with such a standard... The church needs to grow in order to restore the nation. For the church to grow, we need more families that are blessed. By doing this, a country of goodness, God's homeland can be established. You must teach others about True Parents while awake or asleep.”

I'm in complete agreement with the idea that in order for a nation to be established as a homeland for God, the community of faith needs to grow in the nation. Right now FFWPU, UPF and WFWP in the UK are planning a campaign to share the blessing through a number of events and programmes. The details are yet to be announced, but watch this space for developments as a creative and exciting approach to sharing the blessing in a meaningful way is worked out.



So I'm here in Korea to deliver a proposal for church growth and national restoration in the UK, with the hope that the UK will be selected as one of the seven countries that will be supported by the international HQ. In what form might that support come? I'm not entirely sure; but I'm not concerned about that.

Am I worried that the UK will not make the cut? Not really. If the UK fails to make the shortlist, we'll continue working hard towards national restoration regardless of our strategic status. But I would like to

think that our community – and indeed our country – can step up to play an important role in the providence at this time. I believe that if we fortify our community and make steps towards creating God's homeland in the UK we will be in a stronger position to serve the world. Please send your prayerful support so that I can deliver a convincing 20-minute pitch. But also pray that the other nations can also deliver their strategies effectively, and pray for guidance so that the best nations are indeed selected.

I'll begin my journey back on Thursday, but which time I might be able to report on any decisions made.

By Matthew Huish,  
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