

Political Dialogue Between Russia, U.K. Reduced to Zero – Ambassador

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Political dialogue between Russian and the U.K. has been reduced to zero, and the only sphere of cooperation left is culture, Russia's ambassador to the U.K., Alexander Yakovenko, said in an interview with *The Times* of London on Monday.

“Practically all political contacts were abruptly broken off at Britain's initiative, political dialogue has gone at the top level, between the leaders,” Yakovenko was cited by *The Times* as saying.

“At the ministerial level there is also stagnation. This began with the Syria conflict, but we felt it especially after the Ukrainian crisis,” he said.

Yakovenko said that it happened after the relationship between the two countries had “bit by bit fallen into decline,” and added that the Russian Embassy had had to cut its workload because British authorities denied some Russian diplomats visas.

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