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KING AND MACRON TOAST 'EVER CLOSER' UK-FRANCE TIES AT STATE BANQUET

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Sean Coughlan, Jacqueline Howard

King Charles said the partnership between the UK and France needed to grow "ever closer" in the face of "profound challenges", as he hosted Emmanuel Macron at a state banquet at Windsor Castle.

The King and French president dined with the Royal Family and some 160 guests, including Sir Mick Jagger and Sir Elton John - with English sparkling wine on the menu.

Macron and his wife Brigitte earlier had been given a ceremonial carriage procession through Windsor, accompanied by the King and Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales, at the start of their state visit.

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