

U.S. President Trump said Thursday that the United States and Britain are rapidly pushing for a "big and great" trade agreement.

"I think we're going to have a great and big trade agreement with Britain," Trump told reporters before flying to New Hampshire for a political rally. "It's going very fast."

Trump said he had spoken with British Prime Minister Johnson on Wednesday and would talk to him again. "He's quite the same as me."

A senior Trump administration official said Tuesday that Britain and the United States are discussing a partial trade agreement, which could take effect on November 1, the next day after Britain withdraws from Europe.

Officials from the two countries discussed the possibility of reaching interim trade agreements covering all areas.

The official told reporters that the agreement could be valid for about six months.

A broad trade agreement with the United States, its closest ally, will be a very valuable prize for British withdrawal supporters. Advocates of the British withdrawal hope that this will demonstrate Britain's opportunities outside the 28-member EU and help mitigate the impact of disruptions in trade with its European neighbours.