



e-UPDATE

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Going for Growth: Can Commodities Transform Development in Africa and China?

Supported by

About the event

The FPC and the Open University's International Development and Innovation, Knowledge and Development Centres, in partnership with Lovells, are hosting a one-day invitation-only conference on Friday 21 November which will explore the impact of commodities on development in Africa and China. The event will seek to illuminate the complex and intricate relationships that constitute the ever-evolving engagement between the People's Republic of China and the continent of Africa. Energy, minerals and agricultural commodities provide a unique and topical framework through which to explore emerging Africa-China relations.



The Open
University



For more information, or if you are interested in receiving a copy of the conference report when it is published in early 2009, please send an email with 'China' in the subject line to: events@fpc.org.uk



A revolution without rights? Women, Kurds and Baha'is searching for equality in Iran Launch and discussion

Date: Tuesday 25 November, 6.15-7.45pm

Venue: Wilson Room, Portcullis House, Houses of Parliament, Victoria Embankment, London SW1A 2LW

Speakers include:

Mike Gapes MP, Chair, Foreign Affairs Select Committee

Baroness Afshar OBE, Professor of Politics and Womens' Studies, University of York

Kaveh Moussavi, Head of Public Interest Law, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford

Chair: **Stephen Twigg**, Director, Foreign Policy Centre



About the event

The Foreign Policy Centre is launching an important new pamphlet entitled, 'A revolution without rights? Women, Kurds and Baha'is searching for equality in Iran', written by Geoffrey Cameron and Tahirih Danesh. The authors examine the religious, legal and social obstacles to equality faced by women, Baha'is and Kurds in Iran, comparing the experiences of the groups.

CONTINUED...

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT.)



Cameron and Danesh evaluate the Iranian government's compliance with its own constitution and look at how Iran's treatment of women and minorities measures up to the international agreements it has signed. The pamphlet lays out practical steps that British and European policy-makers can take to support the equal treatment of women and minorities with their fellow citizens in Iran.

Copies of the pamphlet will be available to purchase at the event and it will also be available to download free from [here](#) once published.



If you would like to attend the event, please send an email with 'Iran' in the subject line to: events@fpc.org.uk



Women and children first: Leadership and the HIV and AIDS crisis in Africa

Supported by



About the project

The Foreign Policy Centre, with the support of Abbott UK, has embarked on a series of three invitation-only roundtable discussions to identify concrete and practical ways in which the lives of African women and girls affected by HIV/AIDS can be transformed. The areas of discussion and analysis will focus on building sustainable healthcare systems, the prevention of mother-to-child transmission and child survival, stigma and discrimination. The first roundtable was held in June and the second in October. The remaining roundtable will be held at the end of November.



For further information about this project, or if you would like to receive a copy of the final report when it is published in the spring of 2009, please send an email with 'HIV' in the subject line to: events@fpc.org.uk

CONTINUED...

RECENT EVENTS

Turkey in Europe: The economic case for Turkish membership of the European Union **Launch and discussion**

Date: Wednesday 5 November, 6.00-7.30pm
Venue: Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House, Victoria Embankment, London SW1A 2LW

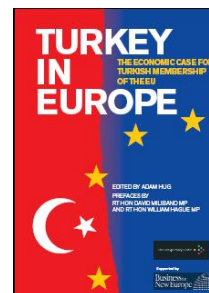
Supported by



Speakers:

Peter Luff MP, Chairman, Business and Enterprise Select Committee
John Peet, Europe Editor, The Economist
Roland Rudd, Chairman, Business for New Europe
Dr Mehmet Ugur, University of Greenwich & contributor

Chair: Bob Laxton MP, Chair, All-Party British-Turkish Parliamentary Group



About the event:

The Foreign Policy Centre launched a new pamphlet, supported by Business for New Europe, on 5 November, which sets out a clear economic and business case for Turkish membership of the European Union. The was timed to coincide with the release of the EU's report on progress accession and provided an opportunity to debate Turkey's progress towards accession, the challenges it still faces and the important economic and political linkages Turkey and the EU share.

The pamphlet, edited by Adam Hug at the Foreign Policy Centre, contains contributions from: Rt Hon David Miliband MP, Rt Hon William Hague MP, Commissioner Olli Rehn, Roland Rudd (Chairman, Business for New Europe) Dr Mehmet Ugur (University of Greenwich), Prof Refik Erzan (Bogazici University), Dr Bahadir Kaleagasi (TUSIAD, the Turkish business association), Sir Julian Horn Smith, (former Deputy CEO, Vodaphone) and Dr Gareth Winrow (formerly of Istanbul Bilgi University).

[Download the pamphlet in full](#)

RECENT EVENTS (cont.)

***The Thin Blue Line: How Humanitarianism Went to War* by Conor Foley** **Launch & discussion event**

Date: Thursday 6 November, 6.00-8.00pm

Venue: Thatcher Room, Portcullis House, Victoria Embankment, London SW1A 2LW

Speakers:

Conor Foley, Author, Journalist & Humanitarian Aid Worker

Rt Hon Dr Denis MacShane MP, former Minister for Europe

Oliver Kamm, Leader Writer, The Times



Chair: James Darcy, Director of Humanitarian Programmes, Overseas Development Institute

About the event

At this Foreign Policy Centre and Verso Books event, humanitarian aid worker Conor Foley outlined the thesis of his new book, 'The Thin Blue Line: How Humanitarianism Went to War', and Rt Hon Dr Denis MacShane MP and Oliver Kamm of The Times presented their responses to it.

The idea that we should 'do something' to help those suffering in far-off places is the main impulse driving those who care about human rights. Yet from Kosovo to Iraq, military interventions have gone disastrously wrong.

In his ground-breaking new book, Conor Foley explores how the doctrine of humanitarian intervention has been used to allow states to invade other nations in the name of human rights. Drawing on his own experience of working in over a dozen conflict and post-conflict zones, Foley shows how the growing influence of international law has been used to override the sovereignty of the poorest countries in the world.

 [To buy a copy of the book, click here](#)

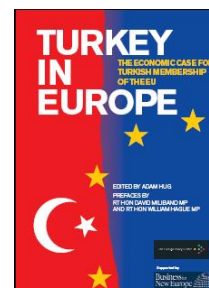
CONTINUED...

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Turkey in Europe: The economic case for Turkish membership of the European Union

Edited by Adam Hug

This new FPC pamphlet, supported by Business for New Europe sets out a clear economic and business case for Turkish membership of the European Union. The publication of the pamphlet was timed to coincide with the release of the EU's report on progress accession and provides an opportunity to review Turkey's progress towards accession, the challenges it still faces and the important economic and political linkages Turkey and the EU share.



Edited by FPC Policy Director, Adam Hug, the pamphlet contains contributions from: Rt Hon David Miliband MP, Rt Hon William Hague MP, Commissioner Olli Rehn, Roland Rudd (Chairman, Business for New Europe) Dr Mehmet Ugur (University of Greenwich), Prof Refik Erzan (Bogazici University), Dr Bahadir Kalegasi (TUSIAD, the Turkish business association), Sir Julian Horn Smith, (former Deputy CEO, Vodaphone) and Dr Gareth Winrow (formerly of Istanbul Bilgi University).

 [Read the pamphlet in full](#)
[Read Adam Hug's article for The Guardian's Comment is Free](#)

Hutton and Afghanistan: To surge or not to surge?

By Anna Owen

In this new article, FPC researcher Anna Owen examines John Hutton's maiden speech as Defence Secretary, delivered on Remembrance Day and entitled, 'Afghanistan – Worth the sacrifice.' Mr Hutton asserted that the war may yet become the '...defining conflict of this century.'

 [Read the article here](#)

Iceland—the 29th member state?

By Dick Leonard

This new article, by FPC Research Associate, Dick Leonard, outlines Iceland's recent economic crisis and examines the chances of it becoming the EU's 29th member state.

 [Read the article here](#)

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FPC MEDIA COMMENTATORS

FPC research staff are available to provide comment on breaking international news and foreign policy issues. They are experienced media commentators, making frequent TV and radio appearances.



Stephen Twigg, Director

UK foreign policy in a European and global context
The crossover between domestic and international policies
The international role of education, especially as a tool for combating genocide



Adam Hug, Policy Director

Middle East, including Iran
Russia, The Caucasus and Central Asia, including energy security issues
The EU
The transatlantic relationship



Josephine Osikena, Democracy and Development Programme Manager

Development and democratisation in Sub-Saharan Africa
Economic development in francophone West Africa



Feng Zhang, China Programme Manager

Political and economic trends in China
Chinese foreign policy
Sino-Japanese relations, East Asian Security, North Korea

For more information, to arrange briefings or interviews, or for general media enquiries, please contact Anna Owen on 020 7729 7566 or anna.owen@fpc.org.uk

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Why join the Foreign Policy Centre?

The Foreign Policy Centre is a leading British foreign affairs think tank, established in 1998 by the then Foreign Secretary, the late Robin Cook, with the aim of **developing innovative and practical policy solutions to global problems through research, publications and events.**

Tony Blair remains the Patron of FPC and has spoken at previous events, alongside: David Miliband, Douglas Alexander, David Cameron, Sayeeda Warsi, Malcolm Rifkind, Margaret Beckett, Jack Straw, Menzies Campbell and Paddy Ashdown.



Membership of the Foreign Policy Centre is open to individuals who wish to engage more closely with foreign policy issues and the work of the Centre. Foreign policy has never been more important in politics and in society in general. FPC membership provides a chance to have your say on UK foreign policy and related issues – join today from **as little as £45 a year.**



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Why join the Foreign Policy Centre?

If your organisation would like to be more closely involved with the work of the Centre, we can offer tailored benefits. We have an Institutional Members rate for educational and charitable/not for profit organisations, and a Corporate Members rate for corporate organisations.



For more information about how FPC membership could benefit your organisation, please contact the FPC director, Stephen Twigg, on: stephen.twigg@fpc.org.uk