



e-UPDATE

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Reconnecting the European Parliament and its People

The Foreign Policy Centre and the European Commission Representation in the UK are coordinating a project entitled 'Reconnecting the European Parliament and its People.' The project will comprise a series of four events across the UK, followed by research, that will examine UK public awareness and attitudes towards the European Parliament, assess the problems that it faces and explore some possible solutions.



If you would like to attend any or all of the events which form part of this project (see below), please email: events@fpc.org.uk



MANCHESTER

Date: Friday 11 December, 5.00-6.45pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Manchester Town Hall, Albert Square, Manchester M60 2LA

Speakers include:

- **Arlene McCarthy MEP**, Labour
- **Sajjad Karim MEP**, Conservative
- **Paul Nuttall MEP**, UKIP (tbc)
- **Jim Hancock**, former Political Editor, BBC North West
- **Chair: Stephen Twigg**, Director, Foreign Policy Centre



EDINBURGH

Date: Friday 29 January 2010, 5.00-6.45pm

Venue: Committee Rm 1, The Scottish Parliament, Holyrood, Edinburgh EH99 1SP

Speakers include:

- **Rt Hon Charles Kennedy MP**, President, European Movement & Co-President, Foreign Policy Centre
- **Catherine Stihler MEP**, Labour
- **Struan Stevenson MEP**, Conservative
- **Further speakers tbc**
- **Chair: George Foulkes MSP**



BIRMINGHAM

Date: February 2010 (tbc)

Venue: TBC

Speakers to be announced

THE FOREIGN POLICY CENTRE NEEDS YOU!

Project Survey: Reconnecting the European Parliament and its People

As part of the Foreign Policy Centre's research project with the European Commission Representation in the UK, it is looking for respondents to answer a survey consisting of a range of questions about the European Parliament and the role of MEPs. The findings from the survey will help to inform the research and the pamphlet that will be published at the end of the project. If you can spare 10 minutes, it would be much appreciated!

 **Download the survey [here>](#)**

NEW FPC PUBLICATIONS

Kazakhstan at a cross-roads

A background paper by Adam Hug

2010 stands as a landmark year in the history of Kazakhstan and for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). It will be the first time a Central Asian nation takes the leadership of a major international political organisation. Kazakhstan will also be the first non-democracy to become the OSCE's Chairman-in-Office.

Kazakhstan will be under the international spotlight to an extent that it has not seen since independence. Against that backdrop, the Foreign Policy Centre is publishing a series of three detailed background papers assessing a number of key issues in Kazakhstan. These will be followed by the publication of a pamphlet. The first paper, focusing on **human rights and democracy** has just been published.

 **Download the paper [here>](#)**

Spotlight on Georgia

Edited by Adam Hug

This new FPC pamphlet examines the growing human rights and governance challenges facing Georgia. It highlights increasing concerns, both internal and international, about Georgian rule of law, media freedom, policing and electoral processes. The pamphlet recommends how Georgia must reform and what the international community should do to support it.



It contains contributions from authors including: Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner; EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus, Peter Semneby; the Deputy Public Defender of Georgia, Giorgi Chekheidze; former UK Foreign Secretary, Rt Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind MP; Chair of the UK's Georgian All Party Parliamentary Group, Bruce George MP; former US Ambassador to the USSR, Ambassador Arthur Hartman; author and Conciliation Resources Associate, Thomas de Waal; former OSCE Policing Adviser, Marco Kubny; Elsa Vidal from Reporters Without Borders; Giorgi Gogia from Human Rights Watch; and Dr Hans Gutbrod from the Caucasus Research Resource Centres.

 **Download the report [here>](#)**

NEW FPC ARTICLES

Recent articles added to the [FPC website](#) have included:



Where now for Afghan 'democracy'?

by Anna Owen

[Click here>](#)



Brazil aiming for a leading role in Copenhagen

by Thiago de Aragao

[Click here>](#)



The significance of Venezuela's admission to Mercosur

by Thiago de Aragao

[Click here>](#)



Pakistan's government plays second fiddle to the army

by Ella Rolfe

[Click here>](#)



FPC Briefing: India's BJP contemplate their future

by Chris Ogden

[Click here>](#)



Electoral reform in Lebanon

by Deen Sharp

[Click here>](#)



Turkey, Syria's new best friend

by Chris Phillips

[Click here>](#)

NEW FPC BLOGS

Recent posts to the [FPC blog](#) have included:



Lisbon Treaty: Hard lessons and new opportunities

by Chris Ostrowski

[Click here to read>](#)



Reconnecting the European Parliament and its people – Have your say

[Click here to read>](#)

RECENT EVENTS



Reconnecting the European Parliament and its People

The Foreign Policy Centre and the European Commission Representation in the UK recently launched a new project, 'Reconnecting the European Parliament and its People.' The project will comprise a series of four events across the UK, followed by research, that will examine UK public awareness and attitudes towards the European Parliament, assess the problems that it faces and explore some possible solutions.



LONDON LAUNCH EVENT

Date: Tuesday 1 December, 6.00-7.45pm

Venue: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Room, Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0AA (off Westminster Hall, use St Stephen's entrance)

Speakers

- **Rt Hon Dr Denis MacShane MP**, former Minister for Europe
- **Rt Hon David Heathcoat-Amory MP**
- **John Peet**, Europe Editor, The Economist
- **Liz Atkins**, Director of Public Policy, National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)
- **Chair: Stephen Twigg**, Director, Foreign Policy Centre



Full and Equal Citizens: How to Deliver Equality for Israel's Arab Minorities

Date: Thursday 19 November, 4.00-5.30pm

Venue: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Room, Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0AA (off Westminster Hall, use St Stephen's entrance)

Speakers:

- **Aida Touma-Sliman**, General Director, Women Against Violence
- **Shmuel Ben-Tovim**, Minister, Economic Affairs, Embassy of Israel
- **Leo Williams**, Manager, UK Friends of the Abraham Fund Initiatives
- **Adam Hug**, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Centre

Chair: Sir Jeremy Beecham, New Israel Fund

The Foreign Policy Centre recently hosted a Westminster Seminar to launch its 'Full and Equal Citizens: How to Deliver Equality for Israel's Arab Minorities?' project, supported by the Pears Foundation. The project will explore some of the main challenges facing Israel's Arab minorities, including: community relations, housing, education, economic development, employment, political representation and policing. It will also examine what lessons can be learned from UK anti-discrimination practice and how international donors can best support community cohesion in Israel.

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. **If you could like to speak to one of them, please contact Anna Owen on 020 7729 7566 or anna.owen@fpc.org.uk**



Stephen Twigg, Director

UK foreign policy in a European and global context
The crossover between domestic and international policy
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 and the Transatlantic Relationship



Josephine Osikena, Director, Democracy and Development

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



Anna Owen, Events and Projects Director

Military dimensions of UK foreign policy, including Afghanistan and Pakistan
UK armed forces and defence policy



Feng Zhang, China Programme Manager

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

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MEMBERSHIP FOR INDIVIDUALS



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.**



Join the Foreign Policy Centre and you will receive the following benefits:

- A welcome gift pack with 2 copies of FPC publications of your choice
- Priority access to all our seminars and roundtable events
- A copy of each of our new publications sent to your home or work
- A complimentary ticket to our annual lecture

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To join, simply print and fill in the form at: fpc.org.uk/membership today and **RETURN TO:**

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Rt Hon Tony Blair

Director
Stephen Twigg

Co-Presidents
Baroness Margaret Jay of Paddington
Michael Gove MP
Rt Hon Charles Kennedy MP

MEMBERSHIP FOR ORGANISATIONS



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 Membership Scheme** which offers attractive benefits 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