



e-UPDATE

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UPCOMING EVENTS



'From Cradle to Coffin: A Report into Child Executions in Iran' - Launch Event

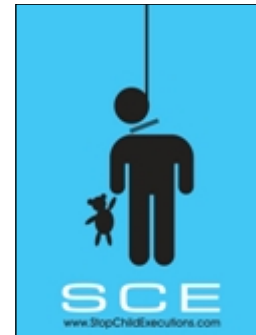
Date: Wednesday 17 June, 6.00-7.45pm

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

Speakers include:

- **Nazenin Afshin-Jam**, President, Stop Child Executions
- Other speakers tbc

Chair: Alistair Carmichael MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for the Abolition of the Death Penalty



The Foreign Policy Centre, in partnership with Stop Child Executions, is hosting the launch of a major new report entitled, 'From Cradle to Coffin: A Report on Child Executions in Iran'. Written by Nazanin Afshin-Jam, President of Stop Child Executions, her team and Tahirih Danesh, an FPC Senior Research Associate, the report aims to provide a comprehensive documentation and analysis of Iran's executions of minors since the 1979 Revolution. It will highlight inconsistencies in the Iranian legal system, as well as contradictions between Iran's record of executing minors and its international human rights commitments. The report will put forward clear recommendations for action by the international community and human rights campaigners. Hard copies of the report will be available free of charge at this event and it will also be possible to download the document free of charge from this website after the event.



If you would like to attend, please email: events@fpc.org.uk

Cont...

UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)



FPC at the 2009 Compass National Conference: 'Tax justice: The missing link in the fight against poverty?'

Date: Saturday 13 June 2009, 11.15am
Venue: Institute of Education, London

Speakers tbc



This year's Compass National and Robin Cook Memorial Conference is themed around building a new political and economic settlement for the 21st century with democracy, equality and sustainability at its heart. The key purpose of the event will be to make the case that there can be 'No Turning Back' to the failed ideas of the free market consensus.

The Foreign Policy Centre will be hosting a break-out session at 11.15am, entitled 'Tax justice: The missing link in the fight against poverty?'. Further details, including the speaker line-up, will be posted on the FPC homepage when confirmed: fpc.org.uk



If you would like to attend, please visit the Conference website to register and to view the agenda for the day: compassonline.org.uk/conference

RECENT EVENTS

Recent events hosted by the Foreign Policy Centre have included:



Spotlight on Georgia

Date: Wednesday 11 March
Venue: Boothroyd Room, Portcullis House

Speakers included:

- **Sir Malcolm Rifkind KCMG QC MP**, Former Foreign Secretary
- **Tom De Waal**, Caucasus Research Associate, Conciliation Resources
- **HE Giorgi Badridze**, Ambassador Designate, Embassy of Georgia

Chair: Mike Gapes MP, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee

This seminar acted as the launch for the Foreign Policy Centre's 2009 programme of work on Georgia. The work will examine the country's performance across a range of good governance areas, including: human rights, the rule of law, media freedom, the growth of civil society and the development of democratic institutions.

This work will be set in the context of the development of the relationship between Georgia and the West, the stalled decision on whether to offer Georgia a NATO MAP, and the long-term possibility of EU membership. It will also examine the practical steps that can be taken to improve performance towards good governance goals.

RECENT EVENTS (cont.)



FPC Report Launch

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

Date: Tuesday 5 May 2009, 6.00-8.00pm

Venue: Thatcher Room, Portcullis House



Speaker: **Ivan Lewis MP**, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development

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

This event acted as the launch for a new FPC report which brings together some of the key findings and conclusions drawn from a series of expert roundtables organised by the Foreign Policy Centre during 2008. It also draws on the relevant literature to make some concrete recommendations for action that will help to mitigate the effects of the HIV & AIDS epidemic on women and children in sub-Saharan Africa.



Throughout 2008, the Foreign Policy Centre, with the support of Abbott, hosted a series of three expert roundtable discussions.

The series brought together small groups of experts and specialists who explored the challenges faced by women and children who often experience the effects of the HIV & AIDS epidemic more severely than men, particularly in Africa south of the Sahara. The areas of discussion included: building sustainable healthcare systems, child survival and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and overcoming the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV & AIDS.



To read the report in full, please click here:

fpc.org.uk/publications/women-children-hiv-africa

THE FPC BLOG

The FPC has recently joined the blogosphere:



The Baha'is reply to Ayatollah Najafabadi

by Geoffrey Cameron

[Click here>](#)



Georgia... Pro-Western country?

by Nino Zhgenti

[Click here>](#)



The battle for Serpent Island

by Alex Jackson

[Click here>](#)

FPC ARTICLES

Recent articles added to the FPC website at fpc.org.uk/articles include:



The end of Asia's longest war

by Niall Ahern

[Click here>](#)



Obama: The first hundred days and a new stance with Latin America

by Thiago de Aragao

[Click here>](#)



Invest in Iraq, if you dare...

by Ranj Alaaldin

[Click here>](#)



Why Syria's bridge to Iran won't be on the table in any bargaining with the West

by Chris Phillips

[Click here>](#)



Lebanon beyond sectarianism

by Chris Phillips

[Click here>](#)



Fresh Insights: Finding the way forward for Moldova and Transdniestra

by Alex Jackson

[Click here>](#)



Politics and economy as individual actors

by Thiago de Aragao

[Click here>](#)



Pakhtunkhwa

by Ella Rolfe

[Click here>](#)



Good work, but could be better... (the role of the European Ombudsman)

by Dick Leonard

[Click here>](#)



Freedom with responsibility: The European Liberal Manifesto

by Jonathan Fryer

[Click here>](#)

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Women and Children First: Leadership and the HIV & AIDS Crisis in Africa

by Josephine Osikena

This new FPC report brings together some of the key findings and conclusions drawn from a series of expert roundtables organised by the Foreign Policy Centre during 2008. It also draws on the relevant literature to make some concrete recommendations for action that will help to mitigate the effects of the HIV & AIDS epidemic on women and children in sub-Saharan Africa.

Throughout 2008, the Foreign Policy Centre, with the support of Abbott, hosted a series of three expert roundtable discussions. The series brought together small groups of experts and specialists from government, the media, academia, the medical profession, local and international civil society, public bodies and institutions, the private sector and representatives from the diplomatic community in London.

Together, they explored the challenges faced by women and children, who often experience the effects of the HIV & AIDS epidemic more severely than men, particularly in Africa south of the Sahara. The areas of discussion included: building sustainable healthcare systems, child survival and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and overcoming the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV & AIDS.



 **Read the report in full at: fpc.org.uk/publications/women-children-hiv-africa**

A Revolution Without Rights? Women, Kurds and Baha'is Searching for Equality in Iran

Geoffrey Cameron and Tahirih Danesh

In this Foreign Policy Centre pamphlet, 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.

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.



 **Read the pamphlet in full at: fpc.org.uk/publications/RevolutionRights**

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 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 aspects 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.**



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- 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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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