



## e-UPDATE

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LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

BIRMINGHAM

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT PARTY CONFERENCE 2011  
FPC FRINGE PROGRAMME

## Rethinking democracy and development: What role for new media and technology?

**Speakers:** **Jeremy Browne MP**, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; **Charlie Beckett**, Director, POLIS (LSE); **James Deane**, Head of Policy Development, BBC World Service Trust; **Grace Githaiga**, Media, Empowerment and Democracy in East Africa (MEDIEA).

**Chair:** **Baroness Kishwer Falkner**, Lib Dem Parliamentary Policy Committee on Foreign Affairs

Sunday 18 September, 1.00-2.00pm

Hyatt Regency Hotel – Soprano Room (main Conference hotel)

Refreshments will be provided

Supported by



## Energy in an uncertain world:

## How can we achieve a secure, low carbon future?

**Speakers:** **Fiona Hall MEP**, Leader, Liberal Democrat MEPs; **Chris Davies MEP**, European Environment Committee; **Sir Robert Smith MP (tbc)**, Energy and Climate Change Select Committee; **Andrew Pendleton**, Associate Director, ippr.

**Chair:** **Catherine Bearder MEP (tbc)**

Sunday 18 September, 6.15-7.30pm

Jury's Inn – Room 105 (254 Broad St, Birmingham)

Refreshments will be provided

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## Which path to peace?

## Promoting stability in states affected by conflict

**Speakers:** **Rt Hon Malcolm Bruce MP**, Chair, International Development Select Committee; **Myles Wickstead CBE**, Visiting Professor, Open University; **Marie Staunton**, CEO, Plan UK; **Alan Roan**, Senior Capability Manager, Saab UK. **Chair:** **Baroness Lindsey Northover**, Government Spokesperson in the Lords on International Development

Monday 19 September, 8.00-9.15pm

Hyatt Regency Hotel – Fortissimo Room (main Conference hotel)

Refreshments will be provided

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## From burden to opportunity? Big business in poor countries

**Speakers:** **Lord Richard Newby**, Co-chair, Liberal Democrat Treasury Parliamentary Party Committee; **Gibril Faal**, Chair, African Foundation for Development (AFFORD); **Phil Bloomer**, Campaigns and Policy Director, Oxfam GB; **Ann Grant**, Vice-Chairman, Standard Chartered Capital Markets Ltd, Standard Chartered Bank. **Chair:** **Baroness Susan Kramer**

Tuesday 20 September, 8.00-9.15pm

Jury's Inn – Room 114 (254 Broad St)

Refreshments will be provided

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## Rethinking democracy and development: What role for new media and technology?

**Speakers:**

**Rushanara Ali MP**, Shadow International Development Minister; **Richard Howitt MEP**, Labour European Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs; **James Deane**, Head of Policy Development, BBC World Service Trust; **Sami Ben Gharbia (tbc)**, Advocacy Director, Global Voices.

**Chair: Alison McGovern MP**, International Development Select Committee

Sunday 25 September, 5.30-7.30pm  
Hilton Hotel — Grace Suite 2 (secure zone)  
Refreshments will be available

Supported by

**BBC WORLD SERVICE TRUST**



## Energy in an uncertain world: How can we achieve a secure, low carbon future?

**Speakers:**

**Huw Irranca-Davies MP**, Shadow Energy Minister; **Rt Hon Malcolm Wicks MP**, former Energy Minister; **Alan Whitehead MP**, Chair, PLP Energy and Climate Change Group; **Matthew Lockwood**, Head of Climate Change, Institute of Development Studies (IDS).

**Chair: Fiona Harvey**, Environment Correspondent, The Guardian

Tuesday 27 September, 5.30-7.30pm  
Jury's Inn — Suite 1 (secure zone)  
Refreshments will be available

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**RioTinto**



## Which path to peace? Promoting stability in states affected by conflict

**Speakers:**

**Stephen Twigg MP**, Shadow Foreign Office Minister for Africa; **Richard Beeston**, Foreign Editor, The Times; **Brendan Cox**, Director of Policy and Advocacy, Save the Children UK; **Alan Roan**, Senior Capability Manager, Saab UK.

**Chair: Keme Nzerem**, Reporter and Presenter, Channel 4 News

Wednesday 28 September, 12.30-2.15pm  
Jury's Inn — Suite 1 (secure zone)  
Refreshments will be available

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## Which path to peace?

### Promoting stability in states affected by conflict

**Speakers:** Alistair Burt MP, Minister for the Middle East, North Africa and Afghanistan, Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Kim Sengupta, Defence & Diplomatic Correspondent, The Independent; Dan Smith, Secretary General, International Alert; Hugh Ward MBE, Head of Capability, Saab UK  
**Chair:** Lindsey Hilsum, International Editor, Channel 4 News

Monday 3 October, 12.30-2.00pm  
Palace Hotel — Palace 7 (Oxford St, Manchester M60 7HA)  
Refreshments will be provided

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## Energy in an uncertain world:

### How can we achieve a secure, low carbon future?

**Speakers:** Charles Hendry MP, Minister of State for Energy; Vicky Ford MEP; David Nussbaum (tbc), Director, WWF-UK; Rhian Kelly, Director, Business Environment, CBI.  
**Chair:** Geoffrey Lean, Associate Editor, The Daily Telegraph

Monday 3 October, 5.30-7.00pm  
Manchester Central — Exchange Rooms 4 & 5  
Refreshments will be provided



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**RioTinto**

## Rethinking democracy and development: What role for new media and technology?

**Speakers:** Stephen O'Brien MP, International Development Minister, DfID; David Munk (tbc), Foreign Editor, The Daily Telegraph; Caroline Nursey, Director, BBC World Service Trust; Dr Awab Alvi ('Teeth Maestro'), celebrated Pakistani blogger. **Chair:** Rory Stewart MP

Tuesday 4 October, 12.30-2.00pm  
Manchester Central — Exchange Rooms 4 & 5  
Refreshments will be provided

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## From burden to opportunity? Big business in poor countries

**Speakers:** Stephen O'Brien MP, International Development Minister, DfID; Lanre Akinola, Editor, This is Africa (FT Ltd); Alison Evans, Director, ODI; Ann Grant, Vice Chairman, Standard Chartered Capital Markets Ltd. **Chair:** Sam Gyimah MP, Intl Development Committee

Tuesday 4 October, 5.30-7.00pm  
Manchester Central — Exchange Room 1  
Refreshments will be provided



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## New opportunities and old challenges on Europe's eastern frontier: What now for EU & UK engagement in the South Caucasus?

**Speakers:** David Lidington MP, Minister for Europe, Foreign & Commonwealth Office; Geoffrey Van Orden MEP; Michael Dennison, Control Risks; Dr Laurence Broers, Conciliation Resources. **Chair:** Mary Dejevsky (tbc), The Independent

Tuesday 4 October, 7.30-9.00pm  
Manchester Central — Central 3  
Refreshments will be provided



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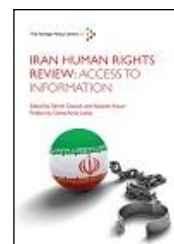
## NEW FPC PUBLICATIONS



### **Iran Human Rights Review: Access to information**

Edited by Nazenin Ansari and Tahirih Danesh

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



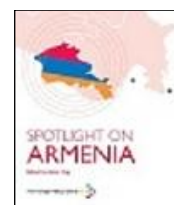
The Iran Human Rights Review, edited by Nazenin Ansari and Tahirih Danesh, is a new Foreign Policy Centre project that seeks to provide a resource for policy makers and activists by combining information and opinion with analysis and recommendations for action. This new edition of the Review focuses on the emergence of access to information as a pivotal element in promoting and protecting the Iranian human rights movement. It contains opinion pieces and detailed articles from a wide range of experts and activists with a focus on promoting a culture of human right in Iran and the region. Contributors include: Dame Ann Leslie, Nasrin Alavi, Ramin Asgard, Shahriar Ahy, Negar Esfandiari, Claudia Mendoza, Saba Farzan, Nazanine Moshiri, Rossi Qajar, Mojtaba Saminejad, Ali Sheikholeslami, Meir Javedanfar, Potkin Azarmehr and Mariam Memarsadeghi.



### **Spotlight on Armenia**

Edited by Adam Hug

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



Spotlight on Armenia provides a clear analysis of the major challenges Armenia faces regarding democratic development, rule of law, media freedom, corruption and other human rights issues, while examining the impact of its international relationships on domestic politics. It argues for greater UK, EU and Western engagement in Armenia but that increased incentives must be matched by stronger pressure for reform.

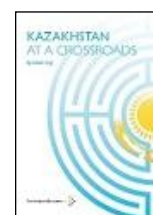
Edited by Adam Hug (Foreign Policy Centre) the pamphlet contains contributions from leading Armenia experts including: The Caucasus Research Resource Centers, Tsira Chanturia (Penal Reform International), Gevorg Ter-Gabrielyan (Eurasia Partnership Foundation), Narine Gasparyan (American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative), Richard Giragosian (Armenian Center for National and International Studies), Alexander Iskandaryan (Caucasus Institute), Dr Elisabeth Robson (East-West Insight), Vladimir Shkolnikov, Irina Urumova, Anna Walker (Control Risks) and Dr Mikael Zolyan (Brusov University).



### **Kazakhstan at a Crossroads**

By Adam Hug

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



To coincide with the early Presidential election of April 3rd 2011, the Foreign Policy Centre has produced its Kazakhstan at Crossroads publication, adapted and updated from three previous Foreign Policy Centre articles. The report gives a clear overview of Kazakhstan's political, human rights and economic challenges, along with an assessment of its developing role in the world. After the missed opportunity of last year's OSCE Chairmanship the publication argues that if Kazakhstan wants to further develop a regional and global leadership role, the international community must insist that President Nazarbayev makes significant political reforms to improve its human rights and governance.

## RECENT FPC ARTICLES & BRIEFINGS

-  **Dangerous Turkish gamble on Cyprus and EU**  
by Ziya Meral  
[Click here>](#)
-  **FPC Briefing: Human rights in the Czech Republic – Unfinished business**  
by Tanweer Ali  
[Click here>](#)
-  **FPC Briefing: African political unity must be more selective – A blueprint for change**  
by William Gumede  
[Click here>](#)
-  **Back to drawing board from African Union**  
by William Gumede  
[Click here>](#)
-  **Brazil: Supreme Court may rule on profit of companies co-connected or controlled from abroad**  
by Thiago de Aragao  
[Click here>](#)
-  **FPC Briefing: Where next for EU-US judicial cooperation?**  
by Andrew Southam  
[Click here>](#)
-  **China's flawed drugs policy**  
by Verity Robins  
[Click here>](#)
-  **Brazil: Palocci's exit suggests new strategy**  
by Thiago de Aragao  
[Click here>](#)

## RECENT FPC EVENTS

-  **Free and full consent: Tackling child and forced marriage - A roundtable discussion forum**

**Date:** Wednesday 6 July

**Venue:** Meeting Room P, Portcullis House



On 6 July 2011, the Foreign Policy Centre in partnership with Plan UK hosted a roundtable discussion forum at the House of Commons. Marking the launch of a Plan UK publication entitled "Breaking Vows: Early and Forced Marriage and Girls' Education", the event explored how policymakers across UK Government departments might strengthen national and global alliances (and networks) to increase the political priority given to the issue of child and forced marriage. The forum focused on three principal themes. The first, examined how best to promote prevention and mitigate the impact of child and forced marriage, the second assessed how to provide support to victims and those at risk to escape and rebuild their lives and finally, an exploration of the broader development impact of prioritising the eradication of child and forced marriage as part of the UK's wider foreign policy engagement. The event brought together a diverse range of participants from the worlds of politics, academia, government, the media, community-based organisations and international NGOs.

-  **A summary of the roundtable recommendations can be found [here>](#)**



## RECENT EVENTS (cont.)



### Which path to peace?

#### Promoting stability in states affected by conflict

**Date:** Tuesday 12 July, 6.00-7.45pm

**Venue:** Grimond Room, Portcullis House



#### Speakers:

- **Mark Lancaster MP**, Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) to the Secretary of State for International Development
- **Sheelagh Stewart**, Director of the UK Government's Stabilisation Unit
- **Prof Rosemary Hollis**, Professor of Middle East Policy Studies, City University
- **Richard Miller**, CEO, ActionAid UK
- **Hugh Ward MBE**, Head of Capability, Saab Training Systems UK

**Chair: Damien McElroy**, Foreign Affairs Correspondent, The Daily Telegraph

This FPC event supported by Saab sought to explore some of the many different elements involved in reconstruction, building peace and promoting stability in states affected by conflict. It drew on a variety of different strategies, perspectives and country-specific examples with the aim of highlighting the complexity and diversity of approaches that are necessary to address the challenges of conflict and instability.



### A foreign policy for the people?

#### Do politicians and the public agree on Britain's future role in the world?

**Date:** Tuesday 28 June, 6.30-8.00pm

**Venue:** Committee Room 3A, House of Lords



#### Speakers:

- **Lord David Howell**, Minister of State, Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- **Kim Sengupta**, Defence & Diplomatic Correspondent, The Independent
- **Dr Graeme Davies**, University of Leeds
- **Dr Rob Johns**, University of Essex
- **Prof Jason Ralphs**, University of Leeds

**Chair: Sir Robert Worcester**, Founder & Chair, Ipsos MORI

This Foreign Policy Centre event in partnership with the Universities of Essex and Leeds was the second in a series examining the relationship between UK foreign policy and public opinion. This event provided a timely opportunity to debate public support for past, current and future UK military interventions overseas and the "special relationship" with the United States. It is almost universally acknowledged that a hallmark of British foreign policy under Tony Blair's Labour government was liberal interventionism: a willingness to use force abroad for various purposes - humanitarian intervention, peacekeeping and regime change - even if British national interests were seemingly involved only indirectly. As Blair argued at the time: "...a political philosophy that does care about other nations - Kosovo, Afghanistan, Sierra Leone - and is prepared to change regimes on their merits, should be gung-ho on Saddam." A parallel argument could be said to underlie the present coalition government's decision to join military action in Libya. This suggests a cross-party consensus in favour of liberal interventionism. But is elite political consensus on foreign policy in the UK as clear as it appears? What role should a UN mandate play in UK policymaking, especially when it clashes with US policy? Where does the UK public stand? Is there general support for the principles underlying Labour's and now the coalition's seeming interventionism?

## RECENT EVENTS (cont.)



### Spotlight on Armenia: Brussels In partnership with the European Policy Centre



**Date:** Thursday 23 June, 3.00-5.00pm  
**Venue:** European Policy Centre, Résidence Palace, Brussels



#### Speakers:

- **Peter Semneby**, Former EU Special Representative to the South Caucasus
  - **Jacqui Hale**, Senior Policy Analyst - EU External Relations, Open Society Institute-Brussels
  - **Paryr Hovannisyan**, European Friends of Armenia
  - **Adam Hug**, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Centre
- Chair:** **Amanda Paul**, Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre

As part of the FPC's global series of events following the launch of the recent 'Spotlight on Armenia' publication, we were delighted to partner with the European Policy Centre to hold an event in Brussels. The event debated the major challenges Armenia faces regarding democratic development, rule of law, media freedom, corruption and other human rights issues, while examining the impact of its international relationships on domestic politics.



### UK foreign policy and public opinion: What do we think, why and does it matter?

**Date:** Wednesday 15 June, 6.00-7.30pm  
**Venue:** Wilson Room, Portcullis House



#### Speakers:

- **Sir Robert Worcester**, Founder, MORI & Chair, Ipsos MORI
  - **Stephen Twigg MP**, Shadow Foreign Office Minister
  - **Richard Beeston**, Foreign Editor, The Times
  - **Dr Graeme Davies**, University of Leeds
  - **Dr Rob Johns**, University of Essex
- Chair:** **Hetan Shah**, Chief Executive, Think Global

This Foreign Policy Centre event held in partnership with the Universities of Essex and Leeds provided a timely opportunity for a discussion about the relationship between UK foreign policy and public opinion, including debating questions such as:

- What factors influence public opinion in the UK on foreign policy and foreign policy issues? Does public opinion influence foreign policy or respond to it?
- What is the impact of headline-grabbing yes/no polls in the media? How does the UK government measure public opinion? How do they use/respond to the results?
- Is public opinion on foreign policy more or less strongly felt than on domestic policy?
- Does the UK government pay as much attention to public opinion on foreign policy issues as domestic issues? If not, why not?
- More generally, should governments pursue foreign policies that people want or those which are in their and the country's best interests? If these two are at odds, how can and do governments respond and how successful are they in doing so?

## RECENT EVENTS (cont.)

### Spotlight on Armenia: London

**Date:** Tuesday 14 June, 6.00-7.45pm

**Venue:** Thatcher Room, Portcullis House



#### Speakers:

- **Lord Prescott**, Former Deputy Prime Minister and Co-Rapporteur for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) Monitoring Committee for Armenia
  - **Anna Walker**, Senior Analyst—Central Asia and South Caucasus, Control Risks
  - **Dr Elisabeth Robson**, EastWest Insight and former head of the BBC Russia and Caucasus & Central Asia Services
  - **Dr Armine Ishkanian**, Programme Director NGOs and Development, LSE
- Chair:** Adam Hug, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Centre

As part of the FPC's global series of events following the launch of the recent FPC publication, 'Spotlight on Armenia' publication, we hosted a launch event in London. The event debated the major challenges Armenia faces regarding democratic development, rule of law, media freedom, corruption and other human rights issues, while examining the impact of its international relationships on domestic politics.

### Spotlight on Armenia: Washington D.C.

**In partnership with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**



**Date:** Thursday 2 June, 12.15-2.00pm

**Venue:** Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, D.C.

#### Speakers:

- **Dawn Schock**, Armenia Country Director, American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative
- **Laura Jewett**, Director, Regional Director- Eurasia, National Democratic Institute
- **Adam Hug**, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Centre

**Discussant:** Ambassador John Evans, US Ambassador to Armenia 2004-06

**Chair:** Tom De Waal, Senior Associate, Russia and Eurasia Program, Carnegie Endowment

As part of the FPC's global series of events following the launch of the recent FPC publication, 'Spotlight on Armenia,' we were delighted to partner with the Carnegie Endowment to hold a seminar in Washington D.C. The event will debate the major challenges Armenia faces regarding democratic development, rule of law, media freedom, corruption and other human rights issues, while examining the impact of its international relationships on domestic politics.

#### To hear the recording of the event please click here:

<http://dl2.newmediamill.net/media/carnegie/2011-06-02-Armenia.mp3>

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Director  
Josephine Osikena

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



## RECENT EVENTS (cont.)



### Spotlight on Armenia: The Hague

In partnership with the Netherlands Helsinki Committee

**Date:** Monday 30 May, 5.30-7.30pm

**Venue:** Nieuwspoord, Lange Poten 10, 2511 CL The Hague, Netherlands



#### Speakers:

- **H.E. Dzyunik Aghajanian**, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia, Netherlands
- **Guido de Graaf Bierbrauwer**, Senior Programme Officer Caucasus, IKV Pax Christi
- **Adam Hug**, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Centre

**Chair:** **Harry Hummel**, Director, Netherlands Helsinki Committee

As part of the FPC's global series of events following the launch of the recent FPC publication, 'Spotlight on Armenia,' we were delighted to be able to partner with the Netherlands Helsinki Committee to hold a seminar in the Hague. The event debated the major challenges Armenia faces regarding democratic development, rule of law, media freedom, corruption and other human rights issues, while examining the impact of its international relationships on domestic politics.



## 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](mailto:anna.owen@fpc.org.uk)**



#### **Josephine Osikena, Director**

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



#### **Adam Hug, Policy Director**

Middle East, including Iran  
Russia, the Caucasus and Central Asia, including energy security issues  
The EU and the Transatlantic Relationship



#### **Anna Owen, Events and Projects Director**

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

**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](mailto:anna.owen@fpc.org.uk)**

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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 the 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, Josephine Osikena, on: [josephine.osikena@fpc.org.uk](mailto:josephine.osikena@fpc.org.uk)