



Season's greetings from the Foreign Policy Centre

Upcoming FPC events

All FPC events are free and open to all. If you would like to attend, please email events@fpc.org.uk stating the name of the event(s).

[Renegotiation, Reform and Referendum: Does Britain have an EU future? London Conference](#)

Date: Tuesday 11th February 2014

Time: 3.30pm-7.00pm (followed by drinks)

Venue: Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P 3EU

Speakers:

- Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke QC MP, Minister without Portfolio, Cabinet Office
- Gareth Thomas MP, Shadow Europe Minister
- Andrea Leadsom MP, Conservative Member of Parliament for South Northamptonshire and Founder of the Fresh Start Project
- Prof Tim Congdon, UKIP Economics Spokesman
- Sir Stuart Etherington, Chief Executive, NCVO
- Owen Tudor, Head of European Union and International Relations, TUC
- Andy Bagnall, Project Leader – The UK's Global Role, CBI
- Jackie Minor, Head of Representation, European Commission Representation in the United Kingdom
- John Peet, Europe Editor, The Economist
- Further panellists to be confirmed

This upcoming London Conference, in partnership with the European Commission Representation in the UK, aims to examine the key details around the proposed renegotiation of competences, the options for reform of how the European Union operates and the planned 2017 EU membership referendum. The conference will assess the objectives of different political and societal stakeholders as well as explore the key drivers of public sentiment. It will examine what reforms the EU is being asked to undertake by key business, NGO and union stakeholders on a regular basis through the development of ordinary EU legislation and where extra political impetus outside business as usual would be required to achieve key objectives. The conference would explore the areas of EU competence that different stakeholders would like to see addressed as part of any UK renegotiation initiative. It will also review how such renegotiation proposals and the wider UK debate is regarded in other member states and how EU partners plan to respond to British requests.

[Renegotiation, Reform and Referendum: Does Britain have an EU future? Edinburgh Seminar](#)

Date: Thursday 20th February, 2014

Time: 6pm-7.30pm

Venue: Canongate Suite, Radisson Blu Hotel, Royal Mile, 80 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1TH

Speakers:

- Catherine Stihler MEP, Labour
- Alyn Smith MEP, SNP
- Struan Stephenson MEP, Conservative
- Professor James Mitchell, Professor of Public Policy, University of Edinburgh

The Foreign Policy Centre



Ideas for a fairer world

- Christine Jardine, Liberal Democrat MEP Candidate and Journalist
- Chair: Hugh Murdoch, President, Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA)

[Renegotiation, Reform and Referendum: Does Britain have an EU future? Leeds Seminar](#)

Date: Thursday 6th March, 2014

Time: 6pm-7.30pm

Venue: Conference Auditorium 2, University of Leeds

Speakers:

- Philip Davies MP, Conservative Member of Parliament for Shipley
- Rebecca Taylor MEP, Liberal Democrats
- Dr Richard Corbett, Member of the Cabinet of President Van Rompuy and Labour MEP Candidate
- Dr Richard Hayton, Lecturer in Politics, University of Leeds

Further panellists to be confirmed shortly.

[The crisis in Syria and public opinion: views from the UK, US and France](#)

Date: Tuesday 11 March 2013

Time: 6.00-7.30pm

Venue: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Room (off Westminster Hall), Houses of Parliament, London SW1A 0AA

Speakers:

- Ian Lucas MP, Shadow Middle East Minister
- Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP, Former Middle East Minister
- Prof. Thomas Scotto, Professor of Government, University of Essex
- Dr. Jason Reifler, Senior Lecturer, University of Exeter
- Joe Twyman, Director of Political and Social Research, YouGov

Chair: Roula Khalaf, Middle East Editor, Financial Times

Foreign Policy Centre is delighted to host upcoming panel, with the kind support of the University of Essex, which will examine some of the key findings of new research being conducted by the Universities of Essex, Exeter, and Texas-Dallas, with assistance of YouGov and a grant from the ESRC. The event will look to enhance public understanding of the nature and consequences of the reaction of citizens in three mature democracies (UK, US, and France) to the dynamic and volatile military and humanitarian situation in Syria. It will examine the size and effectiveness of aid contributions to the region against the backdrop of rising aid scepticism linked to the downturn.

The event will examine the findings of research surveys that explore the views of the UK, US and French publics as to:

- whether people are capable of forming coherent and durable foreign policy judgments;
- how people weigh costs and benefits of alternative courses of action that leaders propose to respond to the Syrian crisis;
- what extent are public reactions to the Syrian crisis affected by attitudes about the political elite(s) proposing various responses;
- what are citizens' beliefs about the morality of war and the necessity of humanitarian relief in their reactions to the Syrian crisis;
- levels of public engagement with their country's responses to the crisis;
- how core values and personality characteristics shape attitudes toward the Syrian crisis;



- national and socio-demographic variation in responses to the crisis.

Recent FPC Articles and Briefings

- [China sticks to 'red line' in global climate talks while pursuing green transition at home](#) by Stephen Minas
- [Kant versus Machiavelli in Russia's Near Abroad](#) by Dr Kevork Oskanian
- [FPC Briefing: Sri Lanka's \(geo\)political quandary – Government, NPC and international community](#) by Gilberto Algar-Faria
- [FPC Briefing: The Resignation of Bidzina Ivanishvili and the Future of Georgian Politics](#) by Alexander Jackson
- [Ethnic Tension Simmers in the Czech Republic](#) by Tanweer Ali
- [Fundamental freedoms under attack in the run-up to Azerbaijan's presidential election](#) by Rebecca Vincent
- [Is Armenia Turning East?](#) by Mikayel Zolyan
- [FPC Briefing: Understanding the conditions necessary for fruitful negotiations in Afghanistan](#) by Gilberto Algar-Faria
- [Putin's Caucasus Surprise: A Portent of Worse to Come?](#) by Dr Kevork Oskanian
- [FPC Briefing: What differences will the Fourth Package of Reforms make for Turkey in international judicial co-operation](#) by Andrew Southam