



KEELE WORLD AFFAIRS

The UK's Leading Forum for International Politics and Global Issues
Founded 1980

Speakers for the 2024-25 Season

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Meetings are on Thursday evenings in the Westminster Theatre.
Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Please observe any health protocols in place when attending.
Videos of most meetings appear later in our [Video Archive](#) when available and subject to speaker consent.

Autumn Term

<p>"The State of British Politics?"</p> <p>Philip Collins Journalist, editor, author, political advisor</p> <p>03 October 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"And Then What? Inside Stories of 21st Century Diplomacy"</p> <p>Baroness Catherine Ashton GCMG Former EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, House of Lords</p> <p>10 October 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"The Hand that Grips AI"</p> <p>Professor Jonnie Penn Associate Teaching Professor of AI Ethics and Society, Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge</p> <p>17 October 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>
<p>"Too Hot to Handle?: The Democratic Challenge of Climate Change"</p> <p>Professor Rebecca Willis Professor in Energy and Climate Governance, Lancaster University</p> <p>24 October 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"World Elections in 2024: Voting, Rigging, the Struggle for Democracy"</p> <p>Professor Nic Cheeseman Professor of Democracy and International Development, University of Birmingham</p> <p>31 October 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"The Curse of Latin America: Seeking a Global Drugs Policy"</p> <p>Professor Julia Buxton British Academy Global Professor, Criminology, University of Manchester</p> <p>07 November 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>
<p>"The Changing Geopolitics of the Middle East"</p> <p>Sir John Jenkins KCMG LVO Former UK Ambassador to Burma, Syria, Iraq, Libya, and Saudi Arabia</p> <p>14 November 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"An African History of Africa"</p> <p>Zeinab Badawi President, SOAS, University of London</p> <p>21 November 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"What Future for Russia?"</p> <p>Sir Roderic Lyne KBE CMG Former UK Ambassador to Russia</p> <p>28 November 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>
	<p>"Japan's Role in the Indo-Pacific"</p> <p>Paul Madden CMG Former British Ambassador to Japan, Australia and Singapore</p> <p>05 December 2024</p> <p>Bio</p>	

Spring Term

<p>"India and the Politics of the Indian Ocean"</p> <p>Professor Kate Sullivan de Estrada Associate Professor in the International Relations of South Asia, University of Oxford</p> <p>16 January 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"National Security: Living in an Age of Uncertainty"</p> <p>Sir John Sawers GCMG Former Chief of MI6 and Ambassador Visiting Professor, King's College London</p> <p>23 January 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"Beyond Britannia: Reshaping UK Foreign Policy"</p> <p>Lord Simon McDonald former Head of the Diplomatic Service, Master, Christ's College Cambridge</p> <p>30 January 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>
<p>"Technological answers and political barriers in a zero-carbon world"</p> <p>Lord Adair Turner Chair, Energy Transitions Commission.</p> <p>06 February 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"Inside the CCP: Who Influences President Xi?"</p> <p>Professor Kerry Brown Director, Lau China Institute, King's College London</p> <p>13 February 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"A United Ireland: Problem or Possibility?"</p> <p>Fintan O'Toole Columnist and writer, The Irish Times</p> <p>20 February 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>
<p>"Corruption: Counting the Cost"</p> <p>Daniel Bruce Chief Executive, Transparency International UK</p> <p>27 February 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"What Strategy for NATO in the 2020's?"</p> <p>Lord George Robertson KT GCMG former Secretary-General NATO</p> <p>06 March 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	<p>"The Politics of Time"</p> <p>Professor Guy Standing Professorial Research Associate at SOAS University of London</p> <p>13 March 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>
	<p>"War and the Modern World"</p> <p>Professor Margaret MacMillan OM CH Professor of History, University of Toronto, Emeritus Professor of International History, Oxford</p> <p>20 March 2025</p> <p>Bio</p>	