The Future of Diplomacy

23rd June 2015

at the British Academy

A SEMINAR ARRANGED BY
AXEL AND MARGARET AX:SON JOHNSON FOUNDATION
THE FUTURE OF DIPLOMACY
How can diplomacy respond to rising challenges?

The challenges to diplomacy today are unprecedented. The proliferation of states which have tripled in number since 1945, the scaling back of the US’ global reach, the UN’s limited success at consensus building and increasingly demanding publics are interconnected. The digital revolution in its many guises offers both great opportunities and obstacles to diplomatic initiatives. The changing shape of the EU alters the way diplomacy is conducted.

Never has diplomacy been more important and yet more challenging. What are the ways in which diplomatic missions could adapt? Should we be talking about borders in modern diplomacy? Is diplomacy increasingly a supra-national endeavour? Should diplomacy be less about the promotion of national interests and more about other internationally accepted goals such as helping weak states to develop stronger institutions? How can this be achieved when reform works best at the national level, and least well at the international level? How can international bodies such as the UN be made less bureaucratic and more adaptable to a changing world?
The Ax:son Johnson London Seminar Series

Tuesday 23rd June 2015

5.15 pm REGISTRATION & DRINKS

5.30 pm Opening

The Future of Diplomacy

Robert Cooper  The Most Important Job in the World
Bridget Kendall  The role of nation states in the future of diplomacy
Frank Belfrage  Current Trends in Diplomacy: A Swedish view
Mary Kaldor  From International Relations to Global Politics: The Changing Role of diplomacy
Gerard Russell  Interests or Institutions

6.30 Discussion

7.30 pm DRINKS & DINNER
PARTICIPANTS

Robert Cooper  Former Diplomat, Author of *The Breaking of Nations*
Bridget Kendall  Diplomatic Correspondent for the BBC
Mary Kaldor  Professor of Global Governance, LSE
Frank Belfrage  Former Deputy Foreign Minister, Sweden
Gerard Russell  Sr Fellow, New America Foundation’s International Security programme
David Blair  Foreign Affairs Editor, *The Telegraph*
Michele Bosc  NLP Practitioner
Joel Cohen  Battle of Ideas
Nathaniel Copsey  Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Robert Cottrell  *The Browser*
Richard Crowder  Foreign & Commonwealth Office & Author of *Aftermath*
Tony Curzon Price  Competition and Markets Authority
Caroline Dalmeny  Associate Fellow, RUSI
Christophe Durrenberger  UBS
Jonathan Fenby  Trusted Sources
Jonathan Foreman  Journalist
Martyn Frampton  Senior Lecturer, Modern History, Queen Mary, University of London
Luke Gibbon  Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Lord Gladwyn  Writer
Charles Grant  Director of the Centre for European Reform
Mattias Hesslerus  Ax:son Johnson Foundation
Julia Himmrich  LSE
Clare Hornsby  Benedictus
Eva-Lisa Jaanus  Economic and Cultural Affairs, Estonian Embassy
Barbara Jefferis  Lecturer in Epidemiology, UCL
Christopher Joyce  Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Mark Leonard  European Council for Foreign Relations
Sian Macleod  Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Katrine Marçal  Columnist at *Aftonbladet*, Author of *Who Cooked Adam Smith’s Dinner?*
Noonie Minogue  Writer and teacher
Selina O’Grady  Author of *And Man Created God...*
John Peet  Europe Editor, *The Economist*
Vesna Popovski  LSE
Jason Rheinberg  Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Gabrielle Rifkind  Director of Middle East Programme, Oxford Research Group
Adam Roberts  Emeritus Professor of IR, Oxford, former President British Academy
Bernadette Roegner  HM Treasury
Ulf Samuelsson  Swedish Embassy
Pavel Seifter  LSE
Solveiga Silkalna  Deputy Head of Mission, Latvian Embassy
Robert Singh  Professor of Politics, Birkbeck College, London
Cornelia Sorabji  Head of Research Analysts, FCO
Matthew Slater  Barrister
Vessela Tcherneva  European Council for Foreign Relations
Bella Thomas  Convenor of the Ax:son Johnson London Seminars
Georgios Varouxakis  Professor of History, Queen Mary University of London
George Walden  Russian and Chinese specialist at FCO, chair of Russian Booker
Sarah Walden  Art historian
Fredrik Wesslau  European Council for Foreign Relations
Peter Wilson  Associate Professor of International Relations, LSE
Lord Wright of Richmond  Former Head of HM Diplomatic Service
Alexander Woolfson  Defence Analyst
Cherry Yu  LSE