

Cityforum Intelligent Defence and Smart Power 2020 – series of virtual events

A programme of podcasts, webclaves and webinars arranged by Cityforum with guidance from the Development, Concepts and Doctrine Centre (DCDC) of MOD

Global Britain – Polarisation, Grey Zone and Hybrid Conflict

- What reappraisal of the world does Covid19 necessitate?
- What are the particular threats to and opportunities for Global Britain?
- What can defence and its security partners contribute to safety and stability in a fractured world, at a fractious time?

Working Website Agenda

Principal Sponsor

BAE SYSTEMS

Webinar Partner



Webclave One Co-Sponsor



The UK is leaving its European moorings and seeking a new and different world position at a time of economic and political disruption exacerbated by Covid-19. Globalisation is in retreat and old enmities are re-asserting themselves as states compete for power, resources and influence. Instances of hybrid conflict are numerous and increasing, combining irregular and proxy warfare with cyber operations. National and international structures and institutions are under attack from information operations intended to influence, interfere with, subvert and undermine trust and good order. The political, economic and social challenges to the UK demand ambition, capability, judgement and realism. The UK has deployable strengths but its reputation is not at its highest. The geopolitical effects of Covid-19 are for the most part still unclear and public opinion is bound to have been affected by the pandemic. Defence, security and other arms of the state face unexpected dilemmas in a critical period when key decisions will have to be taken. Themes have been discussed with senior officers and other officials to give this project as much utility as possible in light of the Reviews that are to be held.

The programme below is a draft agenda for discussion with invited contributors and our industry sponsors. Our intention to ensure each 'event' is of benefit to all involved. Any comments / suggestions would be welcome.

10 July 2020 - COMPLETED

Opening Webinar: **Building a 'Global Britain' – ways, means and ends**

A top level discussion bringing together a Minister with responsibilities in two departments of state, the Sheriff of the City of London and a University Chancellor, broadcaster, and former defence correspondent.

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt *Minister for Investment*, Department for International Trade & Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Professor Michael Mainelli *Sheriff of the City of London and Executive Chairman Z/Yen Group Limited*

Ms Kate Adie DL *Defence Journalist*, presenter 'From Our Own Correspondent' BBC, Chancellor Bournemouth University

Introduction by Mr Marc Lee, *Chairman Cityforum*

27 July 2020 - COMPLETED

Webinar Two: **What can actually be made of the Global Britain concept?**

A discussion following the opening webinar on realising the potential for Global Britain

Mrs Madeleine Moon *Associate Cityforum, former Chair NATO Parliamentary Assembly*

Mr Francis Tusa *Journalist Defence Analysis*

Discussion to be chaired by Professor Michael Mainelli *Sheriff of the City of London and Executive Chairman Z/Yen Group Limited* and an introduction to the webinar by Air Marshal Edward Stringer *Director General Joint Force Development and Defence Academy*

24 July - COMPLETED

Podcast One: Do we understand our principal opponents?

Discussion opened by **Dr Anthony Cordesman** *Chair in Strategy* CSIS Washington DC and author of recent studies on US Competition with China and Russia

Ms Isabel Hilton *CEO* The China Dialogue Trust (*China*)

Mr David Shimer *Author* 'Rigged: America, Russia and 100 Years of Covert Electoral Interference', *Marshall Scholar* Oxford University

Discussion to be chaired by **Rt Hon Baroness Pauline Neville-Jones** *Former Security Minister*

15 October 2020 - COMPLETED

Webclave One: Intelligence, skills and capability to understand and counter threats
After defining the problems, how should we set ourselves up to act?

On what do we need to focus?

Professor Sir David Omand *former UK Security and Intelligence Coordinator and former Director* GCHQ

Regaining the strength to master our opponents – imaginative thinking

Mr Chris Donnelly *Co-founder* Institute for Statecraft

Honing our skills and capabilities

Air Marshal Edward Stringer *Director General* Joint Force Development and Defence Academy

Best use of IT resources to update our capability

Mr Al Potter *VP & MD for National Security & Defence Division* Leidos UK

Re-evaluating threats and consequences – a Swedish view

Ms Malin Severin *Analyst Futures and Strategic Analysis Programme* Swedish DCDC (seconded by the Swedish Defence Staff) and contributor to the *US DOD White Paper 'Russian Strategic Intentions' 2019*

Industry and the next steps

Mr Paul Spedding *Head of Pre-Sales Defence* BAE Systems

Webclave to be chaired by **Professor Sir David Omand**

22 October 2020 - COMPLETED

**Webclave Two: Preparing ourselves against ambitious opponents
What do we need to do to have effect?**

Resilience and response to threats from cyberspace

Mr Rob Joyce *Special US Liaison Officer* US Embassy, London

Protecting our critical interests in space

Air Commodore Phil Lester *Associate* Cityforum and formerly of DCDC

An industry assessment

Ms Miriam Howe *Cyber Security Consultant* BAE Systems

Building credible ability to intervene in the Grey Zone and elsewhere in the light of Covid

Professor Paul Cornish *Chief Strategist* Cityforum and **The Rev Dr Nigel Biggar** *Regius Professor*, University of Oxford (authors of the DCDC study published by Cityforum)

Webclave to be chaired by **Professor Paul Cornish**

28th October 2020 - COMPLETED

Podcast Two: Information, disinformation and distortion

Can we limit disinformation and distortion?

Mr Carl Miller *DEMOS* and *Author of 'The Death of the Gods: The New Global Power Grab'*

Threats to our democracies from state opponents

Mr Bret Schafer *Media and Digital Disinformation Fellow*, Alliance for Securing Democracy, German Marshall Fund

Pandemics, confidence and trust

Ms Angela Saini *Science writer* who has been awarded LA Times and Foyles book prizes

Discussion moderated by **Mr Stephen Hawker** *Senior Associate* Cityforum, *Former Deputy Director General* MI5

Tuesday 1 December 13:00-14:00

Webinar Three: Strategy for a world of unpredictability and disorder

Held in association with Z/Yen and chaired by **Professor Michael Mainelli** *Sheriff of the City of London and Executive Chairman* Z/Yen Group Limited

Confirmed

What can we expect from the Biden presidency?

Can we define the shape of the Global Britain concept?

What is the future for alliances?

Can we rebuild values, integrity of information, and trust?

Discussants:

Dr Anthony Cordesman *Chair in Strategy* CSIS Washington DC and author of its Commentary 'Setting New US Strategic Priorities for a Post-Trump World'

Confirmed

Ms Madeleine Moon *Associate* Cityforum, *former Chair* NATO Parliamentary Assembly and member of Defence Committee UK

Confirmed

Mr Carl Miller *DEMOS* and *Author of 'The Death of the Gods: The New Global Power Grab'*

Confirmed

Ms Catarina Thomson *Senior Lecturer in Security and Strategic Studies* Exeter University

Confirmed

Final Webinar or
Webclave

Leadership – command in extraordinary times

Featuring General Sir Patrick Sanders *Commander Strategic Command*
In conversation with Professor Paul Cornish *Chief Strategist Cityforum*

A 45-minute conversation followed by a 50-minute discussion with invited attendees and panel contributors to the 2020 Cityforum Intelligent Defence and Smart Power work on **Reimagining British Defence 2020-2030** and **Global Britain – Polarisation, Grey Zone and Hybrid Conflict**

This project will include webinars, podcasts (30-50 minutes each) and two private, interactive webclave discussions. The podcasts will be recorded, edited and then distributed across our networks. The webclaves will follow the format of our private conclave discussions, with short contributions from several panellists followed by comments from a chair who will proceed to moderate an extended interactive discussion with a select group of decision makers and influencers. Each will take place strictly under the Chatham House Rule and last 90 minutes, including a 15 minute break. An unattributed summary note will be produced for circulation to participants and a wider distribution list to be discussed and agreed. In the late Autumn, the Global Britain series will conclude either with a super conclave or a major podcast. The format to be discussed with panellists and potential sponsors.