



Provisional programme

The future of borders: geopolitical trends and challenges to 2030

Wednesday 24 – Friday 26 February 2016 | WP1458

“...we cannot choose between conventional defences against state-based threats and the need to counter threats that do not recognise national borders. Today we face both and we must respond to both.”

Prime Minister David Cameron, UK National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review 2015

Building on the outcomes of the Strategic Defence Spending Review (SDSR) and on previous Wilton Park ‘futures’ discussions, the 9th annual Wilton Park meeting in the International Futures series will examine how a wide range of trends, challenges and opportunities will evolve in relation to international borders over the next 15 years.

This high level meeting will convene policy planners and opinion formers, horizon scanners/futurists and academics alongside industry, think tanks and other experts from a range of countries. Through a mixture of plenary and breakout sessions, the roundtable will inform policy planning, discuss implications of current trends and provide context for planning and decision making.

In particular it will:

Assist senior level officials to consider international ‘long range’ perspectives.

Develop and deepen understanding of cross-cutting themes and trends, impacting international borders.

Provide insights into how current trends and challenges might evolve in different regions and countries of key interest to the UK, including but not limited to Europe and MENA.

Examine how outcomes of the SDSR can be implemented to address these challenges.

Support and cultivate relationships with international partners, strengthening and consolidating the emerging networks of ‘futurists’.

Key themes:

In an increasingly volatile world, the evolution of traditional borders spurs economic growth

In association with:



Ministry
of Defence

and 'people to people' links, while also challenging the sovereignty of states, escalating threats, and sometimes undermining stability. The meeting will explore the future of borders from a range of perspectives, including the impact of non-state actors, globalisation, inter-state competition and technological advancements. What form will borders take in the future? Who will shape those changes? What are the drivers, challenges and opportunities? How could international actors respond? What international frameworks will the world need?

In association with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Ministry of Defence

Wednesday 24 February

1500 Participants arrive followed by tea/coffee

1600 **Welcome and introduction**

Julia Purcell

Programme Director, Wilton Park, Steyning

Peter Hill

Director Strategy, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

1615-1730 **1. The future of borders: how we got here and where might we be heading?**

Looking ahead to 2030, this session will introduce the key themes of the meeting, taking an historical perspective to address the following questions:

- What are the trends, drivers and actors which made today's borders?
- What trends, drivers and actors are likely to be most influential in the evolution of borders to 2030?
- How might the opposing tendencies to weaken and strengthen borders - to integration and fragmentation - play out over the next 15 years?

Robert Cooper

Visiting Professor, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)

Richard Schofield

Senior Lecturer in Boundary Studies, King's College London

1730-1800 Tea/coffee

1800-1900 **2. Geopolitics and borders**

Looking to 2030, where are there likely to be the greatest pressures on the shape and function of borders due to:

- Inter-state competition
- Intra-state conflict and secession

Which actors are likely to be involved? How might these pressures strengthen, weaken or change borders?

Chair:

David McKean

Director of Policy Planning, US Department of State, Washington DC

Philip Bobbitt

Herbert Wechsler Professor of Federal Jurisprudence, Columbia Law School, New York

Bruno Tertrais

Senior Research Fellow, Foundation for Strategic Research (FRS), Paris

1900-1930

Briefing session for Expert Leads and Facilitators in **Library**

1900

Reception followed by Dinner

Thursday 25 February

0800-0845

Breakfast

0915-1045

3. Borders and people

Looking to 2030, how might the movement of people change the way borders work? In particular, what are the major mega-trends and potential effects of:

- Demographic pressures
- Economic migration
- Refugee flows
- Transnational high skilled/high value labour and education markets

How might these pressures strengthen, weaken or change borders?

Chair:

Sam Daws

Director, Project on UN Governance and Reform, Centre for International Studies, University of Oxford

Michael Collyer

Reader in Geography, University of Sussex, Brighton

Samina Ahmed

South Asia Project Director and Senior Asia Adviser, International Crisis Group, Islamabad

1045-1130

Photograph and tea/coffee

1130-1300

4. Borders and transnational threats

Looking to 2030, what major transnational threats might emerge as borders evolve? In particular, what consequences are likely to emerge in the areas of:

- Transnational organised crime and trafficking
- Terrorism and violent extremism
- Cyber and its effects on these threats

Misha Glenny

Author and Broadcaster, London

Tuesday Reitano

Deputy Director, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, Geneva

Shiraz Maher

Senior Research Fellow, King's College London

1300-1430

Lunch

1500-1630

5. Regional break out groups

4 parallel groups on each of four key regions – (MENA, FSU, ECS/SCS, EU) to:

- explore alternative scenarios
- refine and develop
- assess potential ranking with regard to likelihood.

Expert leads for discussion groups to include:

Malcolm Chalmers

Deputy Director-General, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), London

Eran Etzion

Founder and Chief Executive, Israel Center for Strategic Futures (ICSF)

Michael Clarke

Former Director, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), London

Roderick Parkes

Senior Analyst, European Union for Security Studies (EUISS), Brussels

Facilitators to include:

Elizabeth Daniel

Policy Planner, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Suzanne Fry

Director, Strategic Futures Group, Office of the Director for National Intelligence, Washington DC

Lauren Lennon

National Intelligence Council (NIC), Washington DC

Sam Selvadurai

Strategy Adviser, Policy Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

1630-1700

Tea/coffee

1700-1830

6. Borders and the global economy

Looking to 2030, how might the forces of economic globalisation change the way borders work? In particular, what might be the effects of:

- International trade and investment, supply chains and financial flows, transnational business
- Continued evolution of and advances in information communication and other technologies
- State finances and tax revenues

Cho Khong

Chief Political Analyst, Shell International, London

Wendy Miles

Global Head of Arbitration, Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, London

Philippa Malmgren

President, Principalis Asset Management, London

1830

Breakout group debrief for Expert Leads and Facilitators in **Library**

1830

Bar open

1945

Conference dinner hosted by
Richard Burge
Chief Executive

Friday 26 February

0800-0845

Breakfast and checkout

0915-1045

7. So who needs to do what: responses from states?

4 parallel break outs, responding to regional scenarios:

- Who needs to do what? Are legal frameworks adequate? Where and how to focus resources?
- What advice to give to governments in general?
- What advice to give to governments in particular?

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1245

8. Conclusions: looking towards 2030 followed by eQuestionnaire

Including reflections from break out groups

Chaired by:

Will Jessett

Director, Strategic Planning, Ministry of Defence, London

Tim Dowse

Intelligence Adviser, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

1300

Lunch

1400

Participants depart

This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.

This conference is open to those with expertise to share or an interest in the theme; our aim is to have a broad spread of nationalities and institutions represented. The full cost of participation is £1460. This covers 2 nights' accommodation, all meals during the conference and attendance at all sessions. Special rates may be available for those from non-OECD countries and also academics and NGO representatives.

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