



Programme

British German Forum 2018

The future of power, influence and networks

Sunday 8 – Thursday 12 July 2018 | WP1617

The ongoing Brexit negotiations will have a significant impact on the political, social and economic landscapes of the UK, Germany and Europe at large. The focus on Brexit however, can obscure a set of transformational challenges with equally far reaching consequences for both countries. The nature of power is changing in the information age with state and non-state actors struggling to adapt to the momentum of technological progress. Governance structures; regional, national, and subnational, are being tested. The distance between the citizen and state is manifesting itself in new and unpredictable ways. Serious thought, today, needs to be put into how societies and citizens thrive amidst perpetual waves of technological innovation.

This year's Forum will provide a space for participants to address the future of power, influence and networks, and explore three critical issues:

- Where is power and influence shifting in society, governance and business?
- What must societies in the UK and Germany do to keep pace with technological change and disruption?
- How can globalisation be made to work for all? How might industrial strategies in the UK and Germany be able to counter inequality and challenges facing them?

The British German Forum was established by Helmut Kohl and Margaret Thatcher in 1985 and has been an annual event ever since. 2018 marks 33 years since the first Forum took place. The Forum provides a dynamic space in which participants can network and share ideas among their peers and gain insight and inspiration from experienced professionals. Through dialogue, it aims to facilitate both increased shared understanding and the building of strong relationships between influential young Britons and Germans.

In association with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the British Embassy in Berlin and with support from the Sir Heinz Koeppler Trust and Bridge International Dialogue.

With support from:



Sunday 8 July

1600 Participants arrive - tea/coffee available

1630-1700 **Welcome and introduction**

Thomas Hoare

Assistant Programme Director, Wilton Park

1700-1745 **1. The future of power, influence and networks: what are the forces shaping how we live?**

What is the nature of power in the information age? Who holds it and is this changing? How can society and governance keep pace with the disruptive influence of technology? Which factors will have an equally influential role in shaping our lives in the near future? What of questions of identity, climate and demography?

Robbie Bulloch

Deputy Head of Mission, British Embassy, Berlin

1745-1815 Paired walk

1830 Optional evensong in St Mary's Church, Wiston featuring the Choir of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

1915 Reception followed by dinner

Monday 9 July

0800-0845 Breakfast

0900-1030 **2. Distributed power: how has a networked world changed politics and engagement?**

How has increased connectivity affected politics and engagement in the UK and Germany? How do and should citizens interact with the political process? Can our current political system meet the challenges brought by a networked world? Are new spaces for political interaction opening?

Carl Miller

Research Director, Centre for the Analysis of Social Media (CASM), Demos, London

Alexander Kulitz

Member of German Federal Parliament, Berlin

Nina Schick

Director of Data and Polling, Rasmussen Global, Copenhagen

1030-1115 Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1115-1245 **3. The fourth industrial revolution and society: a source for optimism?**

What does a successful approach to business look like in the fourth industrial revolution? How does this differ for SMEs and large corporates? What does the fourth industrial revolution look like to consumers, regulators and businesses? What are the key resources needed to drive growth today? What relationship with the private sector is needed to ensure governance is agile?

Alan Mak

Member of Parliament for Havant, House of Commons, London

Michael Mainelli

Executive Chairman, Z/Yen Group, London

Owen Tudor

Head, European Union and International Relations, Trades Union Congress, London

1245-1345

Lunch

1245-1300

Briefing for world café facilitators in the Library

1445-1615

4. The future of work: digitisation and its discontents

How do we ensure people are provided with the agile skills to adapt to the changes the world of work will undergo over the next decade? How to maintain dignity of the citizen if leisure time increases? Should we re-evaluate how we look at the jobs market?

Seamus Nevin

Head of Policy Research, Institute of Directors, London

Marian Cramers

Responsible Leader, BMW Foundation, Schaarbeek

Tim Pearse

Principal Adviser, Head of Local Government, Behavioural Insights Team, London

1615-1645

Tea/coffee

1645-1800

5. World café: thriving in the digital era

How do the UK and Germany respond to the challenges of technological disruption, innovation and globalisation? Where can bilateral links between the two help here?

Areas to be discussed will include:

- Digital and social media
- Work and skills
- Government and governance
- Private sector and industry

1800-1900

6. How can the UK and Germany thrive in a digital age?

Feedback from the world café and plenary discussion.

1900

Drinks followed by Forum dinner

1900

Briefing for Working group facilitators in the Library

Tuesday 10 July in London

0800-0845

Breakfast

0915

Depart by coach from Wiston House to London

1130-1315

7. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office: making globalisation work for all

Tea/coffee

Simon McDonald

Permanent Under Secretary, Head of Diplomatic Service, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

Panel Discussion

1315-1445	Lunch and tour of the FCO
1515-1700	<p>8. Institute of Directors: Brexit and trade</p> <p>Refreshments and panel discussion</p> <p>Chair: Nina Schick Director of Data and Polling, Rasmussen Global, Copenhagen</p> <p>Allie Renison Head, Europe and Trade Policy, Institute of Directors, London</p> <p>Henry Newman Director, Open Europe, London</p> <p>Ulrich Hoppe Director General, German-British Chamber of Industry and Commerce, London</p>
1730-1900	<p>9. Drinks reception at Millbank House</p> <p>Drinks reception at Millbank House, hosted by Julie Smith, House of Lords, London</p>
1900	Depart by coach for Wiston House
2100	Supper

Wednesday 11 July

0800-0845	Breakfast
0900-0915	<p>10. Reflections from discussions in London</p> <p>Paired conversations.</p>
0915-1030	<p>11. Industrial strategy: building inclusive forward-thinking growth</p> <p>How well are the UK and Germany's industrial strategies framed to meet the challenges of the fourth industrial revolution? What does 'industrial strategy' mean as the service economy accounts for larger proportions of GDP? Do we think about growth in the most helpful way?</p> <p>Alex Williams Deputy Director of Industrial Strategy, Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, London</p> <p>Alvin Carpio Founder and Chief Executive, The Fourth Group, London</p>
1030-1100	Tea/coffee
1100-1215	<p>12. Working groups: constructing an economy for all</p> <p>Break into small groups to discuss the key issues.</p>
1215-1315	Lunch
1315-1415	Football match, croquet and tennis (optional)
1430-1600	<p>13. The global context for Britain and Germany: fragmentation and disorder, or connectedness and harmony?</p> <p>What does the changing nature of power, influence and networks mean for the UK and Germany? Has multilateral action been eroded or empowered? How should the UK and</p>

Germany respond to the new shape of international affairs?

Stephen Wall

Former UK Permanent Representative to the European Union; Official Government Historian, Cabinet Office, London

Almut Möller

Senior Policy Fellow and Head, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR) Berlin

Daniel Höltgen

Director of Communications; Spokesperson for the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General, Council of Europe, Strasbourg

1600-1615

Tea/coffee

1615-1715

14. Working groups: how should we respond?

Break into small groups to discuss the key issues.

1715-1730

Tea/coffee

1730-1830

15. Conclusions

Feedback from working groups and time to complete the evaluation survey

1830

Bar open

1930

Barbecue. Viewing of World Cup semi-final, croquet (optional)

Thursday 12 July

0800-0900

Breakfast

0915

Participants depart