
The Polish-British Belvedere Forum 2020

Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 March 2020 - Chatham House, London



Draft @ 4 February (*) denotes confirmed

TUESDAY 3 MARCH

1315 Registration and refreshments

WELCOME

1400 – 1405

Dr Robin Niblett, Director, Chatham House (*)

Dr Sławomir Dębski, Director, PISM (*)

OPENING REMARKS

1400 – 1405

Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Co-chair of the Polish-British Belvedere Forum joint Steering Committee (*)

Sir Malcolm Rifkind, Co-chair of the Polish-British Belvedere Forum joint Steering Committee (*)

PLENARY SESSION ONE | POLAND AND THE UK: BILATERAL TIES IN A SHIFTING POLITICAL CONTEXT

1405-1530

- How will Brexit affect UK-Poland relations?
- How might the relationship be sustained and deepened in the future?

PANEL DISCUSSION:

Professor Sir Leszek Borysiewicz, Chairman, Cancer Research UK (*)

Agata Gostynska-Jakubowska, CER (*)

Gisela Stuart, Chair, Wilton Park (*)

Prof. Przemysław Żurawski vel Grajewski, University of Łódź, member of the National Development Council advising to the President of Poland (*)

1530 – 1600 Coffee Break

BREAKOUT SESSIONS I | 1600 – 1730

Business and Economics | Changing Workforces

- What challenges do Polish and British businesses face in attracting the best talent?
- How will digital technology alter future patterns of work?
- What lessons can be drawn from the different welfare approaches pursued in the UK and Poland?
- What role does private sector have to play in improving workers welfare

Speakers

Aleksandra Pedraszewska, co-founder and COO, VividQ (*)

Marta Krupińska, Google Poland – invited

Tom Kibasi, former Director, IPPR – invited

Zoe Webster, Innovate UK - invited

Society and Culture | Shared or Clashing Values?

- What set of values do we share?
- Are value divides similar in British and Polish societies?
- How can societies be made more tolerant and inclusive?
- How should our societies balance the demands of tolerance and respect for others with free speech?

Speakers

Dr Wojciech Wilk, President, Polish Centre for International Aid (*)

Marek Tejchman, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Dziennik Gazeta Prawna (*)

Sunder Katwala, Director, British Future (*)

Dr Rosena Allin-Khan MP (Labour) - invited

Politics and International Affairs | Climate Change

- Do Britain and Poland share a vision of how to reach a low carbon future?
- Are Poles and Brits ready to make lifestyle changes to combat climate change?
- What is the role of NGOs and grassroots movements in mobilising both societies?

Speakers

Dr Michał Kurtyka, former Chairman of the COP 24, Poland's Minister for Climate – invited

Ilona Jędrasik, Energy Poland Project Leader, Fundacja ClientEarth-Prawnicy dla Ziemi (*)

Ruth Townend, Ipsos-MORI (*)

Nick Bridge, Special Representative for Climate Change, FCO – invited

DRINKS RECEPTION AT CHATHAM HOUSE

1730

Exhibition of photographs of 100 years of Polish-UK relations and of photographs of Polish diaspora in the UK in the 70s and 80s by Czesław Siegieda

WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH

PLENARY SESSION TWO | SOVEREIGNTY AND IDENTITY IN BRITAIN AND POLAND 9000 – 1000

- How do interpretations of the past shape politics in the UK and Poland?
- What is the role of key 20th century events including the Second World War in shaping modern national identity in both countries?
- Do contemporary ideas of national sovereignty still make sense?
- How do concepts of sovereignty differ in each country and how has EU membership and the Brexit debate affected these?

Professor Aleks Szczerbiak, Professor of Politics & Contemporary European Studies, University of Sussex (*)
Dariusz Rosiak, independent journalist; author of *Oblicza Wielkiej Brytanii (Faces of Britain)* 2018 and the
nominated for the 2016 Nike Award *Za Ziarno i krew (For Seeds and Blood)* (*)

Dr Daniel Tilles, Editor-in-Chief, Notes from Poland; Assistant Professor, the Pedagogical University of
Kraków (*)

UK Speaker 2

1000 – 1010 Break

BREAKOUT SESSIONS II | 1010 – 1125

Business and Economics | Urban Rural Divide

- How do geographic differences, particularly between urban and rural areas, shape politics and economics in Poland and the UK?
- To what extent have Warsaw and London become disconnect from the rest of their countries?
- Can these divides be bridged or are these divisions and rivalries inevitable?
- What role can central and local government, business and investment play?

Speakers

Karol Wałachowski, Klub Jagiellonski, expert in urban development, author of “Uciekające metropolie.
Ranking 100 polskich miast” / “Escaping metropolitan cities: Ranking of 100 Polish cities” (*)

Dr Ewelina Szczech-Pietkiewicz, Warsaw School of Economics (SGH), expert on smart-cities and modern
urban economics (*)

Aleks Collingwood, Joseph Rowntree Foundation (*)

John Harris, The Guardian - invited

Society and Culture | Law and Politics

- What ought to be the role of judiciary in modern democracies, particularly in the relations with democratically elected parliaments?
- How do attitudes to judicial activism vary in Britain and Poland?
- How have the UK and Poland’s different constitutional arrangements shaped their politics? Does the UK need a written constitution?

Speakers

Prof. Tomasz Wiecech, constitutional expert, Jagiellonian University (*)

Dr Jacek Sokołowski, Klub Jagiellonski, solicitor and expert on the judicial reform (*)

Professor Catherine Barnard, University of Cambridge (*)

Sir Dominic Grieve (Attorney General for England and Wales 2010-14) – invited

Politics and International Affairs | Transatlantic Relations

- How have Poland and the UK managed their special relationships with the US under the current administration and how might these ties be affected by the 2020 election?
- Will the US pressure Europeans to take a tougher approach towards China? What might rising Sino-US rivalry mean for Europe over the long term?
- Are there opportunities for deeper UK-Poland cooperation on transatlantic issues?

Speakers

Dr Justyna Szczudlik, Head of the Asia and Pacific Programme, PISM (*)

Dr Beata Górka-Winter, Centre for Europe, University of Warsaw (*)

Gideon Rachman, FT (*)

Dr Leslie Vinjamuri, Programme Director, US and Americas, Chatham House (*)

1125 – 1145 Coffee Break

BREAKOUT SESSIONS III | 1145 – 1300

Business and Economics | Brexit and Business

- What challenges will Brexit create for the bilateral business relationship?
- In what areas will this be most pronounced?
- How can greater bilateral trade and investment be encouraged and supported?
- What are the expectations of business towards both governments?

Speakers

Grzegorz Baczewski, Director General, Polish Confederation Lewiatan (*)

Lukasz Czernicki, Head of the Strategy Team, Polish Economic Institute (*)

Nicole Sykes, Head of EU Negotiations, CBI (*)

Nick Lakin, Group Corporate Affairs Director, Kingfisher (*)

Society and Culture | Polish and British Diaspora

- Is there a distinctive British-Polish identity?
- What integration barriers do communities face, particularly those outside of London?
- What is the role of British-Poles and Polish-Brits in building greater understanding of each other's countries?

Speakers

Katarzyna Sobiepanek, "UK politics po polsku" portal (*)

Stefan Tompson, British-Polish blogger and youtuber (*)

Dr Małgorzata Kułakowska, Jagiellonian University (*)

Gosia McKane, Merseyside Polonia (*)
Maciek Bator, For Your Freedom and Ours (*)

Politics and International Affairs | European Security

- Do the EU and NATO have the right approach to contemporary security challenges?
- How might EU policies towards Russia change after Brexit?
- Is there room for greater bilateral UK-Poland defence cooperation?
- How far are we from the vision of a Europe “whole and free”?

Speakers

Dr Marcin Terlikowski, Head of the Security Programme, PISM (*)
Ryszarda Formuszewicz, Senior Fellow, Centre for Eastern Studies (OSW) (*)
Alice Billon Galland, Chatham House (*)
Malcolm Chalmers, RUSI (*)

1300 – 1415 Lunch

CLOSING PLENARY | THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

1415 – 1515

- What will the EU look like in 2030?
- What will be Poland’s place in it and the UK’s relations to it?

Konrad Szymanski, Poland’s Minister for Europe (*)
Agnieszka Kołakowska, commentator, columnist, translator and author of “Clash of Cultures” (*)
Sir David Lidington, former Minister for the Cabinet Office and former Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (2018-19) and Minister of State for Europe (2010-16) (*)
Professor Helen Thompson (Cambridge) - invited

CLOSING REMARKS

1525-1530

Prof. Zdzisław Krasnodębski, Co-chair of the Polish-British Belvedere Forum joint Steering Committee (*)
Sir Malcolm Rifkind, Co-chair of the Polish-British Belvedere Forum joint Steering Committee (*)

FORUM CLOSSES

1530

