
The UK and Africa in the International System: Priorities and Engagement Post-Brexit

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Speakers Biographies

Tobias Ellwood MP is Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with special responsibility for the Middle East and Africa. He was elected as Member of Parliament for Bournemouth East in May 2005. He has previously served as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Defence Secretary, the Minister for Europe at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Health Secretary. He was Parliamentary Advisor to the Prime Minister for the 2014 NATO Summit and a member of the Parliamentary Delegation to the NATO Assembly 2014. Prior to his election, Mr Ellwood was a Senior Business Development Manager at the London Stock Exchange and at Allen & Overy, and served in the British Army with the Royal Green Jackets in Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Kuwait, Germany, Gibraltar and Bosnia.

Dr Alex Vines OBE is the Head of the Africa Programme, and the Director for Area Studies and International Law at Chatham House, and a senior lecturer at Coventry University. He was previously the chair of the UN Panel of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire, and was a member of the UN Panel of Experts on Liberia. Dr Vines has also worked as a UN election officer in Mozambique and Angola, as a consultant for the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and for ECOWAS, and as a senior researcher on business and human rights for Human Rights Watch. He was awarded an OBE in recognition of his work in Africa.

Professor Owen Greene is Professor of International Security and Development at the Department of Peace Studies and International Development, University of Bradford. His roles in the department have included Director of Research (1994 - 2009), Director and Chair of the Centre for International Cooperation and Security (CICS, 2002 - 2014), and director of several major applied research and consultancy/advisory programmes, including for the EU, OECD-DAC, DFID/UK Conflict Prevention Pools on 'Conflict Security and Development' (2002-2006). His research focuses on conflict and security; crisis response; regional security; engagement with fragile and conflict-affected states; and on international arms, security and environmental agreements. He has served as a consultant and adviser to the UN, EU, OSCE, and over 20 governments, and is co-founder and chair of the Board of the NGO Saferworld.

HE Lazarus Amayo is the High Commissioner of the Republic of Kenya to the United Kingdom. He was previously Director for the Europe and the Commonwealth Division at Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. HE Amayo has also served as Kenya's High Commissioner to Zambia and Malawi, and Kenya's High Commissioner to India with concurrent accreditation to Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Singapore. Prior to his diplomatic service, HE Amayo served as the Chief Executive Officer and

Managing Director of the Kenyan parastatal company Catering Levy Trustees. He served in Kenya's National Assembly as a Member of Parliament, and also held the position of Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Education.

Laurie Lee is the Chief Executive of CARE International. He was previously Director, Africa, for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, where he led the Foundation's team working on policy, advocacy and government relations in Africa. Prior to 2009, Laurie was a civil servant in the UK Government, mainly in the Department for International Development (DFID), in which his last position was Deputy Director and Head of the International Trade Department. From 2004 to 2006, Laurie served as Deputy Director and Foreign Policy Adviser on Africa to Prime Minister Tony Blair. His other experiences include working as DFID's programme manager for Afghanistan and South Africa, and serving as a UK negotiator on African issues in the European Union.

Dr Danielle Beswick is Director of Research at the International Development Department, University of Birmingham. She is currently leading an ESRC-funded series of events on contemporary UK - Africa relations. These explore trade, aid, security and development aspects of the relationship, as well as Africa's role in UK party politics and national identity. Chatham House is a partner in this series. Danielle has previously published extensively on post-genocide Rwanda, co-authored an introduction to the textbook *Conflict, Security and Development* (now in its second edition), and is currently editing a collection of essays exploring the international and domestic elements of UK Africa policy, particularly since 2010.

Dr Alexander Beresford is Associate Professor in African Politics at the University of Leeds, and a Senior Research Associate at the Centre for Social Change at the University of Johannesburg. His research interests include South African politics, authoritarianism in Africa, corruption and neopatrimonial politics. His current work explores 'resilient authoritarianisms' in South Africa and Rwanda, and South Africa's relationship with the ICC. His future work will focus on the UK's changing relationship with Africa after Brexit. Dr Beresford edits the *Review of African Political Economy* and he is the book reviews editor for *African Affairs*. He also sits on the editorial board of the *Journal of Southern African Studies*.

Dr Dirk Willem te Velde is a Principal Research Fellow and Head of the International Economic Development Group at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI). He is the Director of Supporting Economic Transformation and a Research Leader for the DFID-ESRC Growth Research Programme. He has published widely on trade, investment and economic transformation. He has advised country governments and parliaments in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, and donor agencies such as DFID, the European Commission, the UN and the World Bank. He was also Team Leader for the European Report on Development (ERD) 2015 on Combining Finance and Policies to Implement a Transformative Post-2015 Agenda.

Dr Matt Lilley is CEO Africa at Prudential plc, leading the building of Prudential's business across the continent. He joined Prudential in 2009, and was previously Director of Strategy, with responsibility for strategic planning, business development and M&A across the Group. Dr Lilley has worked at the Boston Consulting Group and Lehman Brothers, and holds a BA in Mathematics and a PhD in Theoretical Physics from the University of Cambridge.

Murray Grant is Managing Director of Intermediated Equity at CDC Group. Mr Grant re-joined CDC in January 2015 from Actis LLP, where he was a Partner. He has a long history of working and investing in Africa, having begun his career as an engineer working on major infrastructure projects in Africa and Papua New Guinea. Mr Grant's private equity career began in 1988 at 3i, where he worked for 13 years before joining CDC in 2001. He was one of the founding Partners of Actis when it was spun out from CDC in 2004 with responsibility for the development of its Africa business and the Africa team. Mr Grant's investment and NED track record has covered most sectors and regions across Africa. He has a BSc (Hons) in Engineering from Edinburgh University and an MBA from London Business School.

Adam Afriyie MP is the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Ghana, and he was first elected as MP for Windsor in 2005. He was Shadow Minister for Science and Innovation from 2007 to 2010, and now chairs the Parliamentary Office of Science & Technology (POST) and the Financial Technology APPG. Adam grew up in South London and attended Addey and Stanhope school in New Cross before gaining a BSc in Agricultural Economics from Imperial College (Wye). Before entering Parliament, Adam was a successful entrepreneur in the information services and technology sector, and had strong international businesses interest.

Yvonne Apea Mensah is Head of Africa at the Political Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat. She was previously Head of the Deputy-Secretary General's Office and the Political Officer for West Africa at the Commonwealth Secretariat. In 2012, Yvonne was a Mo Ibrahim Foundation Leadership Fellow at the African Development Bank. Earlier in her career, Yvonne worked at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), and the Economist Intelligence Unit. Yvonne is a lawyer by training and was called to the Ghana Bar in 2000. She subsequently pursued an LLM at Harvard Law School.

Dr Carlos Lopes is a Professor at the Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice, University of Cape Town, and Visiting Fellow at the Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford. He has led several UN institutions, most recently the Economic Commission for Africa, from which he stepped down in November 2016. Prof. Lopes serves on a number of boards, including the Foundation Board of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, and the board of the Lisbon University Institute, which he chairs. He has recently being appointed as a member of the African Union reform team led by Rwanda's President Paul Kagame.

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