Brexit and the Future of the European Union

Harrisburg – Our speaker for September 26 is Alistair Q. Howard, a Philadelphia-based political economist, who will discuss Britain's withdrawal from the European Union and what it means for the EU's future.

Dr. Howard is assistant vice president for international affairs at Temple University where for 20 years he has taught graduate and undergraduate courses, including most recently “Britain's Brexit Disaster.” His research interests include the role of cross-national comparisons in policy debates and whether it is possible for the United States to learn from what happens overseas.

He studied at Oxford University where in 1988 he earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics, and economics. He received a doctorate degree from George Washington University; his doctoral thesis was on British corporate governance.

From 2015 to 2018, Dr. Howard was associate dean and chief academic officer at Temple's Japan Campus. Currently, he serves on the board of the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia.

In his current administrative role, Dr. Howard leads Temple’s Education Abroad and Overseas Campuses. His team advises students on learning opportunities abroad, sending many to Temple’s Rome and Tokyo campuses, as well as to other educational programs around the world.

Volunteer Needed

Dinner Committee Chair: Ron Pontius has been our Dinner Committee chair for seven years. He has done a fantastic job, but is ready to step down and deservedly so. Ron is willing to work with a volunteer this program year and then turn the job over to that person in 2020-21. If you would like to step up and help the FPA by chairing this committee, please contact Howard Davison at hcdavison@verizon.net. For more details about the job, please contact Ron at ronpon@comcast.net.

2019-2020 Program Note

You will note two significant changes in the 2019-2020 program from previous years. First, the President’s Speakers Series has been renamed the Keystone Speaker Series. Secondly, the annual International Fellows Reception, previously held in the fall, this program year will be held in the spring.

September 26 Dinner Arrangements

Place: West Shore Country Club
100 Brentwater Road
Camp Hill, PA 17011

Time: 5:30 PM: Social Hour (Cash Bar)
6:30 PM: Sit-Down Dinner
7:15 PM: Announcements
7:30 PM: Presentation w/ Q & A

Menu: Garden Greens Tossed Salad
Braised Swiss Steak Jardinière
Mashed Russet Potatoes, Pan Gravy
Fall Vegetable Medley
Fruits of the Forest Pie

Those with special dietary needs may request a substitute when making a reservation. If you order a substitute meal, remember to pick up a coded tag at the sign-in table and put it by your dinner place. Alternate meals will be chicken unless chicken is the main course – then fish will be the alternate or vegetarian, which will be chef's choice, typically non-meat pasta.

The cost for FPA members is $33. The non-member cost is $38.

Note: The WSCC increased dinner costs this year. There is no charge for anyone to attend the program presentation only, beginning at 7:30 PM.

For Reservations Contact: Ron Pontius at ronpon@comcast.net or (717) 991-0899, or you can reserve on our website: www.fpaharrisburg.org

Reservations must be made by 10 AM Monday, September 23. If you come for dinner without a reservation, the country club may charge a late fee of up to $10 per person.

When making or canceling a dinner reservation, please give your complete name and phone number. We need that information to notify you if a meeting is canceled because of the weather or for any other reason.

NOTE: We bill no-shows.

Dinner no-shows will be billed unless there are sufficient walk-ins to meet the reservation number given to the West Shore Country Club.

Contributions to FPA are tax deductible.

Your contribution to the Foreign Policy Association is deductible to the fullest extent of the law under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.
Japan and East Asia
Scribed by John L. Taylor

Frederick Dickinson, professor of Japanese history at the University of Pennsylvania, says that while Japan remains an important ally and trading partner to the United States, the East Asian country nevertheless wants to be recognized as an independent global power in its own right.

Dickinson addressed the Foreign Policy Association on May 16, the FPA's final meeting of the 2018-2019 program year. There were 105 members and guests in attendance.

Dickinson said that Japan's Liberal Democratic Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has done everything he can to cement close ties with President Trump.

Abe was the first foreign leader to personally congratulate Trump after his election in 2016; Abe has golfed with Trump at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, and Abe invited Trump to be the first foreign dignity to meet Japan's new emperor, Naruhito, in May.

Dickinson was born and raised in Japan, the son of American missionaries. He is fluent in the Japanese language and has devoted his life to the study of the Japanese, particularly in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Dickinson noted that Japan was an American ally in World War I and enemy in World II, but friendly to the West in the post-war period and throughout the Cold War.

In 1951, Japan entered into a bilateral security treaty with the U.S. which by 1960 had become controversial among the Japanese people, particularly the continued heavy presence of American troops on Japanese soil.

The treaty was revised in 1960 by Abe's grandfather, Prime Minister Kishi Nobusuke, and further amended by Abe to enable the Japan to assume more responsibility for its defense. The Japanese established its own National Security Council in 2013 and adopted legislation to enable a self-defense plan in 2015.

Japan is playing a key role in negotiating the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade agreement after Trump withdrew the U.S. from the pact, Dickinson said. He also noted that it was in Japan in 1997 that most of the world's nations entered into the Kyoto Protocol to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to address global warming.

2019-2020 Program Topics / Schedule
All Events at the West Shore Country Club
Except the International Fellows Reception

Sept. 26 Brexit and the Future of the European Union
Oct. 24 Keystone (formerly President's) Speaker Series
National Security Issues in the 2020 Election
Christine Wormuth, former Under Secretary of
Defense and White House policy advisor
ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Nov. 21 U.S. Strategy for the Middle East
Dec. 19 Hot Arctic, Cold Strategic Calculations
Jan. 23 China Trade War
Feb. 27 End of WWII and its International Impact
Mar. 26 National Defense Strategy
Apr. ?? International Fellows Reception
U.S. Army Heritage Center, Carlisle
Exact date to be determined
ADVANCED RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
May 21 The Cyber Threat to Western Democracy
May ?? Embassy Trip, exact date to be determined

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