

**POLITICAL DEBATE  
24 APRIL 2012**

**KING'S COLLEGE LONDON  
SAFRA LECTURE THEATRE**



**Franco  
British  
Connections**



**FRANCO-BRITISH DEBATE**

**ORGANISED BY THE FRANCO-BRITISH SOCIETY  
AND THE FRANCO-BRITISH CONNECTIONS  
IN COOPERATION WITH THE KCL POLITICS SOCIETY**

***“The French elections:  
How will they affect us?”***



## + What is The KCL Politics Society?

The KCL Politics Society, in partnership with the King's College London Department of Political Economy, was founded with the express aim of providing a gateway by which its members can access the political world whilst feeling confident in having the necessary skill set and knowledge to grasp the implications of political events. In order to expose members to the political world, it hosts a variety of different events; from networking events to high profile panel debates and more skill based individualized workshops.

Unlike other student societies, the Politics Society brings together students from a wide variety of disciplines in monthly events to cast light on current affairs and ask thought-provoking questions about how politics pervades seemingly unrelated areas of activities. Our latest events include a European Debt Crisis Week, a Conference on the International Peace Building process with Former First Minister of Scotland Jack McConnell, a workshop on "How to deconstruct a Political Speech" with Bruce Clarke, an editor from The Economist, and a conference on "Iran, Israel, Palestine: The Next Cold War?" with academics and a representative from the Israeli Embassy.

## + What is

### The Franco-British Connections?

The Franco-British Connections is an association that aims to encourage students to develop their own cross-Channel initiatives. It currently has members that are alumni or students of over 20 universities from France and Britain.

The philosophy of the FB-Connections is to encourage and help students to develop their own projects. Students are often not aware of the potential for them to organise important cross-Channel events with their colleagues from other universities. This is where the FB-Connections strives to act as a catalyst by facilitating access to a network of recent graduates who have organised similar events and who have worked with institutional contacts in both France and Britain.

Past events have included student conferences with students from both France and Britain, online essay competitions, debates on Franco-British themes, lectures, alumni reunions and interviews of Franco-British personalities. You will be able to find more information on our activities and how to join us at:

**Website:** [www.fb-connections.org](http://www.fb-connections.org)

**Facebook:** <http://on.fb.me/ue2Xaa>

**LinkedIn:** <http://linkd.in/vKk71d>



## + What is

### The Franco-British Society?

The Franco-British Society is an independent charitable organisation, privileged to have HM The Queen as its Patron. Founded in 1924, its roots go back to the Entente Cordiale of 1904.

The Society is dedicated to encouraging closer relations between Britain and France and acts as a focus for all who wish to keep in touch with France, her culture, history and current affairs.

Members receive a Programme of events three times a year offering a range of educational, cultural and social activities such as lectures, concerts, wine-tastings and excursions, with the opportunity for many private views of historical places and cultural functions accompanied by experts and an annual trip to France. There is a varied membership of both British and French nationalities, and we welcome all age groups.

The aspect that unites the members is an abiding interest in all things French and the Society believes that relations between our two countries are as important now as they have ever been.

For further information please see the website [francobritishsociety.org.uk](http://francobritishsociety.org.uk).

*“The French elections: How will they affect us?”*

# PROGRAMME

24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

**6.00 pm**

Welcome by the **Lord Grenfell**

**6.10 pm**

Presentation of the Franco-British Connections by **Florian Bercault**, member of the Franco-British Connections

**6.15 pm**

Presentation of the Franco-British Society by **Jonathan Noakes**

**6.20 pm**

Presentation of the KCL Politics Society by **Capucine Riom**, President of the KCL Politics Society

**6.25 pm**

Presentation of the Speakers by the **Lord Grenfell**

- **Bénédicte Paviot**

- **Olivier Cadic**

- **Axelle Lemaire**

- **Yannick Naud**

- **Dr Jim Wolfreys**

*6/7 minutes presentation by speakers*

**7.00 pm**

Q&A (chaired by **Lord Grenfell**)

**7.45 pm**

Final few words of the speakers and **Lord Grenfell**

**8.00 pm – 9.00pm**

Drinks reception

# Who are the speakers?

## **M. Olivier Cadic**

Olivier started Info Elec. (his first business) aged only 20. In 1996, when he transferred his head office to Ashford, the media frenzy that it created ensured that over 1000 entrepreneurs joined 'The Free French Entrepreneurs', an association which Olivier created to help entrepreneurs launch their businesses in the UK. In 1999, Olivier raised 10 million euros to create PCB0007.com, an online market place for electronic components. In 2005 he launched Cinebook, a company that distributes Franco-Belgian comic books in Anglo-Saxon countries.

He was elected 'Conseiller' at the Assembly that represents French Nationals living in the UK in 2006 and in 2011 was made Chevalier de l'Ordre du Mérite. He is now a candidate for the French parliamentary elections for the Northern Europe region.

## **Mme Axelle Lemaire**

Born in Canada, Axelle Lemaire grew up in a bicultural environment (Quebec). She arrived in France as a teenager where she pursued her studies, "hypokhâgne", then Sciences Po Paris before finally specialising in law (in Paris and King's College London). She has lived in London for over ten years and her two young children are growing up here.

Axelle spent several years working for a Labour MP in the House of Commons, and has always been involved in community life and political activism due to her strong feelings against injustice and social inequalities. She has also been chairing the UK branch of the Socialist Party for five years. She is now the Socialist Party candidate for the French 2012 parliamentary elections for the new constituency of Northern Europe.

## **M. Yannick Naud**

Born in May 1968 near Grenoble to an engineer father and a midwife mother, Yannick Naud holds a graduate degree in Paris Dauphine and a Postgraduate Course in European Policies in the Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA).

He has been working almost exclusively abroad. From 1992 to 1998, residing in Tokyo where he had the pleasure of meeting his wife Yumiko, he was then employed by Crédit Agricole. They settled in London in 1998. In 2002, he joined Dresdner Kleinwort until 2008, as Managing Director.

Since 2008, he is associated in the development of a small asset management business as a specialist of the euro area and Nordic countries.

His political commitment started on the first presidential election for which he was able to vote, in 1988. He was then supporting the action of Raymond Barre.

## **Lord Grenfell**

Lord Grenfell is a Labour peer in the House of Lords known for his strong Europhile views. He entered the House of Lords 1976 and was created a Life Peer in 2000. During that time, he has been Vice-Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for France and Chairman of the Lords' Select Committee on the European Union. He was made Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur in 2005 and was awarded the French Senate's Médaille d'Honneur in 2008. He has also been a long time supporter of Franco-British student projects.

## **Mme Bénédicte Paviot**

Bénédicte Paviot is an Anglo-French TV and Radio journalist based in London. She is the UK Correspondent for the French international news channel, France 24, and reports for both their English and their French 24-hour News Channels.

She has worked as a news and current affairs presenter/reporter for: BBC World Service (Radio), BBC World (Television), BBC News 24, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5 Live and Radio France Internationale. Previously, she was UK Correspondent for the French TV channel, BFMTV, as well as for the French radio station: Business FM. She is also an international conference moderator.

## **Dr. Jim Wolfreys**

Jim Wolfreys is a graduate of Liverpool University and obtained a PhD from the History department there in 1995. He lectures in French politics in the French department and also teaches on the European Studies MA

## **Mr. Jonathan Noakes**

Having read economics and law at Queens' College, Cambridge, Jonathan Noakes pursued a career in HM Diplomatic Service; his postings included Oslo, Barbados and Lyon. He later worked for the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest. He has been on the Council of the Franco-British Society since 2004.

## **M. Florian Bercault**

Student at Sciences Po Paris, Florian studied during two years at the Latin American Campus of Sciences Po Poitiers. Florian is currently an intern at the think tank Terra Nova London. He has been member of the Franco-British Connections since 2011.

## **Mlle Capucine Riom**

Second year International Politics student at King's College London, Capucine is the Founder and President of the King's College London Politics Society. She has been a member of the Franco British Connections since 2011.



## NEXT EVENTS

**14 May 2012:** Franco-British Society AGM with H.E. the French Ambassador as Guest speaker. The meeting will be at the Entente Cordiale Room, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office at 6.15pm and a Buffet Supper afterwards in the Durbar Court until 9.30pm. Tickets for Supper are £35 including wine. For further details see the [website](#).

**19- 21 October 2012:** The Franco-British Connections will organise a week-end in Paris for 100 students from Britain and 100 students from France on the theme of finance in a comparative perspective. (tbc)

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SPEAKERS, TO THE KCL  
POLITICS SOCIETY, AND TO ALL ATTENDEES FOR COMING

[www.fb-connections.org](http://www.fb-connections.org)  
[www.francobritishsociety.org.uk](http://www.francobritishsociety.org.uk)