

UPF-UK to hold Prevention of Radicalization Program in House of Lords

Robin Marsh
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House of Lords

London, United Kingdom—In response to recent acts of terror in Europe, UPF-UK will hold a discussion in the House of Lords on promoting unity as a means to prevent radicalization.

The meeting, which is already full, is being hosted by Baroness Sandip Verma on June 28, 2017.

The Universal Peace Federation recommends that all communities strive for mutual unity and that extremes should be isolated. It is in the unity of the different communities that compose the United Kingdom that we find the strength to oppose violent extremism. That precious unity transcends the limitations of understanding another faith, another nationality or another race. It is based on the significance of upholding each other's equal rights as citizens to participate in the public life of the UK.

The Speakers

Humphrey Hawksley is an author, commentator and long-standing foreign correspondent. His work as a BBC foreign correspondent has taken him all over the world. He was expelled from Sri Lanka, arrested in Serbia, opened the BBC's television bureau in China, and initiated a global campaign against enslaved children in the chocolate industry—a campaign that continues today.

Emmanuel Dupuy is currently the president of l'Institut Prospective et Sécurité en Europe. Furthermore, he works as a journalist, consultant (Cabinet d'Ingénierie Stratégique pour la Sécurité), teacher in geopolitics (Institut d'Etudes des Relations Internationales) and researcher in geopolitical issues for various institutions linked to French defense. One of his key interests is geopolitics of the Mediterranean region.

Dr. Afzal Ashraf is a Visiting Fellow of the Center for Conflict, Security and Terrorism of the University of Nottingham. Dr. Ashraf is a consultant fellow at the Royal United Services Institute, following a diverse career spanning defense, national security, diplomacy, rule of law and delivery of training and education. After a start in combat aircraft research and development in UK industry, he was commissioned as an engineer officer in the Royal Air Force, retiring three decades later as a group captain.

Keith Best is a qualified barrister and former member of Parliament (1979 to 1987). He is the chair of the World Federalist Movement, an international NGO based in New York, and secretary and trustee of the Parliamentary Outreach Trust. He was the former chair of Electoral Reform International Services, the chair of Parliamentarians' Global Action and a member of the Inter Parliamentary Union. As chief executive of the Immigration Advisory Service, he opened offices in Bangladesh, Nigeria and Pakistan, and as chief executive of Freedom from Torture, he provided services for those fleeing conflict zones around the world and used data to produce persuasive reports on the incidence of torture in different countries.

Sheikh Dr. Hojjat Ramzy is the founder and director of the Oxford Islamic Information Centre. He has worked with the Thames Valley Police as an Islamic chaplain and adviser for a number of years and assists the police in integration and Islamic issues. He is the director of TeMAMA (Measuring Anti-Muslim Attacks) in the Thames Valley, assisting city and county councils and police to reduce Islamophobic and anti-Semitic hate crimes. He works as a chaplain and is on the advisory board of Oxford Brookes University. He is a national member of the Muslim Council of Britain and its former chair of education.

This event is being organized in coordination with the European UPF and the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace.