

Top

- [Research](#)

Topics

- [Climate](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Global Health](#)
- [International Economics](#)
- [International Law and Governance](#)
- [International Security](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Rising Powers](#)
- [Social Movements](#)
- [Transatlantic Relations](#)

Regions

- [Africa](#)
- [Americas](#)
- [Asia](#)
- [Europe](#)
- [Middle East and North Africa](#)
- [Russia and Eurasia](#)

Publications

- [View all publications](#)
- [About our publications](#)
- [The World Today](#)
- [International Affairs](#)

Experts

- [Expert comment](#)
- [In the news](#)
- [Our experts](#)

EXPERT COMMENT | DR CHRISTOPHER PHILLIPS

Understanding Syria's Four-Front War

Syria's civil conflict has evolved into a four-front war involving a fight between Islamic State (IS) and Damascus, between IS and mainstream rebels, another between the rebels and Assad - and finally one between IS and Syria's Kurdish militias.

Wed 6 Aug

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- [Members Events](#)

- [Corporate Members Events](#)
- [Research Events](#)
- [Conferences](#)
- [Special Events](#)
- [Our events explained](#)

25

SEP

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What Now for Scotland?

25 Sep 2014 - 13:00 to 14:00

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- [Fellowships](#)
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- [About us](#)
- [Our funding](#)
- [Press](#)

Search



EXPERT COMMENT

Why Arab States Are Supporting the US in Syria

The involvement of five Arab countries in the air strikes against Islamic State in Syria is a major new development for the region, but this is about symbolism more than military might, writes Jane Kinninmont.



EVENT VIDEO

Francis Fukuyama on Political Order and Political Decay

Drawing on evidence ranging from the French Revolution to the Arab Spring to contemporary US politics, Francis Fukuyama explored the struggle to create and maintain well-functioning modern states through institution building.



Ebola and Global Health Governance: Time for the Reckoning

The suffering inflicted by the Ebola outbreak—and the ineffective reactions to it—reveals a massive failure of global health governance, writes David Fidler.



Is the UK a Breeding Ground for Jihadists?

Despite the high number of British recruits to the Islamic State, the UK has set the gold standard in counter-terrorism policy. Any expansion of government powers risks harming its citizens' basic rights, writes Simon Palombi.



EXPERT COMMENT

This No Vote Will Echo Throughout Europe

The relief at the Scottish No vote to independence is palpable, and not just in London. But it is a further warning that traditional politics is over, writes Quentin Peel.

Forthcoming events

24 INVITATION ONLY, RESEARCH EVENT
SEP [Investing in Gender Equality at the G20 Leaders' Summit - From Australia to Turkey](#)
24 SEP 2014 - 09:30 TO 17:30,
PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

24 INVITATION ONLY, RESEARCH EVENT
SEP [Humanitarian Aid in the Central African Republic: Delivering Assistance in an Insecure Environment](#)
24 SEP 2014 - 11:00 TO 12:00,
CHATHAM HOUSE, LONDON

24 RESEARCH EVENT
SEP [Dynamic Industrial Policy In Africa](#)
24 SEP 2014 - 15:00 TO 16:00,
CHATHAM HOUSE, LONDON



EVENT AUDIO

Reporting Undercover in Syria

Journalist Susan Dabbous was abducted and held hostage by Islamists in northern Syria. She shared insights from her ordeal, discussing how Islamist groups are operating on the ground, the presence of foreign fighters and the role of women within such groups.



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Academy Fellowships

The Academy for Leadership in International Affairs is now accepting applications for new Robert Bosch Fellowships, Asia Senior Fellowships and Stavros Niarchos Foundation Fellowships. The closing date for applications is 28 September.



Iran's Nuclear Future

Iran would rather current negotiations fail than restrict its domestic civil nuclear industry. Therefore, the West needs to revisit its assumptions about Iran's intentions, write Peter Jenkins and Richard Dalton.

In the news

'The fact that Iraq was under sanctions for so long led Kurdish and Iraqi businessmen to fill a vacuum and create smuggling networks for Iraqi oil.'

DR VALÉRIE MARCEL, ASSOCIATE FELLOW, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES

[Financial Times](#)

[22 September 2014](#)



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Topics

- Climate
- Global Health
- International Law and Governance
- Energy
- International Economics
- International Security
- Resources
- Social Movements
- Rising Powers
- Transatlantic Relations

Regions

- Africa
- Americas
- Asia
- Europe
- Middle East and North Africa
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