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Institute of  
**Economic Affairs**

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**Speakers**  
**2018**



## **Kate Andrews**

Kate is Associate Director at the IEA. She oversees the IEA's Media Centre, which includes its communications, public affairs, and digital output. Previously she was Head of Communications at the Adam Smith Institute. Kate regularly features across the national media, including appearances on BBC News, Sky News, Channel 4, Channel 5, ITV and the BBC's Question Time. She has written for the Telegraph, Spectator Coffee House, The Times' Red Box, ConservativeHome and currently writes a fortnightly column for CityAM on Fridays.

Possible topics include the [Gender Pay Gap](#), [Healthcare](#), and [American Politics](#).



## **Adam Bartha**

Adam is the Director of EPICENTER, with the responsibility to enable the cooperation of the network and organise the private and public events programme in Brussels. He was previously European Outreach Manager at EPICENTER and a Koch Summer Fellow in the Publications Department of the Independent Institute in California. He also has experience in domestic party politics in Germany and Hungary. Adam has a BA (Hons) in Politics and International Relations from the University of Sheffield and an MSc in Political Theory from the London School of Economics. Adam is fluent in English, German and Hungarian.

Possible topics include [European Integration](#), [Central-and Eastern European Political Affairs](#).



## **Professor Philip Booth**

Prof. Philip Booth is Senior Academic Fellow at the Institute of Economic Affairs and Professor of Finance, Public Policy and Ethics at St. Mary's University. Philip previously worked for the Bank of England as an advisor on financial stability. He has written on investment, finance, social insurance and pensions, and the relationship between Catholic social teaching and economics. He co-authored Defusing the Debt Time-bomb which was published in The Daily Mail and The Telegraph.

Possible topics include [Banking and Financial Services](#), [Market Failure](#), [Financial Regulation](#), [Government Debt](#), [the Financial Crisis](#), [Tax and Economic Growth](#), [Globalisation and Inequality](#) and [International Development](#).



## **Nerissa Chesterfield**

Nerissa Chesterfield is the Head of Communications at the IEA. Prior to joining the IEA, Nerissa was the Development Manager at Business for Britain, and then at Vote Leave where her responsibilities were primarily focused on recruiting support for the campaigns by organising events, and taking the lead on focussed regional and sector specific initiatives. She has appeared on various national media platforms including BBC News, Sky News, Channel 5 & BBC Radio 5 Live.

Possible topics include the [Gender Pay Gap](#) and [the Cost of Living](#).



## **Dr Stephen Davies**

Dr Steve Davies is the Head of Education at the IEA. Previously he was program officer at the Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) at George Mason University in Virginia. He joined IHS from the UK where he was Senior Lecturer in the Department of History and Economic History at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Possible topics include [UK Economic Growth](#), [History of Globalisation](#), [Economics of Football](#), [Technology & the Future](#), [Getting Rid of Schools](#), [the Welfare State](#), and [a World of City States](#).



## **Madeline Grant**

Madeline is the IEA's Editorial Manager, responsible for commissioning and running the IEA blog, and creating content for the IEA podcast channel and other media outlets. Prior to joining the Institute, she worked as a Parliamentary researcher and speechwriter, and as a reporter for Newsweek Magazine. Madeline graduated from St Hilda's College, Oxford in 2014, with a degree in English. As an undergraduate, Madeline was actively involved in university politics, and was elected to Standing Committee of the Oxford Union during her studies.

Possible topics include the [Gender Pay Gap](#) and the [Sharing Economy](#).



## **Victoria Hewson**

Victoria joined the IEA's International Trade and Competition Unit in Spring 2018. She is a lawyer and practiced for 12 years in the fields of technology and financial services, before joining the Legatum Institute Special Trade Commission to focus on trade and regulatory policy. She has published work on the implications and opportunities of Brexit in financial services and movement of goods and the issues in connection with the Irish border. Before entering the legal profession Victoria worked for Procter & Gamble in the UK and Germany.

Possible topics include [Trade](#), [Brexit](#) and [Rule of Law](#).



## **Julian Jessop**

Julian Jessop is Chief Economist and Head of the Brexit Unit at the IEA. He has over thirty years of experience as a professional economist in the public and private sectors, including senior positions at HM Treasury, HSBC and Standard Chartered Bank. Prior to joining the IEA in 2017 he was a Director and Chief Global Economist at the leading independent consultancy, Capital Economics. Julian has a First Class degree in Economics from Cambridge University and post-graduate qualifications in both Economics and Law.

Possible topics include [Brexit](#), the [Global and UK Economies](#), [Public Economics](#), and [Fiscal and Monetary Policy](#).



## **Mark Littlewood**

Mark Littlewood is the Director General of the Institute of Economic Affairs, previously he was Head of Media for the Liberal Democrats. In 2014, Mark was ranked 38th on The Times' 'Right-wing Power List'. Mark frequently comments on political and economic issues on television and radio including BBC Question Time, Any Questions, Newsnight, Channel 4 News, Sky News and Radio 4's Today Programme. He is a strong advocate of liberal ideals and free market economics, having spoken extensively against tobacco industry regulation and government intervention.

Possible topics include "[Drowning in Debt](#)", [Lifestyle Economics](#), [Brexit](#) and "[Bad Stats and Fake News](#)".



## **Rebecca Lowe**

Rebecca Lowe is Director of FREER, a new initiative focused on economic and social liberalism, which is housed at the IEA. She is also a columnist and part of ConservativeHome's editorial team, and has written for numerous other publications. She has worked for various political research organisations, as a parliamentary researcher, a political consultant, and in the arts, education, and charity sectors. Until late 2017, she was State and Society Fellow and Convenor of the Research Group on Political Thought at Policy Exchange.

Possible topics include the [Value of Freedom](#), [Fiscal Decentralisation](#), [The Size of the State](#), [Income Distribution](#), [Equality](#), [Democracy](#), [The Future of Work](#), [Free Speech](#).



## **Catherine McBride**

Catherine McBride is an economist with 19 years' experience working in financial services, primarily trading financial, equity and commodity derivatives. Before joining the IEA, she worked for the Special Trade Commission at the Legatum Institute and ran Financial Research for the Financial Services Negotiation Forum (FSNForum), developing ideas about financial service governance and policy to support growth and prosperity after the UK leaves the EU. Catherine has previously worked in derivatives with ADM Investor Services International, Chase Manhattan, Baring Securities, Bain & Co Securities part of Deutsche Bank Australia and as a Financial Analyst for IBM.

Possible topics include [Trade](#), [Brexit](#) and [Finance](#).

## **Dr. Natalia Murray**

Dr. Natalia Murray is an Associate Lecturer in XIX-XX century Russian Art and Freelance Curator. Natalia curated the exhibition "Revolution: Russian Art 1917-32" at the Royal Academy. Natalia's father was once put in a Labour camp and her great-grandfather was in a gulag camp. He is believed to have escaped and to have been shot in 1937.

Natalia's topics could include [Soviet Russia](#) and [Gulag Camps and Communism](#).

## **Dr. Kristian Niemi**

Dr Kristian Niemi joined the IEA in 2008 as Poverty Research Fellow, becoming its Senior Research Fellow in 2013, Head of Health and Welfare in 2015 and Head of Political Economy in 2018. Kristian is also a Fellow of the Age Endeavour Fellowship.

He studied Economics at the Humboldt Universität zu Berlin and the Universidad de Salamanca, graduating in 2007 as Diplom-Volkswirt (≈MSc in Economics). During his studies, he interned at the Central Bank of Bolivia (2004), the National Statistics Office of Paraguay (2005), and at the IEA (2006). In 2013, he completed a PhD in Political Economy at King's College London.

Possible topics include [Healthcare](#), [Poverty](#), [Housing](#) and [Pensions](#).

## **Professor Len Shackleton**

Prof. Len Shackleton is an Editorial and Research Fellow at the IEA and Professor of Economics at the University of Buckingham. His research interests are mainly around employment and labour market issues.

Len has appeared on television and radio and written for newspapers and websites on topics as varied as [High Pay](#), [the Gender Pay Gap](#), [Misleading Statistics](#), [Inequality](#), [Immigration](#), [Higher Education](#), [Childcare](#), [Football Regulation](#) and [the Shortage of Public Toilets in London](#).

## **Shanker Singham**

Shanker is the Director of the International Trade and Competition Unit (ITCU) of the Institute of Economic Affairs. The ITCU is focused on providing advice to the UK government, industry and media on the Brexit negotiations, among other trade policy issues. As one of the world's leading trade and competition lawyers, he has worked on the privatisation of the UK electricity market, the transition of the Soviet, Central and Eastern European economies and the apertura in Latin America. He has worked on the accession of Poland and Hungary to the EU, the WTO accessions of a number of countries, including China and Russia.

Possible topics include [Competition Law](#), [Trade](#) and [Brexit](#).







## **Christopher Snowden**

Christopher Snowden is the Head of Lifestyle Economics at the IEA. He is the author of *The Art of Suppression*, *The Spirit Level Delusion* and *Velvet Glove; Iron Fist*. His work focuses on pleasure, prohibition and dodgy statistics. He has authored a number of publications including *Sock Puppets*, *Euro Puppets*, *The Proof of the Pudding*, *The Crack Cocaine of Gambling* and *Free Market Solutions in Health*.

Possible topics include the [Inequality](#), [Sin Taxes](#), [Paternalism](#) and [Happiness Studies](#).



## **Dr. Radomir Tylecote**

Dr Radomir Tylecote is the Senior Research Analyst for the IEA's International Trade and Competition Unit. Radomir has a background in trade and high-tech sectors. He was formerly at the Behavioural Insights Team (BIT), where he was an external advisor to HM Treasury and helped develop the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, launched in the Industrial Strategy 2017. He has an MPhil from Cambridge University, and his double-scholarship PhD from Imperial

College London Business School studied the impact of China's innovation system on its technology firms and trade. Radomir is a founder member of the Conservative Party Human Rights Commission.

Possible topics include [Brexit](#), [Trade](#) and [Behavioural Economics](#).



## **Giles Udy**

Giles Udy is a historian and author of *Labour and the Gulag*. *Labour and the Gulag* uncovers a dark chapter in British Labour history as it tells the story of the party's seduction by the allure of a socialist utopia and the moral compromises that followed. On the centenary of the Russian Revolution, and as the hard left's influence in the party grows again, it offers stark lessons for the future.

Possible topics include [the Russian Revolution](#), [Labour Camps](#) and [Communism](#).



## **Dr. Richard Wellings**

Dr. Richard Wellings is Deputy Research Director and Head of Transport. With a PhD on public choice theory, Richard is the author or editor of several papers, books and reports, including *A Beginner's Guide to Liberty and Globalisation and Free Trade*. He is a frequent commentator on economic issues on television and radio and has written for several newspapers including the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Times* and *City AM*.

Possible topics include [Brexit](#), [the Decline of the West](#), [Economic Development](#), [Infrastructure](#) and [HS2](#), and [the Role of Government](#).