

VALUE OF JOURNALISM 2011

The conference has been created by POLIS at the LSE, the European Broadcasting Union, the BBC College of Journalism and the Thomson Foundation.

9.00

Welcome

9.15-10.00

The BBC and Democracy

Helen Boaden, Director of News, BBC

Chair: Krishnan Guru-Murthy, *Channel 4 News*

10.00-11.00

Media and the Revolutions

What was the role of social and traditional media in the Arab uprisings? Was the Internet a catalyst of democracy? Did international media organisations tell the story of the uprisings in a full and fair way?

Chair: [Andrew Wilson](#) (Sky News)

[Wael Abbas](#) (Egyptian blogger and campaigner), [Hosam El Sakkari](#), (Head of Audience, Yahoo! Middle East), [Alan Fisher](#) (Al Jazeera), [Bill Neely](#) (ITV)

1100-1130

Coffee break

1130-12.30

An Informed Society?

What do we need to know and who tells us what to think?

Chair: [Adrian Monck](#) (World Economic Forum)

[Robert Phillips](#) (Edelman), [Julia Hobsbawn](#), [Stella Creasy MP](#), [John Harris](#) (*Guardian*)

1230-1330

Lunch break

1330-1430

Has the Press Lost Power?

With declining sales and reduced newsrooms, have newspapers lost the ability to hold power to account? Do TV, Twitter, bloggers and Wikileaks now set the agenda, or do the Westminster Lobby and the Paper Commentariat still have something to say?

Chair: [Paul Waugh](#) (PoliticsHome)

[Steve Richards](#) (*Independent*), [Janan Ganesh](#) (*Economist*), [Tim Montgomerie](#) (ConservativeHome)

1430-1530

What Price Public Service Journalism?

There are more international broadcasting organisations than ever before, but are they in it for propaganda and profit or to hold power to account?

Chair: [Cilla Benko](#) (Swedish Broadcasting)

[Peter Horrocks](#) (Director, BBC World Service), [Antonio Caprarica](#) (London correspondent, Rai), [Ignasi Guardans](#) (Director of Public Affairs and Member Relations, EBU), [Hosam El Sakkari](#) (Head of Audience, Yahoo! Middle East)

Wolfson Theatre sessions

9.00-10.00 [Thomson Foundation]

How do we Build Media and Democracy?

In the wake of the Middle East revolutions, it seems that media does have a catalytic role in fostering political change. Does that happen by itself or can we do more to support the creation of both professional and citizen news media?

Chair: [Zahera Harb](#) (Thomson Foundation)

[Dr Damian Tambini](#) (who has new research on comparative media and politics), [Agnes Callamard](#) (Article 19), [Laura Walker](#) (Hudson Frontline SMS)

10.00-11.00

Spin: A Masterclass

Alastair Campbell may be long departed but the spin machine is still operational. A leading political journalist will attempt to find out how to outmanoeuvre the manipulators.

[Carolyn Quinn](#) (BBC), [Lance Price](#), [Simon Lewis](#)

1100-1130

Coffee break

11.30-1230

After Wikileaks

Charlie Beckett (Director, POLIS), [James Ball](#) (*Guardian*)

12.30-13.30

Lunch

1330-14.30

DIY Media Democracy

Why rely on mainstream media to hold power to account? Why not do it yourself? A guide to creating your own platform to challenge authority

Chair: [Nick Anstead](#) (LSE)

UKUncut, Pits n Pots, [Claire Sambrook](#)