

Franklin Center & Ripon Society Hold Policy Conference Looking at the Special Relationship Between the U.S. & U.K.

WASHINGTON, DC – The Franklin Center and The Ripon Society held a policy conference in London from November 10-14 looking at some of the key issues impacting the Special Relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom.

Called the *TransAtlantic Capital to Capital Exchange*, the conference included keynote addresses and panel discussions examining such topics as defense and the role of NATO, the importance of global trade, defeating terrorism, health care, cybersecurity and encryption, energy production, the future of the European Union, and international tax reform.

“This is a critical time in the history of the Special Relationship,” stated Jim Conzelman, the President & CEO of the Franklin Center and The Ripon Society. “Between the Brexit referendum this past June and the presidential election on November 8, both the United Kingdom and the United States are facing profound changes in the year ahead.

“Both countries are also facing profound challenges. From the rise of ISIS to the threat of Putin to the anti-trade sentiment that is spreading across the globe, both the U.S. and U.K. are facing a daunting set of challenges that will put the Special Relationship to a test. The goal of this conference was to examine some of these challenges, and look at ways to keep the Special Relationship strong during this time of change and uncertainty.”

According to Conzelman, participants in the *TransAtlantic Capital to Capital Exchange* included representatives from the United Kingdom’s public and private sectors, and Members of the United States Congress, as well. The Members included U.S. Representatives Pat Tiberi (R/OH-12) and Jim Renacci (R/OH-16), who served as Co-Chairs of the policy conference. Also participating were U.S. Representatives Marsha Blackburn (R/TN-7), Larry Bucshon (R/IN-8), Peter DeFazio (D/OR-4), Charlie Dent (R/PA-15), Bill Flores (R/TX-17), Jim Himes (D/CT-4), Mike Kelly (R/PA-3), John Larson (D/CT-1), Frank Lucas (R-OK-3), Sean Patrick Maloney (D/NY-18), Pat Meehan (R/PA-7), Tim Murphy (R/PA-18), Tom Price (R/GA-6), Tom Reed (R/NY-23), Kathleen Rice (D/NY-4), Martha Roby (R/AL-2), Pete Sessions (R/TX-32), Mac Thornberry (R/TX-13), Fred Upton (R/MI-6), Jackie Walorski (R/IN-2), and Peter Welch (D/VT-At Large). Also attending and participating were former Ambassador and Representative Connie Morella (MD-8), who serves as Chair of the Franklin Center, and former Representative Dave Camp (MI-4) who serves as Vice Chair of the Franklin Center.

In addition to the panel discussions, Conzelman noted that the conference included a meeting at 10 Downing Street with Sir Mark Lyall Grant, the U.K.’s National Security Adviser, and Sir Alan Duncan, the Minister of State for Europe and the Americas who also

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Rt Hon. Earl Howe, the Minister of State for Defence and Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, delivers remarks during a discussion about “NATO’s Role in the Age of Putin.” Also participating were (from l to r): Rep. Thornberry, Rep. Price, Rep. Maloney & Rep. Walorski (not shown).



Rt Hon. Dr. Liam Fox, MP, Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade, delivers keynote remarks to kick off the panel discussion which examined the importance of international trade.



Rep. Tiberi delivers remarks to thank U.S. Amb. Barzun for the assistance that he and his staff provided in planning the conference. Barzun is seen in the center, while Rep. Larson is on the left.

delivered remarks to open the first full day of the conference on Friday morning.

Conzelman added that the conference also included a meeting at Parliament with members of the British-American Parliamentary Group (BAPG) led by Rt Hon. Sir Simon Burns, MP (Conservative-Chelmsford), who is a BAPG officer. Also participating in the meeting were Crispin Blunt, MP (Conservative-Reigate) who serves as Chair of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, Seema Malhotra, MP (Labour and Co-operative Party-Feltham and Heston), James Berry, MP (Conservative-Kingston and Surbiton), and Alan Mak, MP (Conservative-Havant), who is a member of the BAPG Executive Committee.

Other speakers at the conference included: Robin Walker, MP, who serves as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department for Exiting the European Union and spoke about the Brexit process; and, Sir Peter Westmacott, who served as Britain's Ambassador to the U.S. from 2012 to 2016 and spoke about the future of the Special Relationship.

With November 13th being Remembrance Sunday in the United Kingdom, Members of Congress also participated in a ceremony that morning at Grosvenor Square, where they laid wreaths at the memorials to Franklin Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan, and paid tribute to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the fight for freedom over the years.

The conference kicked off on Thursday afternoon with an in-country briefing by key staff from the U.S. Embassy in London. The briefing was led by Lew Lukens, who serves as the Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission under U.S. Ambassador Matthew Barzun. Also participating in the briefing were: Whitney Baird, who serves as Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs; Damian Bricko, who serves as Deputy Legal Attaché; Brigadier General Christopher Short, USAF, who serves as Defense Attaché; and, Kevan Higgins, who serves as Internal Political Chief.

The briefing was followed by ten panel discussions over the next three days which focused on a number of key areas, including:

"NATO's Role in the Age of Putin" – which featured keynote addresses and a panel discussion on the actions of Russia and how the U.S., the U.K., and NATO can best manage in 2017 and beyond. The panel also discussed the future of NATO and its place in the world as well as the funding of that international organization including issues with member countries not fulfilling their defense spending per-GDP obligations.

Keynote addresses were delivered by Rt Hon. Earl Howe, the Minister of State for Defence and Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, and House Armed Services Committee Chairman, Rep. Mac Thornberry. Panel participants included: Rep. Walorski and Rep.

Maloney. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Price.

"Defeating Terrorism Domestically and Abroad" – which featured a discussion on how the U.S., the U.K., and our allies can work in concert to defeat radical extremist groups like ISIS and al-Qaeda, as well as ways to thwart homegrown radicalization and domestic terrorist attacks, including potential reforms to immigration and refugee policy. The panel explored the critical role of information exchange and timely access to data in fighting terrorism and the proposed U.K.-U.S. Agreement to facilitate law enforcement access to data. Additionally, the panel discussed the new U.S. Administration and its potential personnel decisions and strategies to fight terrorism.

Keynote remarks were delivered by Paddy McGuinness, the Deputy National Security Adviser for Intelligence Security and Resilience. Panel participants included Rep. Roby and Rep. Rice. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Blackburn.

"The Importance of International Trade" – which featured a discussion of the trade cooperation between the United States and the United Kingdom and the future prospects of bilateral and multinational trade agreements.

Keynote remarks were delivered by Rt Hon. Dr. Liam Fox, MP, Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade. Panel participants included: Rep. DeFazio; Rep. Dent; and, Rep. Kelly. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Tiberi.

"National Health Service vs. "Obamacare" – which featured a discussion that compared the model, costs, and effectiveness of the U.K.'s National Health Service and the present health care delivery system in the U.S. after the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The panel also discussed ways to control future costs and improve patient outcomes for all.

Keynote remarks were delivered by Rep. Upton and Rep. Tiberi. Panel participants included: Rep. Murphy; Rep. Price; Rep. Bucshon; and, the Lord Prior of Brampton, who serves as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Sessions.

"Cybersecurity and Encryption: A Private, Public, and Global Concern" – which featured a discussion examining the many facets of protecting consumer, corporate and government data, as well as critical infrastructure, from cyberattacks and the bilateral and global efforts of the U.S. and the U.K. to do just that, including reaching consensus on a bilateral data access agreement. The panel also explored issues of encryption and striking a delicate balance between privacy and security.

Panel participants included: Rep. Blackburn; Rep. Himes; Rep. Meehan; Ciaran Martin, the Chief Executive Officer of the U.K. National Cyber Security Centre; and, Nick Coleman, the Global Head of Cyber Security Intelligence Services for IBM. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Thornberry.



Rep. Roby delivers remarks during a discussion about terrorism. Also participating were (from l to r): Paddy McGuinness, Deputy National Security Adviser for Intelligence Security and Resilience; Rep. Blackburn, & Rep. Rice.



U.S. Representatives come together in front of the Franklin Roosevelt memorial in Grosvenor Square for a wreath-laying ceremony to mark Remembrance Sunday.

“The Future of the EU”—which featured a discussion about the road ahead for the European Union in the wake of the Brexit referendum this past June.

Panel participants included: His Excellency Dr. Peter Ammon, the German Ambassador to the Court of St. James’s; Andrew Todd, the Deputy High Commissioner to the United Kingdom for the Australian High Commission; and, Anand Menon, Professor of European Politics and Foreign Affairs at King’s College in London. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Lucas.

“International Taxation and Reform”—which featured a discussion about the current state of international taxation and ways the U.S. can increase revenue while also boosting our global competitiveness and nation’s economy. Among other topics, the discussion looked at recent OECD activity regarding base erosion and profit sharing and other international tax developments in the EU and the U.K. The panel also explored the impact of the “Panama Papers” and Brexit on the public dialogue and implementation of tax reform.

Panel participants included: Rep. Larson; Rep. Reed; Rep. Renacci; Mike Williams, the Director of Business and International Tax for Her Majesty’s Treasury; and, Ken Bransom, International Tax Partner at Deloitte. The discussion was moderated by former Rep. Dave Camp.

“Global Energy and Climate Change” – which featured a discussion examining the current global energy market and its effect on all sectors of the global economy. The discussion also explored the opportunities the U.S. and U.K. have to increase their domestic energy production and which governmental policies should be enacted to encourage this energy renaissance. The panel also discussed the efforts of the U.K. to combat climate change and the recent Paris Agreement.

Panel participants included: Rep. Sessions; Rep. Welch; Rep. Flores; Sir David King, the Special Representative for Climate Change at the U.K. Foreign and Commonwealth Office; and, David Eyton, the Group Head of Technology for BP.

“The Future of Global Finance Post-Brexit and Averting Future Crises” – which featured a discussion on the future of global finance markets and the impact of Brexit on the current, and a possibly new, European financial center location. The panel evaluated the effectiveness of central banks and international bodies, including the U.S. Federal Reserve and the Bank of England, and the International Monetary Fund and the Financial Stability Board, in preventing future financial crises while ensuring robust markets, capital access, and properly fulfilling their regulatory and oversight duties.

Panel participants included: Rep. Lucas; Rep. Himes; and, Rt Hon. Mark Field, MP. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Meehan.

“Agenda of 115th Congress” – which featured a discussion about the results of the 2016 elections and its impact on the new 115th Congress, which will convene in January 2017.

Panel participants included: Rep. Dent; Rep. Welch; Rep. Maloney; and, Rep. Kelly. The discussion was moderated by Rep. Camp.



U.S. Representatives gather in front of 10 Downing Street following a meeting with Britain’s National Security Adviser and the Minister of State for Europe and the Americas.



Rep. Upton delivers keynote remarks on health care.



Rep. DeFazio delivers remarks during a discussion on trade. Also shown are (from l to r): Rep. Dent, Rep. Tiberi & Rep. Kelly.



Rep. Blackburn makes a point during the cyber security panel.



Rep. Meehan delivers remarks during the discussion on cyber security. Also shown are (from l to r): Rep. Himes, Rep. Thornberry, Rep. Blackburn & Ciaran Martin, the CEO of the U.K. National Cyber Security Centre.



Rep. Price makes a point during the discussion on health care. Also shown are (from l to r): Rep. Murphy, Rep. Sessions, Rep. Bucshon & Lord Prior of Brampton, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health.



U.S. Representatives listen to a point being made by Crispin Blunt, MP, during a meeting at Parliament with members of the British-American Parliamentary Group.



Rep. Flores makes a point during a discussion on climate change while David Eytton, the Group Head of Technology for BP, looks on.



Panelists share a lighthearted moment during a discussion on tax reform. Panelists included (l to r): Ken Bransom, International Tax Partner at Deloitte, Rep. Renacci, Rep. Larson, Rep. Reed & Mike Williams, the Director of Business and International Tax for Her Majesty's Treasury.



Rep. Welch makes a point during the discussion about the upcoming 115th Congress while Rep. Kelly, Rep. Dent & Rep. Maloney listen.



Rep. Lucas delivers remarks during a discussion on global finance.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2016

- 8:00 am - 3:30 pm - Registration & check-in at hotel
- 3:45 pm - 4:00 pm - Member of Congress Pre-Conference Briefing
- 4:00 pm - 4:15 pm - Conference Opening by Rep. Pat Tiberi, Rep. John Larson and Jim Conzelman
- 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm - In Country Briefing on the U.K. by U.S. Embassy Staff led by Deputy Chief of Mission Lew Lukens
- 5:15 pm - Depart for opening reception
- 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Opening reception with U.S. Ambassador Matthew Barzun at Winfield House
- 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm - Dinner – Lite fare at hotel

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2016

- 6:00 am - 7:30 am - Breakfast at hotel
- 8:30 am - 9:00 am - Opening Speaker – *Rt Hon. Sir Alan Duncan, MP – Minister of State for Europe and the Americas*
- 9:00 am - 11:30 am - Policy Panels
 - *NATO's Role in the Age of Putin – Keynote: Rt Hon. Earl Howe – Minister of State for Defence*
 - *Defeating Terrorism Domestically and Abroad – Keynote: Mr. Paddy McGuinness – Deputy National Security Adviser*
- 11:45 am - 12:30 pm - Lunch with Speaker – “*Delivering the UK's EU Exit*” – *Mr. Robin Walker, MP – Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department of Exiting the European Union*
- 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm - Policy Panel
 - *The Importance of International Trade – Keynote: Rt Hon. Dr. Liam Fox, MP – Secretary of State for International Trade*
- 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm - Members of Congress meeting at 10 Downing Street
- 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm - “Connections to the Special Relationship” Selected educational and cultural visits to: Churchill War Rooms and Benjamin Franklin House
- 6:45 pm - Meet to depart for dinner
- 7:15 pm - 9:30 pm - Member of Congress-led roundtable dinner discussions
- 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm - After dinner coffee

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2016

- 6:00 am - 7:30 am - Breakfast at hotel
- 7:45 am - 12:30 pm - Policy Panels and Panel Briefing
 - *National Health Service vs. “Obamacare”*
 - *Cybersecurity and Encryption – A Private, Public, and Global Concern*
 - *The Future of the EU*
 - *International Taxation and Reform*
- 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch
- 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm - Members of Congress meet with Members of the British-American Parliamentary Group at Parliament
- 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm - Historian-led visit of the chambers in the House of Commons & the House of Lords
- 5:45 pm - Meet to depart for reception and dinner
- 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Reception
- 7:30 pm - 10:30 pm - Member of Congress-led roundtable dinner discussions

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016

- 6:00 am - 8:00 am - Breakfast at hotel
- 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Remembrance Sunday Ceremony
- *Commemorating the “Special Relationship” and end of WWI, WWII & other conflicts with wreath laying and remarks in Grosvenor Square*
- 10:00 am - 11:30 am - Policy Panel
 - *Global Energy and Climate Change*
- 11:45 am - 1:00 pm - Historian-led visit of Kensington Palace
- 1:15 pm - 2:00 pm - Lunch with Speaker – “*The Future of the Special Relationship*” – *Sir Peter Westmacott – Former British Ambassador to the U.S.*
- 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Policy Panels
 - *The Future of Global Finance Post-Brexit and Averting Future Crises*
 - *Agenda of 115th Congress*
- 6:45 pm - 10:30 pm - Reception and Closing Dinner
- 10:30 pm - 12:00 am - After dinner coffee at hotel

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016

- 6:30 am - 9:00 am - Breakfast at hotel
- Morning - Departures