

Democracy and Free Speech on Campus: Theory and Practice

Monday 5th – Tuesday 6th February 2024

Programme

Monday 5th February

11.30	Arrival and Registration	St George's House
12.00	Lunch	Dining Room
13.00	Welcome and Introduction Gary McKeone Programme Director, St George's House	Vicars' Hall
	Purpose of the event outlined: Professor Adam Habib Director, SOAS University of London	
	What is freedom of speech on campus like currently? In what ways can it be improved? Introduce the community of inquiry: Alison Scott-Baumann and SOAS team, Hasan Pandor Rapporteur	
13.30	<u>SESSION #1</u> – 'An Overview of new legislation on free speech'	Vicars' Hall
	Chair: Lord Willetts Smita Jamdar: A 30 minute overview and discussion:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What existed before the Higher Education (freedom of speech) Act 2023?• What's in the FoS Act 2023: duties and amendments• What has happened by way of implementation so far? OfS• What will be the legal status of the guidance?	
14.00-15.00	Three key issues and discussion (60 minutes): Chair: Dr Michael Spence	Vicars' Hall
	- (3 commentators giving 10 minute perspectives on three key issues and the responses to them from the Higher Education sector and Parliament):	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talking about sex and gender – Lottie Moore• Free speech and Student Unions – Jim Dickinson• The state of the sector – Nick Hillman	
15.00-15.45	FOUR GROUPS led by Nina Arif, Sanjana Deen, Rana Osman and Julia Stolyar: nominate note taker and reporter, each group choose focus (not limited to these 3) and discuss together	Vicars' Hall



15.45	Afternoon Tea	Vicars' Hall
16.00	<u>SESSION #2 'Perspectives on freedom of thought'</u>	Vicars' Hall
	Chair: Professor Andrea Cornwall (tbc) 2 presentations, 10 minutes each	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The politics of feelings and the Palestine/Israel conflict on campus – Professor Adam Sutcliffe • Restricting academic freedom through Prevent – Professor John Holmwood and Thabo Huntgeburth 	
16.20	Discussion	
17.00	Evensong (<i>Optional – please be seated by 17.05</i>)	St George's Chapel
17.45	<u>FEEDBACK</u> from 4 groups led by Nina, Sanjana, Rana and Julia	Vicars' Hall
19.00	Break	
19.30	Dinner After dinner speech – Sam Leith	Dining Room
20.45	<u>SESSION #3 – 'Academic freedom on campus – frameworks'</u>	Vicars' Hall
	3 speakers each give 10 minute perspectives about academic freedom on campus:	
	Chair: Professor Emma Crewe	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research excellence, a funder's perspective: Ian Stanton • Student freedom of speech: Haleema Hijazi • Office for Students Jim Dickinson 	
	30 minute discussion	
22.00	Tour of St George's Chapel – led by Colonel Barrie Fairman, Military Knight of Windsor (<i>please assemble in the Sitting Room at 21.45</i>)	St George's Chapel



Tuesday 6th February

07.30	Mattins (<i>Optional</i>)	St George's Chapel
08.00	Holy Communion (<i>Optional</i>)	St George's Chapel
08.00– 09.00	Breakfast & Check out <i>Please bring all luggage to the Vicars' Hall</i>	Dining Room
09.00	Welcome back Chair: Professor Shitij Kapur further quick introductions and recap	Vicars' Hall
09.30	<u>SESSION #4</u> – 'What is to be Done?' 3 speakers to give 10 minutes' worth of ideas Chair: Lord Hastings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The perils of perception: Professor Bobby Duffy• Activist strategies: Professor Alison Scott-Baumann• Using language: Sam Leith Discussion	
10.45	Brief morning coffee/tea with small groups for reflections on suggestions and report back.	Vicars' Hall
11.00	<u>SESSION #5</u> – 'From Reflection to Action' Chair: Professor Adam Habib 'Check-out' around the group: each person to take 1-2 minutes on (i) what they think should be done; (ii) what they can do or contribute to future work; (iii) any further comments. Conclusions and close	Vicars' Hall
12.45	Lunch	Vicars' Hall
14.00	Departures	

