



The Foreign Policy Centre



You are warmly invited to the latest POLIS event, in partnership with Channel 4 and the Foreign Policy Centre:

The Future of Iraq: the media and public response to the Iraq Commission

Tuesday 24 July, 6.30 - 8.00pm

Old Theatre, London School of Economics
Houghton Street London WC2A 2AE



Speakers: Professor Mary Kaldor (LSE), Baroness Margaret Jay (Iraq Commission), Patrick Cockburn (The Independent), Tim Finch (Refugee Council), Ghaith Abdul-Ahad (Guardian)

Chair: Krishnan Guru-Murthy (Channel 4)

Following a series of hearings, Channel 4 aired the findings of the Channel 4/ Foreign Policy Centre Iraq Commission in a special programme presented by Jon Snow on Saturday 14 July 2007. The Commission, the equivalent of the US Iraq Study Group, is an independent, cross-party Commission which has produced recommendations on the future of Britain's role in Iraq.

The POLIS event will be the first public debate on the findings of the Iraq Commission. Through incorporative panel debate, it will gauge the response of the press and the public, many of whom will have already viewed the Channel 4 programme or read the report.

It will ask what role the public and press have in carrying out the Commission's findings, and what impact implementing the Commission's findings will have on community cohesion, the terror threat and Muslim/ media relations in the UK.

This will be the backdrop for a wider debate about how the conflict in Iraq has been reported and will continue to be reported, whether the media has facilitated sufficient and healthy public debate, whether the government has listened, and, ultimately, what the story of Iraq will be in the long run.

The event will be followed by a drinks reception in the Senior Common Room.



Charlie Beckett, POLIS Director

