

# FIRST SEA LORD'S SEA POWER CONFERENCE 2019

15 May 2019 Royal United Services Institute, 61 Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET

0915 - 1000 Registration and Refreshments

1000 – 1015 **Opening Remarks**

Speaker: The Rt Hon Lord Hague of Richmond, Chairman, Royal United Services Institute

1015 – 1045 **Keynote Address (Sir Henry Leach Lecture)**

Speaker: The Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP, Secretary of State for Defence

1045 – 1130 **First Sea Lord Address**

**Admiral Sir Philip Jones KCB ADC DL**, First Sea Lord, Royal Navy

*Q&A to follow*

1130 – 1200 Refreshments

1200 – 1255 **Session One: The Shape of the New: Mega Trends, Emerging Challenges and Opportunities**

Globalisation is a long-term process that has been driving an ever more interconnected world trading system in which interdependencies have in recent decades been overcoming traditional boundaries. The result is a world ever more complex where the only certainty is inherent uncertainty.

Predicting developments in such circumstances is fraught with difficulty, but there are several 'mega-trends' which form the long-term backdrop against which all strategic and policy decisions are to be developed. This session will examine the extent to which these trends have implications for national strategy and policy choices objectives.

Chair: **Dr Jonathan Eyal**, Associate Director, Strategic Research Partnerships, Royal United Services Institute

Speakers: **James Sproule**, LEK Consulting

**Dr Gerard Lyons**, British Economist, Writer and Speaker

**Sir Malcolm Rifkind KCMG QC**, former Foreign Secretary and Defence Secretary. Distinguished Fellow, Royal United Services Institute. Visiting Professor, Dept of War Studies, Kings College London.

1255 – 1355 Lunch

1355 – 1450 **Session Two: A Maritime Strategy for the UK – by default or design?**

Having examined 'mega-trends' and broad implications for UK national strategy, the conference will address whether a maritime strategy is an appropriate response for the UK. Are we witnessing the UK as an outward looking island trading nation with a seat in the G7 and P5 re-discovering the asymmetric advantage of sea power - the Global Commons - as a lever of national power?

Chair: **Dr Carl Schramm**, Syracuse University

Speakers: **Dr Brian Gilvary**, Chief Financial Officer, BP Group PLC

**Sarah Kenny**, Chief Executive, BMT

**Vice Admiral Jerry Kyd**, Fleet Commander, Royal Navy

1450 – 1545 **Session Three: War Made New? The Impact of Technology – transforming the traditional concept of the Fleet**

Today, as AI promises to disrupt the technological landscape, the key question is what sort of social and organisational culture is best equipped to cope with the coming changes? It remains to be seen whether open societies with their emphasis on deliberation, checks and balances as well as free access to information are well suited or at a disadvantage in an era in which AI looks to exponentially increase the speed of decision-making. How will the democratisation of access to information impact these changes and how do Armed Forces integrate these technologies into control systems built for another era?

Chair: **Dr Jeremy Stocker**, Associate Fellow, Royal United Services Institute

Speakers: **Dr Philippa Malmgren**, Former Presidential adviser and co-founder of H Robotics

**Dr Simon Cholerton**, MOD Chief Scientific Advisor

**Dr Nick Wright**, Consultant, Intelligent Biology

1545 – 1615 Refreshments

1615 – 1710 **Session Four: The War for Talent – Where is the next Nelson coming from?**

As the 21<sup>st</sup> century progresses, organisations will find themselves in competition for scarce talent although technology has the potential to mitigate this pressure. How do organisations cultivate individuals with the requisite skill sets, education and, importantly, ethical outlooks needed to mitigate the risks afforded by technology whilst unlocking its force multiplying qualities?

Against the backdrop of identifying individuals who can cope with this complex environment, the pool of available recruits is shrinking. This panel will examine how organisations, the Armed Forces included, might cope with the twin challenges of a changing skills requirement and a shrinking pool of prospective recruits.

Chair: **Ewan Lawson**, Senior Research Fellow for Military Influence, Royal United Services Institute

Speakers: **Marianne Green**, Human Capital Consulting Director, Deloitte

**Adrian Dottridge**, CDP People Transformation Programme lead

**David D'Souza**, Head of CIPD Membership and former Head of CIPD Engagement

1710 – 1735 **Session Five: Closing Address**

Chair: **Dr Karin von Hippel**, Director General, Royal United Services Institute

**Vice Admiral Nick Hine CB**, Second Sea Lord, Royal Navy

1735 – 1900 **Drinks Reception**