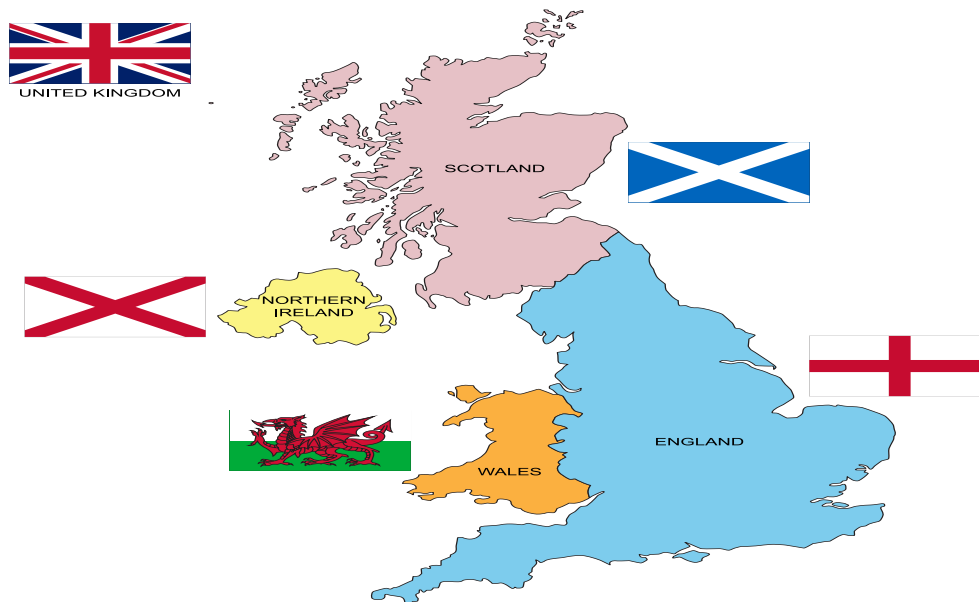


The Unity of a Nation

8 December 2021 (GMT 12:00-13:30; 15:00-16:30)



Event registration:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMvdOmhqD0qHNvV35dYJNN1oMIUStVY-D5B>

1. A course of lectures on the constitutional structure of a selection of nations

Each shows how unity is achieved and its relative success and displays a particular arrangement of regions and a distinct model of unity.

- **United States** Richard CLARY, Harvard Law School (the U.S.)
- **China** Qianfan ZHANG, Peking University (China)
- **Spain** Roberto Galan VIOQUE, Sevilla University (Spain)
- **Italy** Francesco BILANCIA, Pescara University (Italy)

Each lecture is to address the following:

- The regional composition of the country
- The matters to be resolved to achieve national unity
- The form of unity adopted, the character and features
- An assessment of how successful the form of unity has been

2. A lecture on the United Kingdom Sionaidh DOUGLAS-SCOTT, Queen Mary College London

The aim of this lecture is:

- To give a brief history of the form of unity of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland
- To identify the problems of the present form of unity and the reasons
- To consider alternative forms, drawing on the models of unity developed in previous lectures, and to draw from them guidance for the future.

3. Debate and discussion

After the lectures, two panels will convene, the first to discuss the models of unity, the second to concentrate on the unity of the UK. **The first panel** consists of the five lecturers: Richard CLARY, Qianfan ZHANG, Roberto Galan VIOQUE, Francesco BILANCIA, and Sionaidh DOUGLAS-SCOTT. **The second panel** is composed of five members. One of them will address the UK as a whole, and each of the other four will consider the matter from the point of view of one of the four nations, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and England.

Membership of the second panel:

- ***United Kingdom*** Michael Gordon, Liverpool University
- ***Northern Ireland*** Christopher McCrudden, Queens University
Belfast
- ***Scotland*** Nicola McEwen, Edinburgh University
- ***Wales*** Sarah Nason, Bangor University
- ***England*** Alison Young, Cambridge University

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4. Administration and Timetables

- a. The lectures on the USA, China, Italy, and Spain pre-recorded by mid-November 2021 and available on the website (<http://oxgs.org>);
- b. The lecture on the UK pre-recorded by end of November 2021 and available on the website;
- c. Brief report of the lectures prepared for the website;
- d. The debate held digitally on Wednesday 8th December 2021

Morning session (12.00-13.30 GMT): panel composed of the 5 lecturers; each to present a short synopsis (5 minutes), followed by discussion among the lecturers, then contributions from the audience

Afternoon session (15:00-16:30 GMT): panel of 5 (10 minutes each) to discuss the proposals for the UK

5. Relevant publications

A final report of the lectures and the debate will be prepared and available on the website.

6. Advisory Group

The planning and conduct of the Putney Debates benefit from the counsel and wisdom of an Advisory Group of the following:

Nick Barber	Oxford University
Catherine Barnard	Cambridge University
Richard Clary	Harvard Law School
Sionaidh Douglas-Scott	Queen Mary London
John Howell	Oxford University
Geraldine van Bueren	Institute of International and Comparative Law University of London
Denis Galligan	Oxford University (Chair)