



HOW CAN *REALPOLITIK* BE ETHICAL?



A ONE DAY COLLOQUIUM AT CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD

18th November 2016



How can *Realpolitik* be Ethical?

South West Lodgings, Christ Church, Oxford
18th November 2016, 09.30 – 18.00

PROGRAMME

0900-0925: arrival and coffee

0925: welcome

0930-1100: **Session I: Ethical Realism in Foreign Policy: Three Examples**

Chair: Nigel Biggar

John Bew, King's College London (History and War Studies): "Robert Osgood"

Marc LiVecche, Institute for Religion & Democracy, Washington, DC (Moral Theology): "Reinhold Niebuhr"

Nick Rennger, St Andrews University (International Relations): "Hedley Bull"

1100-1130: Coffee

1130-1300: **Session II: The Ethics of Compromise**

Chair: Edwina Moreton

Stephen de Wijze, University of Manchester (Philosophy and Politics):

"The Case for Dirty Hands: The Inevitability of Committing Moral Wrong-doing in Politics"

Nigel Biggar, University of Oxford (Moral Theology): "Drawing Principles from Cases: South Africa, 1908; Yalta, 1945; Northern Ireland, 1998"

1300-1400: Lunch

1400-1530: **Session III: Contemporary Cases of British Policy**

Chair: John Bew

Roger Boyes, *Times* newspaper: "The British Arms Trade and Human Rights"

Christopher Finlay, University of Birmingham (Political Theory): "British Foreign Policy on Syria"

Participants

- Brad Barlow, D.Phil. student and former USAF intelligence officer, Theology, University of Oxford
- John Bew, Professor in History and Foreign Policy, King's College London; author of *Realpolitik: A History* (2016) and *Castlereagh: Enlightenment War and Tyranny* (2012)
- Desmond Bowen, C.B., C.M.G., Visiting Professor, Politics & International Relations University of Reading; former Director-General of Operational Policy, Ministry of Defence
- Nigel Biggar, Regius Professor of Moral and Pastoral Theology, University of Oxford; author of *In Defence of War* (2013) and *Between Kin and Cosmopolis: An Ethic of the Nation* (2014)
- Roger Boyes, Diplomatic Editor and foreign affairs columnist at *The Times*
- General (ret'd) Tim Cross, C.B.E., Visiting Professor at Nottingham University and Adviser to the House of Commons Defence Committee; formerly the U.K.'s Deputy to the C.P.A. in Iraq, 2003.
- John Darwin, Professor of Global and Imperial History, University of Oxford; author of *After Tamerlane: The Global History of Empire Since 1405* (2008)
- Andrew Dorman, Professor of International Security, King's College London (at UK Defence Academy); author of *Providing for National Security: A Comparative Analysis* (2014)
- Andrew Ehrhardt, Ph.D. student, War Studies, King's College London
- Gabriel Elefteriu, National Security Research Fellow, Policy Exchange
- Cecile Fabre, Professor of Philosophy, University of Oxford; author of *Cosmopolitan War* (2012) and *Cosmopolitan Peace* (2016)
- Christopher Finlay, Reader in Political Theory, University of Birmingham; author of *Terrorism and the Right to Resist: A Theory of Just Revolutionary War* (2015)
- Mervyn Frost, Professor International Relations, King's College London; author of *Global Ethics* (2009)
- Michael Gove, MP; columnist at *The Times*; former Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice
- Martin Kettle, Associate Editor and columnist at *The Guardian*
- James Kidner, Counsellor at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and member of the Senior Directing Staff, Royal College of Defence Studies
- Dr Marc LiVecche, managing editor of *Providence a* and Scholar of Christian Ethics, War, & Peace at the Institute for Religion & Democracy, Washington DC
- John Lloyd, contributing editor at *The Financial Times* and Senior Research Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford
- Tom McKane, Visiting Senior Fellow, LSE; former Director-General for Security Policy, Ministry of Defence
- John McLaughlin, Distinguished Practitioner in Residence in the Merrill Center for Strategic Studies, Johns Hopkins University; former Deputy Director, CIA
- Dr Edwina Moreton, O.B.E., former Diplomatic Editor and Deputy Foreign Editor at the *Economist*; chair of the board of VERTIC, an NGO working on treaty verification
- Sir Joseph Pilling, K.C.B., former Permanent Secretary, Northern Ireland Office
- Nick Rengger, Professor of Political Theory and International Relations, St Andrew's University; author of *Just War and International order: The Uncivil Condition in World Politics* (2013)
- Sir Adam Roberts, K.C.M.G., Emeritus Professor of International Relations, University of Oxford; former President of the British Academy; co-author of *Civil Resistance in the Arab Spring: Triumphs and Disasters* (2016)
- Sir Ivor Roberts, K.C.M.G., President, Trinity College, Oxford; editor of *Satow's Diplomatic Practice*; former H.M. Ambassador to Yugoslavia, Ireland, and Italy; .
- Dr David Ryall, Secretary, Committee for International Justice & Peace, conference of Catholic Bishops for England and Wales

Simon Webb, C.B.E., former Policy Director, Ministry of Defence

Paul Schulte, Hon. Professor of Security Studies, University of Birmingham; joint-chair of UK Council on Christian Approaches to Defence and Disarmament; former Ministry of Defence Director of Proliferation and Arms Control and UK Commissioner for Iraqi Disarmament

Dr Stephen de Wijze, Senior Lecturer in Philosophy & Politics, University of Manchester; co-author of *The Problem of Dirty Hands: A philosophical exploration* (2017)

DIRECTIONS

Christ Church (South-West Lodgings), Oxford, OX1 1DP
The venue is shown as **A** on the map below.



By Car

If you travel to Oxford by car, you would be well advised to use the Park-and-Ride system (especially at the foot of the Abingdon Road) and not to bring your vehicle into the city-centre. Nevertheless, there is a city-central car-park next to the Westgate shopping centre.

By Train

There are regular, direct trains from London to Oxford departing from London Paddington. It is a short (15-minute) walk from the station to the college.

Further information can be found here: <http://www.thetrainline.com/buytickets/>

By Bus

There is a direct and very regular coach service between London and Oxford departing from London Victoria. The point of disembarkation closest to Christ Church is the 'Queen's Lane' stop.

Further information can be found here: <http://www.oxfordtube.com/londontube.php>

Contact

If you need further information or have any problems on Friday 18th November, please contact Nigel Biggar at nigel.biggar@chch.ox.ac.uk or on 01865-276219 or (if he remembers to turn it on) 07982036375.