



Harkness Fellows Association

# Harkness Events

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HARKNESS ANNUAL LECTURE

## **BRONWEN MADDOX**

**EDITOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE, PROSPECT MAGAZINE**

### **CAN DEMOCRACIES SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS?**

**MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER, Picture Room, Athenaeum Club, Pall Mall  
6.30-8.30pm**

**Tickets: £20 (HFA members) £23 (non-members) £15 (special price for second and further guests)**

**The talk will be preceded by the Harkness Fellows Association AGM. Further details and papers will be circulated to members in due course.**

Since the financial crisis, some have asked if liberal democracy has had its day. It is not new for democratic governments to have to repair national finances and pay down debt. But it is new to be doing this as ageing populations and rising expectations put the public finances under ever-greater strain. The emergence of populist and anti-austerity politicians, both on the campaign trail in the United States and in many European countries, including Britain with the election of Jeremy Corbyn as Labour leader, suggests that many voters in these countries are unhappy with the way the bargains they thought they had with their governments—on education, health and pensions—are being rewritten. The well-known trap for democracy is that politicians win most easily by promising more than the country can afford—and can't win easily if they set out to rewrite past promises. If that is the trap we are now in, how can we get out?

Bronwen Maddox is renowned for her analysis of politics, economics and finance. Since 2010 she has edited Prospect magazine. Between 1999 and 2010 she was Chief Foreign Commentator and Foreign Editor of *The Times*, having already served as the newspaper's US Editor and Washington Bureau Chief. She was previously an award-winning reporter and economics editorial writer at the *Financial Times*, and had been a Director at Kleinwort Benson Securities for five years and head of its media analyst team. Bronwen has interviewed some of the world's most controversial leaders, including Vladimir Putin, Tony Blair, George W. Bush, Angela Merkel, Benazir Bhutto shortly before her assassination and Jimmy Carter.

**There will be a reception at 6.30pm; wine, soft drinks and light snacks will be on offer. This should be an interesting and highly topical event so please put the date in your diary, and let Lizzie know as soon as possible if you can attend. Guests are, of course, most welcome. The dress code at the Athenaeum is jackets and ties for men and 'smart' for women.**

**RSVP to Lizzie Clark [harkness@acu.ac.uk](mailto:harkness@acu.ac.uk) Tel: 020 7380 6704 Harkness Fellows Association  
c/o ACU, Woburn House, 20-24 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HF**

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