Sir Simon James FRASER KCMG

Former Permanent Under Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office. For services to the FCO and the pursuit of British foreign policy interests

Sir Simon Fraser led the Foreign and Commonwealth Office with distinction as Permanent Under-Secretary for five years from 2010 to 2015. This was a period of extraordinary challenges in foreign policy and international crisis management. He displayed outstanding personal leadership in guiding the response of the Diplomatic Service to these exceptional demands. Through his Diplomatic Excellence initiative he continually promoted the highest standards of policy making, and significantly strengthened the work of the FCO in its support to British business. Sir Simon also made an exceptional contribution to strengthening the management of the FCO. He oversaw the growth of the UK’s diplomatic network while at the same time significantly reducing running costs and leading a major rationalisation and modernisation of the FCO estate in the UK. He showed particular personal commitment to advancing diversity and inclusion in the FCO as well as through his wider work as the Civil Service Diversity Champion. Beyond Whitehall he devoted great energy to mentoring and to strengthening the outreach of the FCO to a wide range of schools and universities and to groups of young people from different backgrounds.

Malcolm David EVANS OBE

Chair United Nations Subcommittee for the Prevention of Torture. For services to torture prevention and religious freedom

Since the award of his OBE in 2004 Malcolm Evans has made an exceptional and unparalleled contribution to the global fight against torture and other inhuman treatment and punishment and a consistently strong contribution to the promotion of religious liberty. This award is in recognition of over twenty years of achievements in the field of international human rights. He has written many books on this subject and has become involved in many international processes, including his Chairing the UN’s leading body responsible for torture prevention and working closely with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe on issues concerning the freedom of religion or belief. He has worked tirelessly and voluntarily over a sustained period at the international level to advance human rights.

Judith MACGREGOR CMG LVO
High Commissioner, Pretoria. For services to British foreign policy and prosperity in South Africa

Judith Macgregor has been at the forefront of managing foreign policy relations between the UK and South Africa helping to build a stronger modern bilateral relationship whilst promoting British interests in South Africa such as trade and investment, science, innovation and education. This builds on excellence in a long distinguished career including as Ambassador to Mexico and to Slovakia where she made a clear difference in bilateral relations and promoting UK interests. Her achievements in promoting and improving diversity in the FCO, through her leadership of the FCO Women’s Association, and herself combining a large family with a successful FCO career, have had a strong positive impact, not only in the FCO but Civil Service wide.

Ivan ROGERS

United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the European Union, Brussels. For Services to British European and International Policy

Ivan Rogers has made an exceptional and sustained contribution to public service over two decades in a wide range of the most senior and pre-eminent roles in the civil service. He has a record of outstanding achievement on international issues, particularly on the UK’s European policy, including a major role in cutting the EU budget, negotiating the Justice and Home Affairs opt-out and as UK sherpa for the UK’s 2013 G8 Summit at Lough Erne. He has served as Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, as G8 sherpa to 2 Prime Ministers, preparing 4 G8 Summits, as G20 sherpa, and as Head of the European and Global Issues Secretariat in the Cabinet Office, as well as working for several years in the private sector.

Knight Bachelor

Colin Nigel CALLENDER CBE

Television, film and theatre producer. For services to the British creative industries, promoting British film, theatre and television in international markets

Colin Callender is a pioneering, award winning television, film and theatre producer. A long-time ambassador for the UK’s creative industries, Callender has been responsible for encouraging many prestigious productions to be filmed in the UK and has brought some of the finest British programming and talent to audiences around the world. From his early work as the Emmy winning producer of Channel 4’s adaptation of the RSC’s “Nicholas Nickleby”, his acclaimed tenure as president of HBO Films, to his recent productions of “Wolf Hall” and “The Dresser” for the BBC, Callender has established himself as one of the UK’s most celebrated producers promoting British interests and creativity both at home and abroad.

The Hon Judge Nicholas FORWOOD QC
Judge of the General Court, Court of Justice of the European Union. For services to European justice

As the UK judge of the EU General Court and the Chair of a chamber for six years, Judge Forwood has made a significant contribution to the development of EU law and took part in many of the Court’s leading judgements. He played a leading role in the development of procedural reforms which substantially improved the functioning of the General Court. He was a founding trustee of European Children in Crisis (ECiC), a charity to aid children and their families facing personal crises associated with moving between countries and cultures; and a governor of St George’s International School in Luxembourg where he took the lead in the transformation of the school from a small private school into a non-profit organisation with over 600 students.