



Seminar Friday 11 March, British Council, Madrid, 9am-3pm

'What Can we Learn from Spain about is Devolution Taking us? Sketching a History of the Next Twenty Years'

A brainstorming session about the dynamics and trajectories of devolution. UK experts will present scenarios on particular issues, and will circulate these beforehand. For each session a Spanish commentator will present critical insights on these scenarios based on their experience and analysis of the decentralisation reforms in Spain. The scenario papers and the Spanish commentaries will inform a 'final report' on this series of UK-Spanish seminars for publication late in 2005/early in 2006.

Session One: The Nations

- What will be the state of politics in Scotland? - Joyce McMillan (Scotsman)
- What will be the state of politics in Wales? - Dafydd Tristan (Plaid Cymru)
- How will England be governed? – Peter Hetherington (The Guardian))
- Commentator – Luis Moreno (Spanish National Research Council, UPC-CSIC)

Session Two: The UK State

- Will devolved government be more or less asymmetrical than now? – Michael Keating (European University Institute, Florence)
- How will central government be organized to manage devolution? - Robert Hazell (Director, Constitution Unit, University College, London)
- Will devolution change the way the UK engages with the EU? – Des Clifford (Director of the National Assembly for Wales Office in Brussels)
- Commentator – Francesc Pallarés (University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona)

Session Three: Equity and Diversity

- How much will be left of a welfare state based on ideas of equality of access to public services?- (Scott Greer, School of Public Policy, University College, London)
- Will economic growth across the UK be more or less imbalanced than now? – Jim Gallagher (Faculty of Law, Glasgow University and Scottish Executive)
- What will the UK's territorial financial arrangements look like? – James Mitchell (University of Strathclyde)
- Commentator – Joan Subirats (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)