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| #BATTLEFEST

BATTLE IDEAS FESTIVAL

28 – 29 OCTOBER 2023

| CHURCH HOUSE, 27 GREAT SMITH STREET, SW1P 3AZ

TWO DAYS OF THOUGHT-PROVOKING PUBLIC DEBATE



| academy of ideas |

FREE SPEECH ALLOWED!

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BUXTON BATTLE OF
IDEAS FESTIVAL



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Battle of Ideas festival in London brings together almost 400 speakers for 100 debates over the course of a single weekend.

This brochure will help you plan and navigate your visit to the festival. The debates are primarily organised by themed topic areas that we call 'strands' with all the debates in a strand running through the day in the same room. For example, the 'Energising Growth' strand on Sunday includes debates on renewables, the housing crisis, adapting to climate change and net zero. You can choose to follow one strand throughout the day, or pick and choose debates from different strands on the topics that interest you.

Whatever you decide to do, with such a wide range of debates and discussion, we are sure there will be plenty for everyone to think about.

SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER

See timetable pages 4 – 5

KEYNOTE
CONTROVERSIES

FREE SPEECH

BATTLE FOR THE
ECONOMY

TECH FUTURES

SCIENTIFIC ETHICS

FAMILY MATTERS

STATE OF THE NATION

MORAL MAZE

ARTS & CULTURE

LETTERS ON LIBERTY

SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER

See timetable pages 8 – 9

KEYNOTE
CONTROVERSIES

ENERGISING GROWTH

CHALLENGING
ORTHODOXIES

STATE OF THE NATION

EYE ON THE WORLD

IDENTITY CRISIS

BATTLE FOR THE
CLASSROOM

AUTHORS LIVE

CONTEMPORARY
CONTROVERSIES

LETTERS ON LIBERTY



FOR FULL DETAILS OF
ALL STRANDS, DEBATES &
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES,
SEE [BATTLEOFIDEAS.ORG.UK](https://battleofideas.org.uk)

WHY BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023 ?

COPING WITH CRISIS

Crisis seems to be the word of the year - energy crisis, climate crisis, housing crisis and global economy crisis. There's a feeling that much of British society seems to be falling apart, from scrapping high-speed rail to NHS waiting lists. Every public service claims to be in crisis. Crisis today, however, is not defined simply by a sense of economic stagnation or social inertia. Rather it comes at a time of increasing culture wars divisions, and a toxic atmosphere of 'you can't say that' censorship.

Geo-political fragmentation also seems the order of the day. The shock of the invasion of Ukraine - and the prospect of never-ending war in Europe - has now been usurped by the horrific scenes of barbarism in Israel. The visceral images of radical Islamism and its nihilistic terror have led to worries this may fuel not only a brutal war in the region, but a new civilisational conflict that spreads well beyond the Middle East. In London, and throughout the Western world, political disorientation and regressive trends have led some so-called progressives to justify, even celebrate, the Hamas pogroms. Clearly, the crisis of politics in the twenty-first century presents profound new challenges to us all.

BEYOND THE 'WESTMINSTER VILLAGE'

This is YOUR chance to discuss developments beyond the narrow set of ideas that is common currency in Westminster, social media and mainstream news outlets. From the 'debanking' phenomenon and the strange reorientation of business around environmental, social and corporate governance to concerns over shoplifters, screenagers, online sleuths, transgenderism and conversion therapy, the festival will take a widescreen look at recent developments.

We need to address difficult questions around the huge societal trends we are living through. Why is social conservatism making such a comeback - particularly among a younger generation keen to spurn sexual freedom? Will artificial intelligence spark a huge shakeup in our very understanding of what it means to be human? The death of impartiality - whether in the media, education or civil service - prompts the question: is it really impossible to keep politics and activism out of ordinary life? From the morality of surrogacy to why Andrew Tate has undue influence over young men, have your say.

This is also a chance to assess the future. With polls predicting a Labour government, how worried should we be about 'progressive' politics? With politicians focused on trying to stop us doing things - like smoking, or expressing opinions, online and off, dubbed as harmful and hateful - how do we start to create the economic growth that could make our lives more comfortable?

THE FREE-SPEECH FESTIVAL - JOIN THE DEBATE

Battle of Ideas festival is where we hope new ideas - and even a new politics - can take shape. Key to this will be to embrace the festival slogans Free Speech Allowed and Free Thinkers Welcome. As we'll explore in debates on dissent and the politics of hate, this means being prepared to reject conformism and go beyond orthodoxies. But it also requires serious effort to make political exchange less toxic and more productive.

Indeed, in the wider world, the festival motto of 'shaping the future through debate' may already be having an impact. From net zero to the war on motorists, issues previously thought settled are now being contested. With the issue of Britain's borders refusing to subside, debate on membership of the European Convention on Human Rights is becoming the property of the public. The festival offers an opportunity to ensure that these and other contentious issues - such as women's rights and racial equality - are properly debated, despite culture wars divisions.

This is why we encourage everyone to come along with an open mind - accepting the possibility that those on the 'other side' of the debate might have a point. We aim to dig beneath the headlines, soundbites and memes. This is not an invitation to listen passively to the 'experts'. For us, the audience IS the festival. Every session will have plenty of time to ask questions and put your views across.

TOWARDS A NEW ENLIGHTENMENT

Faced with crisis, it would be all too easy to want to switch off and tune out. But this is certainly no time to give ground in the face of twenty-first-century fatalism. Just as the motto 'Dare to know' was the battle cry of the Age of Enlightenment in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Europe, so we need to take up the challenge of breathing rationality and reason into a world today that too often succumbs to nihilism.

If you are up for that challenge, then alongside our array of experts, critics and commentators, let's explore and debate all aspects of our emerging world.

Join us in London on the 28 & 29 October, but also at our one-day festival in Buxton on 25 November, and satellite events around the UK and Europe, too.

Let Battle commence.

Alastair Donald and Ella Whelan
co-convenors, Battle of Ideas festival

REGISTRATION: SATURDAY FROM 9:00, SUNDAY FROM 09:30, GROUND FLOOR



For full information on sessions and speakers, scan QR code or visit battleofideas.org.uk/saturday

SATURDAY

THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023									
KEYNOTE CONTROVERSIES ASSEMBLY HALL FIRST FLOOR	FREE SPEECH HOARE MEMORIAL HALL FIRST FLOOR	BATTLE FOR THE ECONOMY HARVEY GOODWIN SUITE GROUND FLOOR	TECH FUTURES CONVOCAION HALL FIRST FLOOR	SCIENTIFIC ETHICS TEMPLE ROOM LOWER GROUND	FAMILY MATTERS OLD OFFICE LOWER GROUND	STATE OF THE NATION ROBERT RUNCIE ROOM LOWER GROUND	MORAL MAZE COUNCIL ROOM GROUND FLOOR	ARTS & CULTURE WESTMINSTER ROOM GROUND FLOOR	LETTERS ON LIBERTY ABBAY ROOM GROUND FLOOR
THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023 WELCOME ADDRESS WITH CLAIRE FOX, BEN DELO, ELLA WHELAN & ALASTAIR DONALD					THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023 WELCOME ADDRESS WITH CLAIRE FOX, BEN DELO, ELLA WHELAN & ALASTAIR DONALD				
POWER PLAY: WHO REALLY RULES TODAY? Pamela Dow Frank Furedi Matthew Goodwin Harry Lambert Anand Menon Chair: Claire Fox	FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS: SHOULD HECKLERS BE BANNED? Dennis Hayes Holly Lawford-Smith James Orr Alice Sullivan James Tooley Chair: Alastair Donald	RIISING TENSIONS, FALLING GROWTH: PROSPECTS FOR THE GLOBAL ECONOMY? Liam Halligan Ivan Krastev Maggie Pagano Helen Searls Radomir Tylecote Chair: Phil Mullan	INVENTING THE FUTURE: HOW DO WE UNLEASH INNOVATION? Steve Jordan Simon Nash Nikos Sotirakopoulos Sally Taplin James Woudhuysen Chair: Martyn Perks	FROM COVID TO CLIMATE CHANGE: HAVE WE LOST FAITH IN (THE) SCIENCE? Stuart Derbyshire Sunetra Gupta Mike Hulme Graham Stringer MP Thomas Walker-Werth Chair: Timandra Harkness	THE MORALITY OF SURROGACY Lexi Ellingsworth Sarah Jones Gary Powell Ella Whelan Chair: Jan Macvarish	FROM MIZZY TO SHOPLIFTING: ANTI- SOCIAL SOCIETY? Emma Burnell Neil Davenport Francis Foster Rory Geoghegan Lisa McKenzie Chair: Dave Clements	ARE SLIPPERY- SLOPE ARGUMENTS EVER VALID? Piers Benn Heather Brunszell-Evans David Albert Jones Kevin Yuill Chair: John O’Brien	ONLINE SLEUTHS: WHY ARE WE OBSESSED WITH TRUE CRIME? Sue Cook Ruth Dudley Edwards Luke Gittos Graham Wettone Chair: Max Sanderson	
WHATSAPPENED TO PRIVACY? Josie Appleton David Davis Tiffany Jenkins Tim Stanley Chair: Ella Whelan	THE POLITICS OF HATE: IS EVERYONE A BIGOT BUT ME? Kate Harris Eve Kay Winston Marshall Faisal Saeed Al Mutar Martin Wright Chair: Alastair Donald	BOUNCING BACK OR BASKET CASE? THE STATE OF THE UK ECONOMY Sam Bowman William Clouston Phil Mullan Vicky Pryce Chair: Rob Lyons	TERMINATOR OR TECH HYPE? AI AND THE APOCALYPSE Tracey Follows Norman Lewis Elizabeth Seger Ulrike Tillmann FRS Chair: Sandy Starr	‘15-MINUTE CITIES’: CONSPIRACY VERSUS REALITY Emily Carver Alan Miller Ali Miraj Martin Powell Chair: Austin Williams	FEEDING BABIES: IS BREAST ALWAYS BEST? Speakers include: Milli Hill Rebecca Steinfeld Erin Williams Chair: Ellie Lee	THE SPIKED PODCAST LIVE Rakib Ehsan Inaya Folarin Iman Konstantin Kisin Tom Slater Host: Fraser Myers	HOW FAR SHOULD PROTEST GO? Charlie Bentley-Astor Mark Johnson Kevin O’Sullivan Sarah Phillimore Chair: Sally Millard	NOT JUST FOR SNOBS: DEFENDING CLASSICAL MUSIC Dolan Cummings Jack Hues Ian Pace Lola Salem Chair: Elisabetta Gasparoni	LETTERS ON LIBERTY: BOXING: DON’T COUNT IT OUT Lecturer: Chris Akers Respondents: Max Barragan Segre Luke Gittos Chair: Geoff Kidder
LUNCH	TOUGH CROWD: HOW I MADE AND LOST A CAREER IN COMEDY Andrew Doyle in conversation with Graham Linehan	ARE WE TAXED TO DEATH? Paul Embery Reem Ibrahim Chair: David Bowden	LUNCH	SEX AND DRUGS AND ROCK’N’ROLL: HAS MUSIC LOST ITS EDGE? Aaqil Ahmed Tom Collyer Jenny Holland Chair: Carlton Brick	THE CRISIS OF CHILDCARE: WHO’S HOLDING THE BABY? Anne Fennell Naomi Firsh Emma Gilland Chair: Bev Marshall	LUNCH	ACADEMICS BUILDING ACADEMIC FREEDOM FROM THE GROUND UP Firat Cengiz Ruth Mieschbuehler Ian Pace Chair: Dennis Hayes	PERFORMANCE ANXIETY PODCAST LIVE Alex Dale Maren Thom Host: Timandra Harkness	LUNCH
WAR ON THE PAST: A WAR ON THE PUBLIC? Ashley Frawley Ivan Hewett Ivan Krastev Sean Lang Robert Tombs Chair: Jacob Reynolds	ONLINE CENSORSHIP: AN INTERNATIONAL CLAMPDOWN? Silkie Carlo Thomas Fazi Konstantin Kisin Norman Lewis Chair: Toby Young	FROM DIVERSITY TO DEBANKING: IS ESG BAD FOR BUSINESS? Luke Johnson Catherine McBride Lesley Smith Martin Summers Joanna Williams Chair: Hilary Salt	WHAT ARE THE LIMITS OF AI? Stuart Derbyshire Anders C Hansen Timandra Harkness Andrew Orlowski Kathleen Stock Chair: Sandy Starr	MAKING BABIES IN THE LAB: THE MORALITY OF REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES Mehmet Çiftçi Nicky Drury Ann Furedi Güneş Taylor Chair: Ella Whelan	SQUARE-EYED SCREENAGERS: ARE PHONES CORRUPTING OUR KIDS? Elliot Bewick Josephine Hussey Molly Kingsley Joe Nutt Simon Wessely FRS Chair: Gareth Sturdy	TURBOCHARGING DEVOLUTION: BOOST OR BUST FOR DEMOCRACY? Niall Crowley Dolan Cummings Frank McKenna Jo Phillips Dan Robinson Chair: Alastair Donald	LAST ORDERS PODCAST LIVE Patrick Christys Madeline Grant Hosts: Tom Slater and Christopher Snowdon	FROM REWRITING CLASSICS TO SENSITIVITY READERS: THE BATTLE FOR BOOKS Phil Harrison Masimba Musodza Tomiwa Owolade Jane Robins Sibyl Ruth Chair: Sheila Lewis	LETTERS ON LIBERTY: AGAINST REPARATIONS Lecturer: James Heartfield Respondents: Remi Adekoya Pauline Hadaway Rushabh Haria Chair: Kevin Yuill
DEIFYING DIVERSITY: A VALUE FOR OUR TIMES? Simon Fanshawe OBE Maya Forstater Mercy Muroki Tomiwa Owolade Joanna Williams Chair: Alastair Donald	FREE SPEECH NATION WITH ANDREW DOYLE: LIVE (TV RECORDING) Peter Boghossian Melissa Chen Paul Cox Moira Deeming MP Leo Kears Holly Lawford-Smith Faisal Saeed Al Mutar Neil Oliver Host: Andrew Doyle	REVIVING ECONOMIES: IS THE STATE A HELP OR A HINDRANCE? Paul Embery Matthew Lesh Ali Miraj Hilary Salt Chair: Phil Mullan	IS AI THE END OF ART? JJ Charlesworth Vivek Haria Rosie Kay Hamish Todd Chair: Sandy Starr	DEBATING MATTERS: ‘SOCIAL EGG-FREEZING EMPOWERS WOMEN’ Schools: New City College Richmond upon Thames College Judges: Linda Murdoch Güneş Taylor Simon Wessely FRS Chair: Geoff Kidder	WHOSE KIDS ARE THEY ANYWAY? RECLAIMING PARENTAL AUTHORITY Tom Bewick Jo-Anne Nadler Allison Pearson Stuart Waiton Chair: Jane Sandeman	WHAT WOULD A LABOUR GOVERNMENT LOOK LIKE? Tim Black Richard Johnson Mark Seddon James Smith Joan Smith Chair: Paddy Hannam	SHOULD BURNING HOLY BOOKS BE BANNED? Manick Govinda Khadija Khan Lois McLatchie Hardeep Singh Peter Whittle Chair: Piers Benn	BALLOON DEBATE: WHAT’S THE BEST SCREEN ADAPTATION OF A BOOK? Jonathan Grant Ethan Green Phil Harrison Sibyl Ruth Maren Thom Barry Wall Chair: David Bowden	ISRAEL: ANTI-SEMITISM TODAY Daniel Ben-Ami Frank Furedi Josh Howie Chair: Jean Smith
THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023 DRINKS RECEPTION 55 BROADWAY, LONDON SW1H 0BD ABOVE ST JAMES’S PARK UNDERGROUND STATION					THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023 DRINKS RECEPTION 55 BROADWAY, LONDON SW1H 0BD ABOVE ST JAMES’S PARK UNDERGROUND STATION				

IDEAS MARKET

Throughout the festival, come and have a coffee while browsing a range of stalls promoting ideas to get you thinking and talking.

FESTIVAL BOOKSHOP

Visit the festival bookshop outside Bishop Partridge Hall to find a curated selection of publications featuring key festival topics and speakers. Look out for book signings throughout the weekend, and browse, buy or takeaway some new ideas to mull over, post-Battle.

FESTIVAL LUNCHTIME BITES

SATURDAY: 13:45 – 14:30
SUNDAY: 12:45 – 13:30

Short discussions between the main sessions. So grab a sandwich and a seat, and tuck in!

SUNDAY BREAKFAST BANTERS

10:00 – 10:45

Get your festival Sunday up and running with these short-and-snappy debates at 10am. Grab your breakfast of choice and join the discussion.

FREE SPEECH NATION WITH ANDREW DOYLE:
LIVE (TV RECORDING)

SATURDAY: 16:45 –18:15

A live recording of the GB News show, featuring guests Dr Peter Boghossian, Melissa Chen, Paul Cox, Moira Deeming MP, Leo Kears, Dr Holly Lawford-Smith, Neil Oliver and Faisal Saeed Al Mutar



CHURCH HOUSE CHAPEL

Church House Westminster has a long and rich history interspersed with notable links to royalty, Parliament and the Second World War. On Sunday only, take in two special sessions in the chapel.

BREAKFAST BANTER:
CAN WE AGREE TO DISAGREE?
SUNDAY: 10:00-10:45

ABOLITION TIMES:
LIVE MUSIC CELEBRATING FORGOTTEN HEROES
SUNDAY: 12:45-13:30

HEROES OR VILLAINS?
PARLIAMENT SQUARE STATUES
GUIDED TOUR

From Charles I and Oliver Cromwell to more recent additions Nelson Mandela and Millicent Fawcett, this guided walk asks why they are there, and whether they should retain their pre-eminent position as fashions change.

Meet at Dean’s Yard Entrance, Church House

LED BY GAWAIN TOWLER & MICHAEL OWENS
SATURDAY: 13:40 – 14:30

LED BY GAWAIN TOWLER & JAMES HEARTFIELD
SUNDAY: 12:40-13:30

THE BATTLE OF IDEAS 2023 FESTIVAL
DRINKS RECEPTION

SATURDAY: 18:15 – 20:30

A chance for festival attendees to relax, continue the debates informally and enjoy a drink on behalf of Blue Orchid Hospitality.

Alastair Donald
co-convenor, Battle of Ideas festival

with

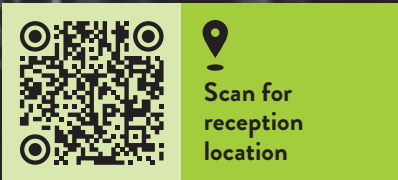
Claire Fox
director, Academy of Ideas

Tony Matharu
founder, Blue Orchid Hospitality;
founder, Central London Alliance

Toby Young
general secretary, Free Speech Union

LIVE MUSIC BY THE HOOLIGANS
Maeve Halligan, fiddle/keyboards and vocals
Liam Halligan, guitar
Lewis Naughton, cajon

55 BROADWAY, LONDON SW1H 0BD
(ABOVE ST JAMES’S PARK UNDERGROUND STATION)



THE BATTLE OF IDEAS 2023
END OF FESTIVAL DRINKS

SUNDAY: 18:30 – 20:00

Following the final festival panel debates, come have a drink on us, offer a toast to liberty and carry on the debates informally in this special drinks reception, courtesy of Ben Delo.

BISHOP PARTRIDGE HALL
FIRST FLOOR, CHURCH HOUSE



For full information on sessions and speakers, scan QR code or visit battleofideas.org.uk/programme/sunday

KEYNOTE
CONTROVERSIES
ASSEMBLY HALL
FIRST FLOOR

ENERGISING
GROWTH
HOARE MEMORIAL HALL
FIRST FLOOR

CHALLENGING
ORTHODOXIES
HARVEY GOODWIN SUITE
GROUND FLOOR

STATE OF
THE NATION
CONVOCATION HALL
FIRST FLOOR

EYE ON
THE WORLD
TEMPLE ROOM
LOWER GROUND

IDENTITY
CRISIS
OLD OFFICE
LOWER GROUND

BATTLE FOR
THE CLASSROOM
ROBERT RUNCIE ROOM
LOWER GROUND

AUTHORS LIVE
COUNCIL ROOM
FIRST FLOOR

CONTEMPORARY
CONTROVERSIES
WESTMINSTER ROOM
GROUND FLOOR

LETTERS
ON LIBERTY
ABBAY ROOM
GROUND FLOOR

CHAPEL
FIRST FLOOR

SUNDAY

BREAKFAST BANTERS 10:00 – 10:45				MISINFORMATION WARS: WHO FACT- CHECKS THE FACT- CHECKERS? Liam Deacon Andrew Lowenthal Florence Read Chair: Tessa Clarke			GENDER IDEOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE Ian Acheson Kate Coleman Ceri-Lee Galvin Chair: Adam Rawcliffe	MARKING TIME: HOW SHOULD LECTURERS JUDGE STUDENTS? Matilda Martin Vanessa Pupavac David Swift Chair: Austin Williams	GAGGED CARTOONISTS: IS SATIRE STILL POSSIBLE? Graham Barnfield Andy Davey Stella Perrett Chair: Harley Richardson	WHO GIVES A FOLK? Brian Denny Maeve Halligan Denis Russell Chair: Ella Whelan	CAN WE AGREE TO DISAGREE? Linda Bellos OBE Katy Jon Went Chair: Shirley Lawes				
11:00 – 12:30		ARE THE CULTURE WARS A DISTRACTION? Aaqil Ahmed Andrew Doyle Frank Furedi Lord Macdonald Nina Power Chair: Claire Fox	CAN RENEWABLES POWER THE WORLD? Michaela Kendall Simon Nash Ralph Schoellhammer James Woudhuysen Chair: Rob Lyons	WHY DO COMEDIANS KEEP SIDING WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT? Miriam Elia Dominic Frisby Graham Linehan Chair: Andy Shaw	SHOULD WE LEAVE THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS? Steven Barrett Jamie Burton Luke Gittos John Oxley Angelica Walker-Werth Chair: Jon Holbrook	STILL IN THE RACE: UNDERSTANDING TRUMPISM Mary Dejevsky Matthew Feeney Michael Goldfarb Cheryl Hudson Chair: Jacob Reynolds		LET’S TALK ABOUT RACE Remi Adekoya Rakib Ehsan Doug Stokes Chair: Jim Butcher	CHATGPT: CHEATING OR A NEW TOOL FOR LEARNING? Catherine Breslin Donald Clark Omar Mohamed Gareth Sturdy Chair: Harley Richardson	HOLDING COVID TIMES TO ACCOUNT Jennie Bristow Laura Dodsworth Thomas Fazi Chair: Viv Regan	SCOTLAND’S ‘PROGRESSIVE AGENDA’: A WARNING? Marion Calder David Jamieson Leo Kearse Stuart Waiton Chair: Simon Knight				
LUNCH 12:30 – 13:45		LUNCH		HOUSING CRISIS: IS THE LEASEHOLD SCAM A DISTRACTION? Colin Horton Harry Scoffin Melissa York Chair: Austin Williams	IS THERE A ‘WAR ON THE MOTORIST’? Mary Dejevsky Alan Miller Simon Nash Chair: Paul Reeves	LUNCH		UNDERSTANDING MODI’S INDIA Lord Desai Zareer Masani Alka Sehgal Cuthbert Chair: Para Mullan	REVITALISING FREE SPEECH ON CAMPUS: LIVING FREEDOM AND SPEAK EASY Jack Barwell Felice Basboll Emma Cabezaolias Ella Nixon Chair: Alastair Donald	LUNCH	CAPITALISM AND THE WORKING CLASS: A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP Michael Owens in conversation with Don Milligan	LUNCH	LUNCH	ABOLITION TIMES: LIVE MUSIC CELEBRATING FORGOTTEN HEROES Vincent Gould Introduced by: Rosamund Cuckston	
LUNCHTIME BITES 12:45 – 13:30															
13:45 – 15:15		WHO’S AFRAID OF POPULISM? Sabine Beppler-Spahl Lord Frost Tim Montgomerie Jacob Reynolds Freddie Sayers Chair: Alastair Donald	HOUSING BRITAIN: YIMBYS VS NIMBYS James Heartfield Molly Kingsley Lord Moylan Shreya Nanda Charlie Winstanley Chair: Joel Cohen	BANNING CONVERSION THERAPY: A THREAT TO FREEDOM & CONSCIENCE? Dolan Cummings Stephanie Davies-Arai Bev Jackson Lord Jackson Katy Jon Went Chair: Ann Furedi	BOOKSHOP BARNIE WITH PETER HITCHENS: A REVOLUTION BETRAYED Austin Williams in conversation with Peter Hitchens	I PREDICT A RIOT: FRANCE IN FLAMES Marie Kawthar Daouda Charles Devellennes Nabila Ramdani Ralph Schoellhammer Chair: Fraser Myers		CAN MUSEUMS SURVIVE THE CULTURE WARS? Denise Fahmy Tiffany Jenkins Zareer Masani Emma Webb Chair: Wendy Earle	SHOULD SCHOOLS TEACH SOCIAL JUSTICE? Debbie Hayton Eric Kaufmann Michael Merrick Alka Sehgal Cuthbert Chair: Kevin Rooney	BODIES THAT MATTER: TRANSGENDERISM &TRANSHUMANISM Heather Brunsell-Evans Respondents: Sonia Gallego, Marc Glendening, Rosie Kay Chair: Timandra Harkness	HAS THE LAW BECOME PARTISAN? Jon Holbrook Laurie Laybourn Anna Loutfi Lord Macdonald Chair: Luke Gittos	LETTERS ON LIBERTY: IN DEFENCE OF DRAG Lecturer: Vanity von Glow Respndents: Caroline Ffiske Manick Govinda Don Milligan Cressida Wetton Chair: Ella Whelan			
15:45 – 17:00		I DISSENT! CHALLENGING THE CULTURE OF CONFORMISM Peter Boghossian Jennie Bristow Abbot Jamison Helen Joyce Lord Moylan Chair: Ella Whelan	EXTREME WEATHER: CAN WE ADAPT TO A CHANGING CLIMATE? Timandra Harkness Laurie Laybourn Harry Wilkinson Martin Wright Chair: Jacob Reynolds	WHAT IS ‘THE BLOB’? Ian Acheson Nick Busvine OBE Poppy Coburn Bill Durodié Chair: Alastair Donald	FROM BBC TO GB NEWS: CAN THE MEDIA BE IMPARTIAL? Michael Booker Iain Macwhirter Helen Searls Baroness Stowell Chair: Max Sanderson	BAD BOYS OF THE EU? DEMONISING POLAND AND HUNGARY Balázs Hidvéghi John Jungclaussen Agnieszka Kolek Anna Loutfi Chair: Tony Gilland		‘SPEAKING AS A...’: THE TYRANNY OF ‘LIVED EXPERIENCE’ Ben Cobley James Esses Esther Krakue Kunle Olulode Chair: Alka Sehgal Cuthbert	OFSTED: CRUEL JUDGEMENT OR MAKING SCHOOLS ACCOUNTABLE? Jason Ashley Louise Burton Sean Lang Martin Robinson Chair: Ian Mitchell	BREXIT: HOW CAN WE TAKE CONTROL? Phil Cunliffe and Peter Ramsay Respondents: James Hallwood Baroness Hoey James Holland Chair: Robert Hoey	THE POLITICS OF NEURODIVERSITY: FASHION OR AFFLICTION? Felice Basboll Ken McLaughlin Stella O’Malley David Swift Chair: Fiona McEwen	LETTERS ON LIBERTY: FREEDOM: UP IN SMOKE? Lecturer: Simon Clark Respondents: Piers Benn Rick Moore Chair: Ceri Dingle			
17:15 – 18:30		AGAINST FATALISM: HOW CAN WE CREATE A NEW ENLIGHTENMENT? Frank Furedi Jonathan Israel Munira Mirza Chair: Claire Fox	NET ZERO: CAN THE ECONOMY AND DEMOCRACY SURVIVE? Lord Frost Rob Lyons Scarlett Maguire John McTernan Chair: Phil Mullan	HAVE WE GIVEN UP ON SEXUAL FREEDOM? Ralph Leonard Nina Power Ella Whelan Rosie Wilby Chair: Tiffany Jenkins	ANDREW TATE AND THE LOST BOYS Nick Dixon Ashley Frawley Matilda Gosling Dennis Kavanagh Chair: Toby Marshall	ISRAEL AT WAR Daniel Ben-Ami Anat Scolnicov Jake Wallis Simons Lord Wolfson Chair: Simon McKeon		SPORT’S TRANS WARS Tim Black Silvia Camporesi Kate Hoey Fiona McAnena Chair: Geoff Kidder	SCHOOLS: THE GREAT EXPULSION DEBATE Dave Clements Michael Merrick Stella O’Malley Tony Sewell CBE Chair: Kevin Rooney	POLITICISATION OF THERAPY Jennifer Cunningham James Esses Amy Gallagher Carole Sherwood Chair: Jason Crowley					
18:30		THE BATTLE OF IDEAS 2023 END OF FESTIVAL DRINKS BISHOP PARTRIDGE HALL, FIRST FLOOR						THE BATTLE OF IDEAS 2023 END OF FESTIVAL DRINKS BISHOP PARTRIDGE HALL, FIRST FLOOR							

JOIN THE AOI

The Battle of Ideas festival is the annual flagship event produced by the Academy of Ideas (AoI). Our associates and paid Substack subscribers receive significant reductions on ticket prices. AoI also runs a range of forums covering education, the economy, arts and society and a book club. Join us as an associate, subscribe to our regular Substack and come along to our various forum discussions and help us shape the future through debate.

For further details, visit academyofideas.org.uk/support

academy of ideas

LETTERS on LIBERTY



Open debate has been suffocated by today's censorious climate and there is little cultural support for freedom as a foundational value.

Drawing on the tradition of radical pamphlets from the seventeenth century onwards – designed to be argued over in the pub as much as in parliament – each *Letter* stakes a claim for how to forge a freer society in the here and now.

Buy *Letters on Liberty* and take on the challenge of fighting for freedom in the twenty-first century.

academyofideas.org.uk/letters

DEBATING MATTERS



Debating Matters because ideas matter. The substance-over-style debating competition where school pupils go beyond the headlines and debate the biggest issues confronting society.

debatingmatters.com

LIVING FREEDOM



Living Freedom is for young free thinkers to explore freedom and free speech. Join the summer schools and university salons to get to grips with important debates and meet other young advocates of freedom.

livingfreedom.org.uk

THE ACADEMY



Grapple with the intellectual history of the present at this summer school for all ages. Gather with independent thinkers to understand the history, literature and philosophy that illuminates contemporary trends.

ideasmatter.org.uk/academy

BUXTON BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL

A day of debate on politics, economics, philosophy and more as the festival returns to the Peak District in Derbyshire.

Saturday 25 November 2023
Devonshire Dome, Buxton

battleofideas.org.uk/buxton



ACADEMY OF IDEAS WITH CLAIRE FOX

This newsletter is your one-stop-shop for staying up to date with everything Academy of Ideas do. It includes news about our events and publications and reaction and comment. Director Claire Fox will take you 'behind the scenes' in the House of Lords where she regularly highlights issues that our political classes would prefer were swept under the carpet.

If you share our commitment to free speech, radical democracy and throwing off the shackles of the Culture War, subscribe and tell your friends.

clairefox.substack.com/subscribe

BLUE ORCHID HOSPITALITY



London's trusted independent hotel collection, offering contemporary luxury in the city's most iconic locations. Featuring some of the best-located properties in the capital, Blue Orchid Hospitality skilfully combines a wealth of history and local tradition with contemporary amenities.

You will always find interesting architecture, exquisite furnishings and warm, friendly service - the hallmarks of Blue Orchid Hospitality.

THE BATTLE OF IDEAS IS CURATED BY THE BATTLE OF IDEAS COMMITTEE COMPRISING VOLUNTEER SESSION PRODUCERS

THE FESTIVAL, INCLUDING WEBSITE AND BROCHURE, IS PRODUCED BY THE DEDICATED TEAM AT THE ACADEMY OF IDEAS: ALASTAIR DONALD, CLAIRE FOX, GEOFF KIDDER, MO LOVATT, ROB LYONS AND ELLA WHELAN

IT SUPPORT AND REGISTRATION CO-ORDINATION:
SIMON BELT, SIMPLY BETTER IT

WEBSITE AND BROCHURE DESIGN:
WINTER DESIGN

BROCHURE PRINTERS:
DIANE EGLIN AND TEAM AT CHAPEL PRESS

BANNERS PRINTERS:
ANDY SHARROD AND TEAM AT MIRAFIELD GRAPHICS

FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHS:
MARCOS BEVILACQUA, TOM FENN, MARCUS JAMIESON-POND, STUART MITCHELL AND CHRIS SHARP

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WORLDWRITE / WORLDBYTES TEAM

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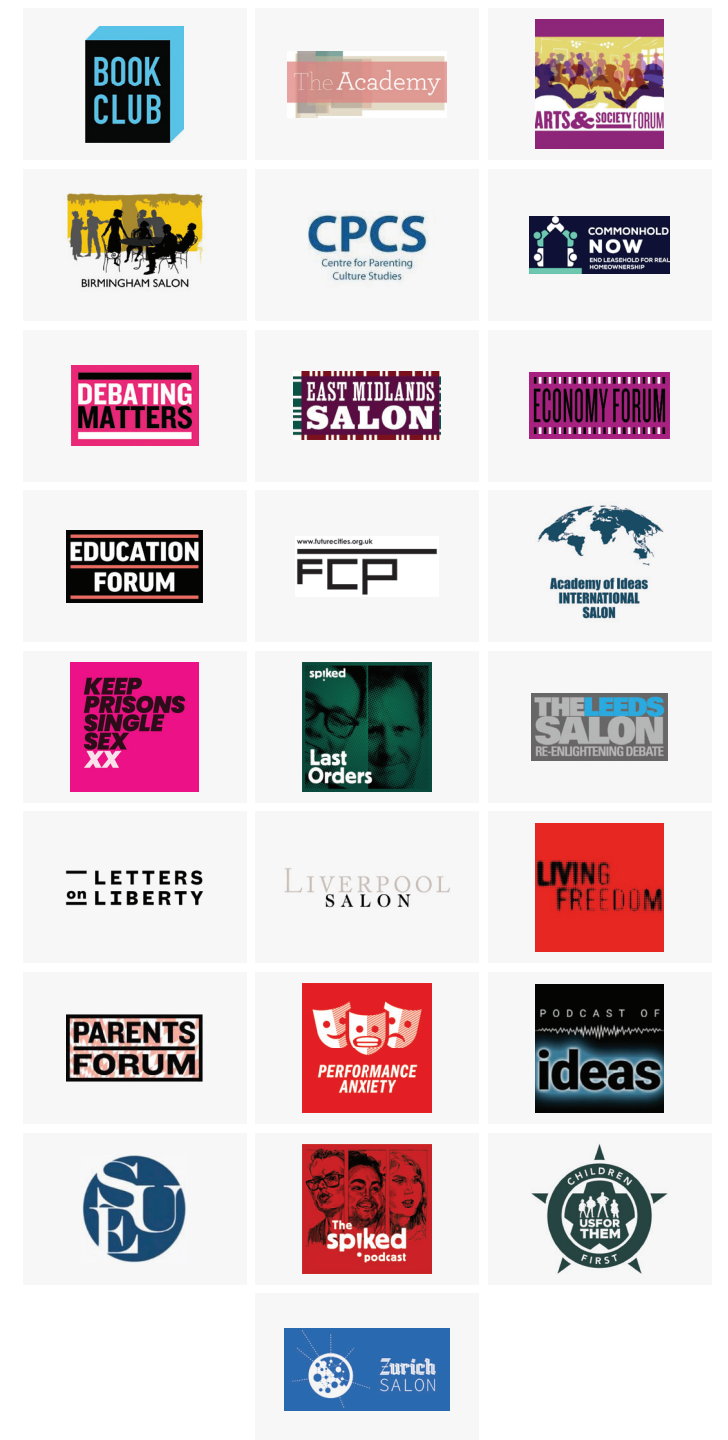
SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL AT CHURCH HOUSE AS OUR SPECIAL PARTNER FOR PROVIDING THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL WITH A HOME, IN PARTICULAR: **VEDRANA DANCERELLE, SUE WHITE, BRADLEY HILL, LEAH MARKHAM, LIONEL FERNANDES AND THE AV TEAM AND THE SEARCYS CATERING TEAM**

FINALLY, WE ARE HUGEY GRATEFUL TO OUR TEAM OF ENTHUSIASTIC AND COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS, ESPECIALLY **BRADLEY COOPER-BARNARD, SASKIA CLUBB AND SUMMER STEPHENS** FOR THEIR HELP BOTH BEFORE AND DURING THE BATTLE OF IDEAS FESTIVAL 2023.



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