

**Apeldoorn: British-Dutch Dialogue 2018 Conference Programme**

# Building the British - Dutch relationship



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# Foreword

We bid you all a very warm welcome to London and to the 15th edition of the Apeldoorn: British-Dutch Dialogue Conference.

2018 feels like a significant juncture in the story of the bilateral relationship between the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. A new chapter is about to open as the UK prepares to leave the European Union. The context for the bilateral relationship will therefore change. The relationship itself will evolve, just as it has through the earlier chapters. The commitment from both countries to that relationship is as strong as ever.

Previous conferences have looked at a various topics, ranging from long-term care of the elderly, to economics, culture, higher education, sustainability and science and innovation. Their focus has been to identify the 'interesting differences' between our two countries. In doing so, we have brought together over 1,000 people. This unique 15th edition will focus on the shared challenges that the UK and the Netherlands will face in the future, and our shared values and interests.

Today, we want to look beyond the immediate, and consider what the relationship could and should look like in 2025 and beyond. While much of the current focus is on Brexit, there are other trends which will affect both countries – common societal and economic challenges, and external opportunities and threats to address across the world. These – as much as Brexit – will define the next chapter of our relationship .

We have brought together influential figures from both countries to consider issues that will affect us in the areas of:

- **higher education and science and innovation;**
- **economics;**
- **international relations; and**
- **culture and people.**

We thank our generous sponsors, ING, Royal Dutch Shell, and Unilever, without whom this Conference would not have been possible. We are confident that, with their support, this year's Apeldoorn Conference will once again encourage an open and frank exchange of ideas, create new networks and opportunities, and prove as inspiring as its predecessors. We look forward to hearing your views and contributions to the debate.



**Simon Smits**  
Ambassador of the  
Netherlands to the UK

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Simon".



**Peter Wilson**  
British Ambassador  
to the Netherlands

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Wilson".

## 2016 – Utrecht

In Our Care: The Future of Long-Term Elderly Care in England and the Netherlands



## 2014 – Liverpool

Art Works: Exploring the Social and Economic Value of Culture



## 2011 – Rotterdam

Making Successful Cities



## 2009 – Belfast

Trust, social cohesion, citizenship and the state in an economic downturn



## 2004 – London

Can Europe Compete? (Young Apeldoorn)



## 2005 – Norwich

Can Europe Compete?





## 2013 – Eindhoven

The Life-Cycle of a Brilliant Idea:  
 Creativity, Innovation and  
 Entrepreneurship



## 2012 – Manchester

– Higher Education at the Heart of Growth



## 2008 – Belfast

Citizenship and Communities:  
 Identity and State in the 21st  
 Century (Young Apeldoorn)



## 2007 – The Hague

Facing up to Reality: Choices for  
 a Sustainable World

## 2006 - The Hague

Facing up to Reality: Choices for a  
 Sustainable World (Young Apeldoorn)



## 2001 – Edinburgh

The Future of Europe:  
 Visions and Reality

**The Future of Europe:  
 visions and reality**

**THE APeldoorn  
 CONFERENCE**

Netherlands-UK Annual Meeting

## 2000

Meeting the challenges  
 for society in the 21st  
 century



## 2003 – Amsterdam

Building Bridges in Society

# Conference Programme

- 10:30** Arrival and registration at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office
- 11:30** Welcome word in Locarno Suite by Ambassadors **Peter Wilson** and **Simon Smits** and **Sir Ciarán Devane**
- 11:45** Opening plenary, scene-setting and a political overview  
Introduction by Co-Chairs **Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas** and **Alexander Rinnooy Kan**  
Plenary speeches by **Jeroen Dijsselbloem** and **Mark Leonard**
- 13:00** Walking Lunch
- 14:00** Break-out sessions, with Chair and introductory speaker on the four themes
- 15:30** Tea and coffee break
- 16:00** Short readouts of the main points discussed during the breakout sessions
- 16:30** Roundtable discussion in plenary looking at challenges and issues in both the past and the future. Closing remarks by the Co-Chairs
- 17:30** Drinks reception in Locarno Suite
- 19:00** Celebratory dinner in Durbar Court  
Speeches by **Ambassadors Peter Wilson and Simon Smits**





## Moderators



**Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas DBE**  
Founding Chair, London & Partners



**Professor Dr Alexander Rinnooy Kan**  
Distinguished University Professor of  
Economics & Business Studies,  
University of Amsterdam

## Speakers



**Sir Ciarán Devane**

Chief Executive,  
British Council



**Jeroen Dijsselbloem**

Dutch Former Minister  
of Finance



**Mark Leonard**

Director, European Council  
on Foreign Relations



**Simon Smits**

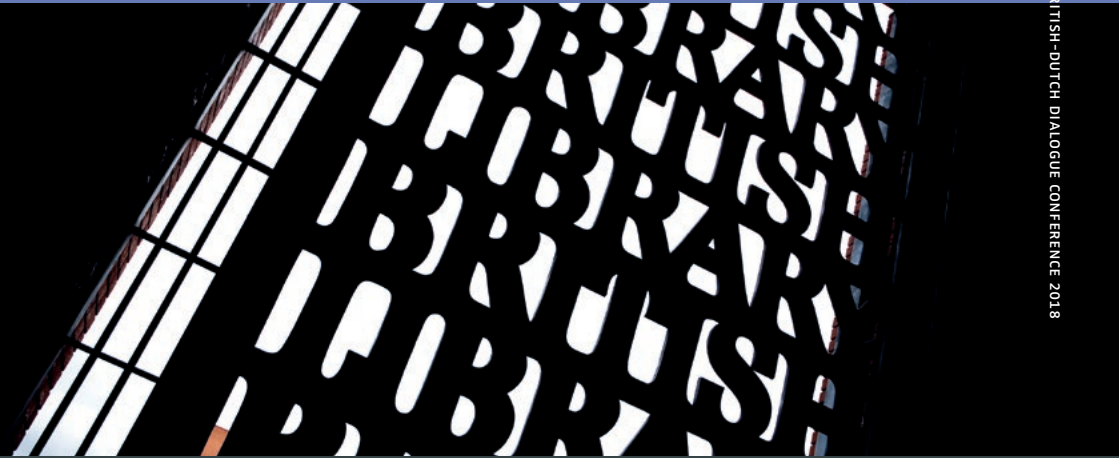
Ambassador of  
the Netherlands to the UK



**Peter Wilson**

British Ambassador to  
the Netherlands

# Workshops



## 1 | Higher Education, mobility science research: the future for our young people

- **Access & Financial assistance** What are the challenges/what can we learn around high levels of participation in HE while maintaining quality? Who should pay?
- **Employability.** How can we increase the employability of our young people and in what jobs?
- **Mobility.** What is the value of international mobility?
- **Public and private involvement in HE and science.** The changing nature of the university: increasingly competitive and market-orientated/student as consumer, what is their future and what role can international partnerships play? What does the future hold for universities' research output?
- **The rise of English as a medium of instruction** – a positive or negative trend?



**Workshop Chair** Joanna Burke, Deputy Regional  
Director EU, British Council

**Scene setter** Freddy Weima, Director, Nuffic

## Workshops

### 2 | The New Economy

- How far will technology disrupt our current economic models?
- How do we get the workforce with the skills and expertise we need?
- How will we strike a balance between privacy and innovative use of data?
- What will trade liberalisation and protectionism look like in 2030?
- How will we meet the challenge of responding to climate change?



**Workshop Chair** **David Gregson**, Chairman,  
British Tennis

**Scene setter** **Chris Buijink**, President, Dutch Banking  
Association

### 3 | Culture, Media and People

- **Inclusive Culture** How do our (traditional) cultural institutions respond to changing demographics in terms of a growing part of society with a non-western/migration background. How do we relate to them and how do we become more relevant to this part of our population? What sustainable models or initiatives to include ethnically and socially more diverse audiences? How do we make our workforces more diverse? How do we respond to the challenge of populism?
- **The role of independent journalism.** How do we sustain quality journalism in the face of new media models; How best to tackle “Fake News”?
- **Gender Equality** How do we achieve real gender equality? How do we enhance social mobility?



**Workshop Chair** **Axel Rüger**, Director, van Gogh Museum  
**Scene setter** **Ruth Mackenzie**, Holland Festival

## Workshops

### 4 | Facing the Wider World

- What will the world look like in 2025?
- How do we defend the Rules Based System?
- How do we get voters to recognise increased threats and accept the need for greater funding for national security?
- How do we maintain popular support for development aid and are we doing it right.



**Workshop Chair** **Petra Stienen**, Independent Advisor  
and Senator D66

**Scene setter** **To be confirmed**





# Conference Organisation

## Steering Board

### Chairs

**Dame Judith Mayhew Jonas**

Founding Chair, London & Partners

**Professor Dr Alexander Rinnooy Kan**

Distinguished University Professor  
of Economics & Business Studies,  
University of Amsterdam

### Ambassadors

**Simon Smits**

Ambassador of the Netherlands  
to the UK

**Peter Wilson**

British Ambassador to  
the Netherlands

### Advisory and Steering Board Members

**Sir Nick Clegg**

Former Deputy Prime Minister

**Jamie Coomarasamy**

Presenter Newshour, BBC

**Professor Jane Fenoulhet**

Professor of Dutch Studies, UCL

**David Gregson**

Chairman, British Tennis

**Sybrand van Haersma Buma**

Party leader of the Christian Democratic  
Party

**Johan de Koning**

Economic Adviser Unilever NV / Head  
of External Affairs Unilever Nederland  
Holdings BV

**Lousewies van der Laan**

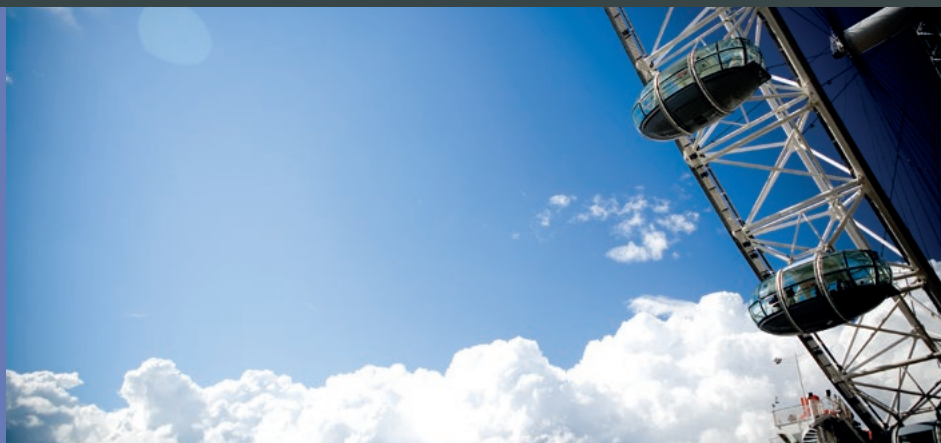
International Board of Directors, ICANN

**Marjan van Loon**

President, Shell Nederland NV

**Deborah Loudon**

Partner, Saxton Bampfylde



## Working Group

### **Wim Mijs**

Chief Executive, European  
Banking Federation

### **Axel Rüger**

Director, Van Gogh Museum

### **Petra Stienen**

Independent Advisor and  
Senator D66

### **Anton Valk CBE**

Chair, Netherlands British  
Chamber of Commerce

### **Eelo Vugs**

Director, British Council

### **Diederik van Wassenauer**

Global Head Regulatory &  
International Affairs, ING Bank

### **Martin Butler**

Italy & Holy See Desk Officer, Foreign and  
Commonwealth Office London

### **Nick Coppin**

Head of Policy, British Embassy The Hague

### **Eveline Filon**

Head of Communications, British Embassy  
The Hague

### **Lauren Harris**

Spokesperson and Senior Communications  
Advisor, Embassy of the Kingdom of the  
Netherlands London

### **Anna Devi Markus**

Project Manager, British Council Netherlands

### **Rosina Mastrandrea**

Desk Officer: Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

### **Rogier van Tooren**

Senior Policy Officer, Europe Department,  
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### **Roel van de Ven**

Head of Press, Education and Culture  
Department, Embassy of the Kingdom  
of the Netherlands

[www.apeldoornconference.org](http://www.apeldoornconference.org)

#apeldoorn18

## Conference Location

**Foreign and Commonwealth Office** Locarno Suite  
King Charles Street,  
London, SW1A 2AH

## Conference Dinner Location

**Foreign and Commonwealth Office** Durbar Court  
King Charles Street,  
London, SW1A 2AH

## Key Contacts

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