

The School of Politics and International Relations present

Catalonia and Scotland: New nations in the EU? International Conference

Hugo Dixon, Editor-at-large, Reuters News and founder of Reuters Breakingviews,
Professor Michael Keating, University of Aberdeen, **Professor David McCrone**, University of Edinburgh
Professor Montserrat Guibernau, Queen Mary University of London, **Dr Benedikte Brincker**,
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Friday 30 May, 10am-5pm

People's Palace 2, The People's Palace
Queen Mary University of London

The so-called 'Edinburgh Agreement' between David Cameron and Alex Salmond to allow a binding referendum on Scottish independence stands in sharp contrast with the Spanish government's outright opposition to allowing a similar vote in Catalonia. This highlights the distance between different conceptions of democracy coexisting within the European Union and which are rooted in the diverse political cultures of nations with different historical backgrounds.

The European project is faced with the democratic peaceful demands of Catalonia and Scotland willing to be recognised as nations within the EU. In so doing, they invoke the right to self-determination and adopt a pro-democracy and pro-European Union stand. This takes place at a time when the traditional nation-state is being challenged by transnational and global governance; a time in which belonging to the nation acquires a fundamental role in legitimising the political aspirations of national minorities across Europe and beyond.

This conference will address the important transformations that the rise of secessionism in Catalonia and Scotland could potentially unravel by examining:

- The key reasons that have prompted the shift from devolution to secession in both Catalonia and Scotland
- The novel political structures and new social attachments that may emerge as a response to secessionist demands
- The novel instruments and actors leading political mobilisation and social change
- The eventual political consequences of secessionism for Britain, Spain and the EU

Ticket Information

This event is free to attend, but you must book tickets online in advance if you wish to attend. Please click the button on the right and follow the instructions to make a booking. You will then be emailed an e-ticket and you should bring this with you on the day.

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Map and Directions

This event takes place at our Mile End Campus. Please click on the icon below for the map and directions:



Mile End Campus



The nearest tube stations are Stepney Green and Mile End

People's Palace 2, The People's Palace
Queen Mary University of London, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS

Further Information

If you have any questions regarding this event please contact the conference organiser Professor Montserrat Guibernau at m.guibernau@qmul.ac.uk or telephone 020 7882 8601.

