

What has happened to the United States: Does the reality match the myth anymore?

Oxford Analytica Conference Call

Tuesday, 12th September, 15:00 UK time



© Oxford Analytica 2017. All rights reserved.

No duplication of this document is permitted without written consent of Oxford Analytica.

Contact us: www.oxan.com/about/contacts or

call +44 1865 261 600 or in North America 1 800 965 766

What has happened to the United States: Does the reality match the myth anymore?

The world has never seen a US presidency the like of Donald Trump's.

The insurgent candidate has become the anti-system president. Only eight months into office, he still confounds and concerns allies and adversaries alike.

But is Trump an aberration or the harbinger of presidencies to come – an outlier or a turning point, and not just in US politics but the very notion of America.

The United States is not bound like other nations by blood, culture or language, but a construct built on notions of the rule of law, individual equality and liberty, and the belief that, with enterprise and hard work, any citizen can make their tomorrow better than today.

All those tenets are being challenged.

The political and financial systems seem broken, trust in civil society's institutions from elected political office to the fourth estate is at a low ebb, and the once unthinkable proposition that democracy is at risk in the United States is now a subject of discussion.

Join us on our next conference call on **Tuesday, September 12 at 3pm Oxford time/10 am EDT**, as we take a broad and ambitious sweep of the US economy, politics and Washington's international role to take the measure of what America stands for today.

Does the reality match the myth anymore? And if not, why not.

But we shall also look forward.

If America is all about second acts, what do the new United States and American exceptionalism v2.0 look like in an age of rapid and disruptive technological, economic and demographic change, identity and celebrity politics; and institutional fragmentation and distrust; when social media is pervasive, economic nationalism on the march with populism in the vanguard, and the international challenge from China, Russia and a host of regional powers is rising.

Share your thoughts and put your questions on all of this to three of Oxford Analytica's expert senior advisors.

Chair

Paul Maidment, Director of Analysis and Managing Editor, Oxford Analytica

Paul Maidment joined Oxford Analytica in December 2014 as the Director of Analysis and Managing Editor of the Oxford Analytica Daily Brief.

He is an award-winning journalist who founded the New York-based digital editorial consultancy Bystander Media in 2010. A pioneer in combining digital and print journalism, he was previously Editor of Forbes.com and Executive Editor of Forbes, transforming a magazine website into the leading online destination for business, finance and up-scale lifestyle. Before joining Forbes in 2001, Paul was the founding Editor of the Financial Times' award-winning web site FT.com and Assistant Editor of the newspaper. His early career as an editor and foreign correspondent encompassed The Economist, the Asian Wall Street Journal and the BBC in the U.K. the U.S. and Asia — a depth of journalistic experience and breadth of media that gives him a unique perspective on the changes transforming publishing and the world economy. Paul was inducted into the Digital Hall of Fame in New York in 2010.

Panellists

Professor Desmond King, Andrew W Mellon Professor of American Government, University of Oxford

Desmond is the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of American Government at the University of Oxford. He is one of the world's leading experts on US government and politics. He is the author of nineteen books including Obama at the Crossroads (2012), The Unsustainable American State (2010) and The Liberty of Strangers (2005). His most recent book is about the Federal Reserve's response to the 2008 crisis – Fed Power: How Finance Wins (2016). He has received several awards and has been elected a Fellow of many learned societies including the British Academy, the Royal Irish Academy, the Academia Europaea, the Royal Historical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Trevor McCrisken, Associate Professor of Politics & International Studies, University of Warwick

Has conducted advisory work for various international agencies, including the OECD, the UN Conference on Trade and Development and UNICEF. Research interests include financial and trade linkages between industrial and developing countries, macroeconomics of Latin America, conflict and reconstruction, and the history of economic thought.

Rob Wescott, Founder and President, Keybridge Research LLC and a former Chief Economist of the President's Council of Economic Advisers

Robert F. Wescott is Founder and President of Keybridge Research LLC, an economic consulting firm in Washington, DC, that has served global financial institutions, Fortune 500 companies, and government agencies since 2001. Dr. Wescott has more than 30 years of professional experience working on global macroeconomic and public policy issues, and he testifies as an expert before U.S. Congressional committees on economic and financial policy matters. He also is a frequent speaker to business and financial audiences around the world about economic trends and geopolitical risks.

From 1999 until 2001, Wescott served as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy at the White House. As international economic adviser to President Clinton on the National Economic Council, he developed Administration policies toward G-7 countries, Russia, China, India, other key emerging-market economies, and the international financial system. During 1993-94, Wescott was Chief Economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers, where he performed policy analysis and was responsible for the Administration's economic forecasts.

From 1994-98 Dr. Wescott was Deputy Division Chief in the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund, where he did research on global economic risks and policy challenges and helped prepared the Fund's World Economic Outlook. He was also an official in the Fund's European Department. From 1982-93, Wescott was Senior Vice President and Chief Economist at WEFA Group (today IHS Global Insight), a private economic modeling and analysis firm, where he was responsible for economic modeling and forecasting. During his time at WEFA he wrote the company's flagship monthly economic newsletter and was the firm's primary spokesperson with clients and the media.

In 1989-90, Wescott was the first Research Director at the International Centre for the Study of East Asian Development (ICSEAD) in Kitakyushu, Japan, a research institute established in cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania. ICSEAD does quantitative economic research on the economies of East Asia.

Wescott holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, and has published research papers in the areas of macroeconomics, energy economics, fiscal policy, inflation, global financial crises, and geopolitical risks.