

Press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 February 2016

Lord Mandelson joins German British Forum board

The German British Forum is delighted to announce that Lord Mandelson will join its supervisory board as President with immediate effect.

The German British Forum is the United Kingdom's primary bilateral forum for discussing German-British affairs and activities, particularly promoting dialogue on business, social and political issues.

Peter Mandelson is a senior British Labour politician and chairman of strategic advisory firm Global Counsel. He is a former European Trade Commissioner and British First Secretary of State. As Trade Commissioner between 2004 and 2008, Peter negotiated trade agreements with many countries and led European negotiations in the WTO Doha World Trade Round.

Lord Mandelson became President of the Great Britain China Centre in 2015, and he is also President of the Policy Network think tank and Senior Adviser to Lazard. With several strong links connecting Britain and Germany, the German British Forum welcomes Lord Mandelson's experience of international affairs to the board.

"Peter's experience as a parliamentarian, UK Cabinet member and European trade commissioner makes him a perfect, highly experienced president for the GBF at a crucial time in our 22-year history," said GBF chairman Robert Bischof. "With the possibility of a hard Brexit underway, a changing relationship between the United States, Britain and Europe, and many people in both Germany and Britain keen to maintain strong ties, Peter's gravitas can help the GBF to increase high value dialogue between the two countries."

Lord Mandelson said: "A hard Brexit will mean poorer links to the EU as a whole which requires even more emphasis in the future on country to country relations

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with Europe's leading economies. By deepening our links with leading players like Germany, Britain will be able to maintain some of its influence in our own neighbourhood". "

The GBF's current president and co-founder David Marsh is stepping down to dedicate all his time to OMFIF, the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum.

For more information about the German British Forum please visit our website www.gbf.com or contact: Will Stirling on 020 8973 0920, will@stirlingmedialtd.com

For more information about Global Counsel visit: <https://www.global-counsel.co.uk/>

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