



# Finding and engaging good speakers

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# Topics for talks

- Stopping wars, ending conflicts, making and keeping the peace, including reducing militarisation and the sale of weapons
- Nuclear disarmament
- Ending human right abuses, including mistreatment of minorities, women and others, racial and religious discriminations
- Dealing with migrations, including problems of refugees
- Ending poverty in the developing world and food poverty in the developed world
- Dealing with climate change, environmental damage and pollution, including reducing the use of fossil fuels
- Ending social, economic and global inequalities
- Improving health, education, living conditions, urban life etc.





# Benefits from talks

- Better awareness of the goals and purposes of the UN, including the UN Charter
- Sharing and exchanging views and opinions amongst people in the local communities
- Fellowship and being with others of similar interests and experiences
- Educating and motivating the young from schools and universities
- Free refreshments





# Finding speakers

- **Newspapers and TV**
- **References from colleagues and friends, including from other UNA groups, Rotary clubs, etc.**
- **Book reviews, e.g. in the Guardian or the Times**
- **Searching the Internet for email addresses and websites**





# Sources of speakers

- Universities
- NGOs and charities, e.g. Amnesty, Oxfam, Fairtrade, etc.
- UN Agencies, e.g. UNHCR, UNICEF
- Churches, religious and social groups
- Foreign embassies
- Professionals, such as economists, lawyers, doctors, technologists etc.
- In-person talks preferred over remote talks, unless they are overseas
- One-hour travel distance by train or car
- Maximum £35 offered for travel expense reimbursement

# Engaging a speaker

Dear Sir Tony,

I am writing to invite you to give a talk on the subject of ***The Importance of Maintaining Relationships with Russia, a Difficult European Neighbour*** to the supporters of United Nations Association at a public meeting in Harpenden on a Saturday morning between October to December this year.

I have provided some information about UNA Harpenden public meetings below. Harpenden in Hertfordshire is a one-hour drive away from Cambridge. We would be happy to reimburse your travel costs up to £35.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Suheil Shahryar

Chair, UNA Harpenden

About Me: [www.linkedin.com/in/sshahryar](http://www.linkedin.com/in/sshahryar)

Website: [www.tinyurl.com/una-harpenden](http://www.tinyurl.com/una-harpenden)

## About UNA Harpenden Public Meetings

Hosted by UNA Harpenden, our public meetings are free to attend and are attended by supporters, including students from schools and universities, from Harpenden, St Albans and surrounding villages. The talks are held on a Saturday morning from 10:30-12:30 at the Salvation Army Hall or equivalent. The venue is within 5 minutes walk from Harpenden station, which is a 40-minute train journey from London St Pancras.

Talks hosted by UNA Harpenden in the last six months include:

- ***Privacy, Surveillance and the Internet*** by **Dr Bruce Schneier**, Harvard, 13 December 2022
- ***International Protection of Minorities*** - from the League to the UN by **Dr Jennifer Jackson-Preece**, LSE, 21 January 2023
- ***The Great Economists: How their ideas can help us today*** by **Dr Linda Yueh**, Oxford, 18 February 2023
- ***Realism, Ethics and the Ukraine War*** by **Emeritus Professor Richard Sakwa**, Kent, 20 May 2023

For a full list of our hosted public talks, see [bit.ly/una-harpenden/events](http://bit.ly/una-harpenden/events)



# Speaker benefits

- Advertisement and sale of their latest book
- Q&A with the public
- Having lunch in a nice restaurant or pub on a Saturday
- Visiting a nice place they have not been to before





2022  
2023



UNA HARPENDEN

<https://unaharpenden.wordpress.com/home/events/>

- *The Social Instinct: how cooperations shaped the world* by Professor Nicola Raihani, University College London, 26 Feb 2022
- *The One Belt One Road Initiative: its impact on human rights in Xinjiang* by Nabila Khan, Amnesty, 12 Mar 2022
- *Global Security in the 21st Century* by Professor Paul Rogers, Bradford, 18 Jun 2022
- *Summer Council on Climate Change: its impact, reports and solutions*, 9 Jul 2022
- *President Xi China's Global Security Initiative* by Jialiang Feng, Chinese Embassy, 30 Jul 2022
- *Privacy, Surveillance and the Internet* by Dr Bruce Schneier, Harvard, 13 Dec 2022
- *The Great Economists: how their ideas can help us today* by Professor Linda Yueh, Oxford, 18 Feb 2023
- *NHS: reform or privatise* Discussion group meeting, 22 Apr 2023
- *Realism, Ethics and the Ukraine War* by Professor Richard Sakwa, Kent 20 May 2023
- *The Future of Israel and the Palestinians: what the election of Israel's far right government means* by Peter Segal, St Albans Friends of Palestine, 24 Jun 2023
- *Agonies of Empire - the second American civil war?* by Professor Mick Cox, 30 Sep 2023
- *Russia: sharing the cage with an angry bear* by Sir Tony Brenton, ex Ambassador to Russia, 25 Nov 2023