



Forum for Stable Currencies

Advocating Economic Democracy through Freedom from National Debt

Convenor: Lord Sudeley FSA; **Host:** Lord Ahmed; **Chairman:** Austin Mitchell MP
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Organiser: Sabine McNeill FRSA, Director, *3D Metrics*

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The Village comes to the City

Yunus Brings Social Business Message to London

Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Muhammad Yunus will speak at [St. James's Church](#), 197 Piccadilly on Saturday, February 16th at 2.30pm. His latest book [Creating a World without Poverty – Social Business and the Future of Capitalism](#) was recently published in the US and the UK and is already on position 18 of the New York Times bestseller list.

After having been invited to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Dr. Yunus comes to London for a series of engagements. At St. James's his talk will be responded to by a podium of distinguished Londoners, including:

Aubrey Meyer, promoter of [Contraction & Convergence](#), a global, equal-rights-based framework for the arrest of greenhouse gas emissions.

Dr. Yunus and the [Grameen Bank](#) are winners of the [2006 Nobel Peace Prize](#) for 'their efforts to create economic and social development from below.' He established the bank in 1983 after having lent \$27 to 42 women who had been victims of loan sharks and recruiters of slave labour.

"Grameen" means 'rural' or 'village' in Bengali. Dr. Yunus After having studied economics at Dhaka University, Dr. Yunus was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study economics at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He then served as chairman of the economics department at Chittagong University before devoting his life to providing financial and social services to the poorest of the poor. He is the founder and managing director of the Grameen Bank and the author of the bestselling [Banker to the Poor](#).

In his new book he proposes 'social business' as a core principle for a kinder capitalism as Bill Gates called it in Davos. A business is social if it addresses health, education or environment or is owned by the poor and disadvantaged. The condition for funding social business is that investors may not take profits out of the enterprise. That proposes a number of challenges on the level of 'business as usual' and ethics with social objectives. In his long-term vision for eradicating poverty Dr. Yunus sees more social business stock exchanges in the world than profit oriented ones.

The [Forum for Stable Currencies](#) is hosting the event as it has been advocating the use of public or 'green' credit to address climate change, finance flood damages and other public purposes through [Early Day Motions](#) in Parliament since 2002. The organiser Sabine McNeill says: "microcredit is for women in Bangladesh what green credit is for the Government in the UK: credit without collateral. That means trust and cooperation at all levels. For we have only one planet and time is running out. If Governments and NGOs don't deliver, social businesses will, especially when banks and financial institutions begin to think along social objectives."

Bookings for the event at St. James's can be taken by visiting www.bethechange.org.uk.

For further information please contact Sabine McNeill on 020 7328 3701 or sabine@3dmetrics.co.uk or Lilly Evans on 01344 842 418.

*A Voluntary Initiative of Parliamentarians and Concerned Citizens
across the full political spectrum and from all religious persuasions*

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