

Sir John Sawers

Former Chief of the British Secret Intelligence Service, MI6

"A Legacy of Transparency"

Sir John Sawers has 36 years' experience in diplomacy and intelligence, culminating in five years as chief of the British Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) from 2009 to 2014. During his tenure, he modernised the Service and led it through major changes in operations, technology, and public accountability.

TOPICS:

- Global Geopolitical Trends
- The Impact of Brexit on UK and EU Security
- Global Investments in a Chaotic World
- Cyber Security
- Leadership

LANGUAGES:

He presents in English.

IN DETAIL:

In that role, Sir John took part in the UK National Security Council and the Joint Intelligence Committee, contributing both to assessments of the threats to the UK's security and to the strategies and policy decisions on how to promote and protect British interests around the world. As MI6 chief, he led the service through a period of international political upheaval and high terrorist threat, including against the 2012 London Olympics. Prior to leading MI6 he was the UK's Ambassador to the United Nations (2007-2009), Political Director of the Foreign Office (2003-2007), Special Representative in Iraq (2003), Ambassador to Cairo (2001-2003) and Foreign Policy Adviser to Prime Minister Tony Blair (1999-2001). In his earlier career Sir John worked overseas in Yemen, Syria, South Africa and Washington.

WHAT HE OFFERS YOU:

In his presentations, Sir John is able to draw from his personal experience in managing the most challenging foreign and security policy issues of the last 20 years. He is a powerful look at the unpredictable global landscape, the forces and key players shaping the world, cyber security, and how organisations can make it work for them.

HOW HE PRESENTS:

With his decades of experience at the highest levels of diplomacy and government, very few people are as well-placed as Sir John to provide incisive insights about these topics.

© 2026 Celebrity Speakers Ltd