

**Alexis de Tocqueville Distinguished Annual Lecture, 2016**

**Opening Remarks**

**Joao Carlos Espada**

**February 16, 2016**

Senhora Reitora da Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Professora Maria da Glória Garcia,

Sir Noel Malcolm, Distinto conferencista convidado Alexis de Tocqueville 2016

Senhor Dr. José Pena do Amaral, membro do Conselho de Administração do BPI, patrocinador exclusivo das Palestras Tocqueville,

Senhor Dr. Jaime Gama, Ilustre membro do Conselho Estratégico do IEP,

Senhor Capelão da Universidade Católica, Padre Hugo Santos,

Senhores Embaixadores da Alemanha, Holanda e Polónia,

Distintos representantes dos Embaixadores dos Estados-Unidos da América e do Reino Unido,

Distintos Convidados, Ilustres Autoridades Académicas, Civis e Militares,  
Senhores Professores,  
Senhores Auditores, Alunos de Licenciatura, Mestrandos e Doutorandos,  
Minhas Senhoras e Meus Senhores,

Em nome do Instituto de Estudos Políticos da Universidade Católica Portuguesa, gostaria de vos dar as boas vindas e agradecer a vossa presença, que muito nos honra.

Permitam-me agora que passe a usar o inglês para homenagear o nosso orador convidado de hoje.

On behalf of the Institute for Political Studies of the Catholic University of Portugal, I want to thank you all very much for coming to this 16th edition of our Alexis de Tocqueville Distinguished Annual Lecture.

Today, we have the privilege and pleasure of having with us Sir Noel Malcolm, Senior Research Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. Sir Noel has been a good friend of our Institute for many years — he was here in February 2006 speaking about his very famous book *Aspects of Hobbes*. I have checked his kind inscription on my copy of the book and it was indeed almost exactly 10 years ago: it is marked February 10, 2006. I would like to express our gratitude to Sir Noel for having accepted our invitation to return to our Institute for this very special event today — our Tocqueville Lecture.

Noel Malcolm was educated at Eton College as a King's Scholar. He studied history at Peterhouse, Cambridge. He received his doctorate in History from Trinity College, Cambridge.

He was a fellow and college lecturer of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, from 1981 to 1988. He was a political columnist (1987–1991) then the foreign editor (1991–1992) of *The Spectator* and a political columnist for the *Daily Telegraph* (1992–1995). He was jointly awarded the T. E. Utley Prize for Political Journalism in 1991.

In 1995 he gave up journalism in order to concentrate on scholarly research and writing. Noel Malcolm was then a visiting Fellow at St Antony's College, Oxford, in 1995–1996, and has been a Senior Research Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, since 2002. He serves on the advisory board of the monthly magazine *Standpoint*, edited by another good friend of our Institute, Daniel Johnson.

Noel Malcolm was knighted — and then became *Sir* Noel — in the 2014 New Year Honours for services to scholarship, journalism, and European history. He had become a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature (FRSL) in 1997, and a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA) in 2001. He is a Member of the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Kosovo, and an Honorary Fellow of both Peterhouse, Cambridge (since 2010) and Trinity College, Cambridge (since 2011).

Among his many books, I would like to mention,

*George Enescu: His Life and Music*, which was published in 1990 and has been translated into several languages

*Bosnia: A Short History* (New York University Press, 1994), which has also been translated into several languages

*Origins of English Nonsense* (HarperCollins, 1997)

*Kosovo: A Short History* (New York University Press, 1998)

*John Pell (1611–1685) and His Correspondence with Sir Charles Cavendish: The Mental World of an Early Modern Mathematician* (with Jacqueline Stedall) (Oxford University Press, 2005)

*Agents of Empire: Knights, Corsairs, Jesuits and Spies in the Late Sixteenth-Century Mediterranean World* (2015)

But of course Sir Noel is today recognised worldwide as one of the greatest living scholars on Thomas Hobbes — the subject of his lecture with us today. He started

editing *The Correspondence of Thomas Hobbes* in 1994. In 2002, he published the most acclaimed *Aspects of Hobbes* (with Oxford University Press). In 2007 he edited *Reason of State, Propaganda, and the Thirty Years' War: An Unknown Translation by Thomas Hobbes* (with Clarendon Press). In 2012, he edited Thomas Hobbes' *Leviathan*, in 3 volumes, with Oxford University Press, for which he was awarded a British Academy Medal. He is a General Editor of the Clarendon Edition of the Works of Thomas Hobbes.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Please join me in welcoming Sir Noel Malcolm to our Institute for Political Studies of the Catholic University of Portugal.

Thank you.