



LECTURE

DAWN OLIVER

LLD Barrister, FBA Emeritus Professor of
Constitutional Law, Faculty of Laws,
University College London

REFORMING THE UNITED KINGDOM PARLIAMENT

Thursday, 8 May 2014, 17:00 hours

Centre for British Studies, Mohrenstr. 60, 10117 Berlin



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Since 1996, the government - which can usually control Parliament if it enjoys a majority - has had to accept the House of Commons' right to impose individual responsibility on ministers. Since the 'Wright reforms' of 2010 backbench MPs have become more autonomous and assertive in relations with the government and in select committees.

The unelected, appointed House of Lords is a constitutional anomaly. And yet it performs very well in, for example, the scrutiny of bills for constitutionality and human rights.

In other countries these functions are commonly exercised by extra-parliamentary bodies. In the UK, these functions have been successfully institutionalised in the select committee arrangements in the House of Lords, with positive effects.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



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