



-- promoting a new kind of dialogue

PRESS RELEASE

=====
** For immediate release ** =====29 November 2005, 1300h

Wed. 30 Nov. 2005, 7 PM: "Between Extremes: Citizenship and Censorship in a Free Society"

Panel Event at the Frontline Club, 13 Norfolk Place, London W.2

=====

Announcing this important debate, Ziba Norman, Director of the Transatlantic Institute, said: "Hizb ut-Tahrir is an international Islamic political party that has been banned in many countries, ranging from Western democracies (Germany) to dictatorships in the Middle East. Hizb ut-Tahrir campaigns for the restoration of the Islamic Caliphate and has operated freely in the UK for a number of years. Following the 7/7 bombings, Prime Minister Tony Blair announced at his August press conference that one of the objectives of the Terrorism Bill currently before Parliament would be to ban Hizb ut-Tahrir as a organisation that promotes or encourages terrorism.

"Hizb ut-Tahrir's worldview is substantially different from that espoused in Western democracies, and some claim such radical views are a threat to the State itself, yet Hizb ut-Tahrir says that they encourage good citizenship.

"On Wednesday evening our panel, which includes **Dr Abdul Wahid** (Executive Committee member, Hizb ut-Tahrir Britain), **Richard Weight** (author of "Patriots: National Identity in Britain 1940-2000"), **Catherine Audard** (Forum for European Philosophy), and **Sylvia Corona-Palacios** (director of the NGO, UK New Citizen), will discuss this issue, looking specifically at Hizb ut-Tahrir, their proposed proscription, the new restrictions on freedom of speech set out in the Terrorism Bill, and what it means to be a good citizen."

This event is open to the public. **Members of the press who would like to attend do not need to book, but please contact us at events@t-i.org.uk**

Information:

The Transatlantic Institute is a London-based educational charity (registered charity no. 1108682) founded in 2004 to promote a new kind of dialogue on international issues, free of political partisanship and institutional bias, focusing on topics of common concern to America and Europe. Website: www.t-i.org.uk

Media enquiries to Ziba Norman, Transatlantic Institute director, tel +44 (0) 7977 313948, email info@t-i.org.uk

[ENDS]