



**Governor of Hong Kong (1992 - 1997)**

Chris Patten was the last Governor of Hong Kong and EU Commissioner for External Relations. He is Chancellor of Oxford University,

Lord Patten was elected as Member of Parliament for Bath in 1979, a seat he held until April 1992. In 1983 he wrote *The Tory Case*, a study of Conservatism. In 1989 he became Secretary of State for the Environment, and in 1990 he was appointed Chairman of the Conservative Party.

He was made Governor of Hong Kong in 1992, a position he held until 1997, overseeing the return of Hong Kong to China. He then became Chairman of the Independent Commission on Policing for Northern Ireland set up under the Good Friday Peace Agreement, which reported in 1999.

In September 1999 he was appointed EU Commissioner for External Relations, a post he held until 2004. He oversaw many crises in the area of European foreign policy, most notably the failure of the European Union to come up with a common unified policy before the Iraq war in 2003. On leaving Brussels, he was made a life peer and took his seat in the House of Lords in 2005.

Chris Patten was Chairman of the BBC Trust from 2011 to 2014 and co-chair of the International Crisis Group.

In 1998, he wrote *East and West*, a book on Asia and its relations with the rest of the world. His book *What Next: Surviving The Twenty First Century* was published in 2008 and was described in the *Financial Times* as "exquisitely written, he is an eloquent and wise voice in a cacophonous world", and by the *Guardian* as "An extremely impressive book. It is a very long time since a leading British politician produced anything as ambitious or as well written".

He is an astute commentator and speaker on world issues with a wide range of experiences.

**Topics (Selection):**

- The European Union: What's On The Horizon?
- Asia's Economic Future
- Conflict Resolution
- How Strong And Influential Is Europe's Economic Union?
- Do Asian Values Translate Into Economic Success?

**Publications (Selection):**

- *First Confession: A Sort of Memoir*, 2018
- *What Next: Surviving The Twenty First Century*, 2008
- *Not Quite the Diplomat: Home Truths About World Affairs*, 2006
- *Cousins and Strangers: America, Britain, and Europe in a New Century*, 2006
- *East and West*, 1999