

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES 2005

BRITAIN'S PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION: Success or Failure?

The Rt Hon Helen Liddell

British High Commissioner to Australia

Wednesday 14 December, 12.30pm

The National Europe Centre

1 Liversidge Street, ANU

Parking available in Balmain Lane, opposite University House

This lecture is free and open to the public.

Light refreshments will follow the lecture.

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Midway through this year, the United Kingdom took over the Presidency of the European Union with an ambitious agenda for reform – Africa, climate change, the EU budget, security and regulatory reform, and much more. But the EU was, for many, at a crossroads. French and Dutch voters had rejected the proposed constitution, and the June Summit ended without agreement on a vital budget deal.

With the end of the six-month rotating Presidency approaching, and on the eve of a potentially historic summit in Brussels, British High Commissioner Helen Liddell will review developments over the Presidency, and seek to answer the question: Has the UK Presidency been a success?

Helen Liddell took up her post as High Commissioner to Australia and Presidency of the European Union on 8 July 2005, after 11 years as a Member of the UK Parliament. Her ministerial posts included responsibility for Treasury, Europe, Energy, Transport and Secretary of State for Scotland.

