

**Frank Gardner**  
**BBC's Fulltime Security Correspondent and Author**

Frank spent nine years as an investment banker in New York, London and Bahrain before switching to journalism and joining the BBC in 1995. Frank has reported extensively on the global 'War on Terror' in Guantanamo Bay, Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East.



In 2004 Frank survived being shot six times at close range by Al-Qaeda terrorists in a Riyadh suburb in Saudi Arabia, an attack which left him paralysed from the knees down. It wasn't long though, before he was back at work reporting on the global security situation - and back on the ski slopes learning to ski all over again.

He went on to write the best selling book *Blood and Sand*, the poignant story of what can happen to your belief system when the culture you have embraced ends up trying to kill you. He was awarded an OBE in 2005 for services to journalism.

*What your audience can expect:*

A fluent Arabist with a degree in Arabic and Islamic studies from Exeter University, Frank is a leading expert on Al-Qaeda. Frank's own personal story of survival combined with his extensive knowledge of Middle Eastern history and politics make for a compelling event.

As a career broadcaster and a witty and gifted communicator, Frank shares his passion for the Middle East, travel and adventure. His attitude to and passion for life is more than most of us can imagine – his wonderful speeches are a mix of his personal experiences and an overview of the current global security situation. He draws on a unique perspective and understanding of both domestic and international security, notably on Al-Qaeda-related terrorism. His style is inspirational, motivational and compelling.

Frank presents in English.

**Testimonials:**

'I cannot thank you enough for your inspired talk on Thursday evening. I have lost track of the number of people who said how brilliant you were and, as one person said "if Frank could bottle that positive attitude he could make a fortune". I couldn't agree more.' DIRECTOR, BREWIN DOLPHIN SECURITIES LIMITED

'We were honestly delighted. At the risk of sounding too gushing, it was one of the best presentations I have heard. I am fascinated by the topic so possibly a little biased but I thought the whole thing was well balanced and intellectually stimulating. Excellent. Frank was relaxed and straight forward in his delivery. He put everyone at their ease very quickly' THREADNEEDLE ASSET MANAGEMENT

'I just wanted to extend my thanks to you again for your much valued contribution to our conference yesterday. I know from talking to delegates and colleagues that they were truly inspired, and entertained, by what you had to say, and I feel that you helped us end the conference on a really high note.' BRITISH COUNCIL