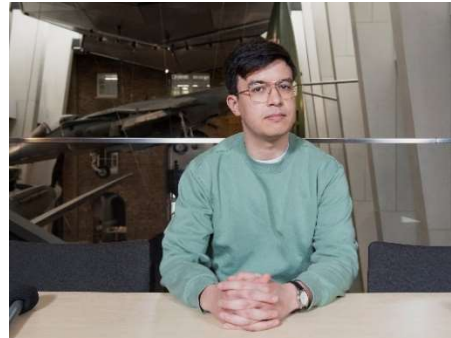




PRESS RELEASE

Eddie Izzard and Katherine Parkinson to feature in new Cold War series of the IWM Institute's *Conflict of Interest* podcast



L to R: © IWM, Russell Tovey in front of a section of the Berlin Wall at IWM London; © Sam Irons, Katherine Parkinson; © IWM, Phil Wang at IWM London

Following its successful debut in 2021, the IWM Institute is pleased to announce a second series of *Conflict of Interest*, the critically acclaimed podcast with 60,000 listens that brings together IWM curators and conflict experts with celebrity guests. Launching 13 April 2022, each episode in the seven-part series will see a celebrity learn more about a historic conflict, as they ask the questions that many of us feel we should know the answers to.

While series one focused on contemporary conflicts, series two will see the podcast delve further back in time to post-Second World War and Cold War era conflicts. Starting with the construction of the Berlin Wall, this new series of *Conflict of Interest* will chronologically explore conflicts including the Malayan Emergency, the Korean War, the Mau Mau Uprising, the Vietnam War and the Falklands Conflict.

Celebrity guests this series include comedian **Eddie Izzard**, actor and co-host of the *Talk Art* podcast **Russell Tovey**, stand-up comedian **Phil Wang**, poet **Nikita Gill**, actress **Katherine Parkinson**, and BBC Radio 6 host **Cerys Matthews**. Released weekly*, each episode will see these celebrity guests unpack complex questions with an IWM curator, external expert, and eyewitness to conflict, exploring themes ranging from the origins of conflicts, how they have been represented by mainstream media, to what effect they've had on civilian life. Providing multiple perspectives, eyewitness and expert guests for this series include **Phan Thi Kim Phuc** (the Vietnamese girl depicted fleeing a napalm attack in the famous 1972 photograph), war photographer **Don McCullin** and journalist **John Kampfner**. Along the way, stories will be brought to life by encounters with objects, artworks and film soundbites from IWM's collection, including [a section of the Berlin Wall](#) and [an Exocet missile](#).

Speaking of his experience recording the Berlin Wall episode of the podcast, actor Russell Tovey said: *"It's been really enlightening, fascinating, brilliant and exciting."*

Series two of *Conflict of Interest* will explore the global impact of the Cold War and the decline of the British Empire, shining a light on how these historic conflicts continue to shape today's world. With 2022 marking 40 years since the Falklands Conflict, this episode will be an especially timely

tool for listeners to gain a deeper understanding of the events that unfurled in the spring of 1982. It will include eyewitness testimony from **Richard Gough**, a veteran who was on board HMS Ardent, as well as input from Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at Keele University, **Helen Parr**, and IWM's in-house expert **John Beales**.

Eleanor Head, Head of the IWM Institute, said: "*Building on the success of series one of Conflict of Interest, we are taking our listeners back in time to explore some of the most important conflicts of the post-Second World War era, from Vietnam to Korea, to the Falklands and the Mau Mau Uprising. These historical conflicts are relevant now more than ever, as they provide much-needed context for the often-turbulent global landscape we live in today.*"

This new series of *Conflict of Interest* follows the first series which launched in May 2021. With guests including Carey Mulligan, Jamali Maddix and Deborah Frances-White, the inaugural series explored contemporary conflicts, from Yemen to the Iraq War. *Conflict of Interest* forms part of the IWM Institute's innovative programme, along with virtual and in-person discussions, an annual lecture and original research projects.

ENDS

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Notes to editors

Series two of *Conflict of Interest* will be available on [Spotify](#), Apple, Google/Android as well as a podcast player on the [IWM Institute hubpage](#) from 13 April 2022.

*Series two of *Conflict of Interest* will include six weekly episodes from 13 April 2022, with a bonus seventh episode being released in the autumn of 2022.

IWM Institute

The IWM Institute is Imperial War Museums' innovation hub, bridging the gap between academic research and public engagement. Working with world-leading institutions and an Associates Network of experts from the fields of arts and culture, media, policy, academia and the charity sector, the IWM Institute takes a considered long view on contemporary conflict, helping people draw connections between the past and present, all rooted in rigorous research.

iwm.org.uk/iwm-institute

IWM

www.iwm.org.uk

IWM (Imperial War Museums) tells the story of people who have lived, fought and died in conflicts involving Britain and the Commonwealth since the First World War.

Our unique collections, made up of the everyday and the exceptional, reveal stories of people, places, ideas and events. Using these, we tell vivid personal stories and create powerful physical experiences across our five museums that reflect the realities of war as both a destructive and creative force. We challenge people to look at conflict from different perspectives, enriching their understanding of the causes, course and consequences of war and its impact on people's lives.

IWM's five branches which attract over 2.5 million visitors each year are **IWM London**, IWM's flagship branch that has recently transformed with new, permanent and free Second World War and The Holocaust Galleries; **IWM North**, housed in an iconic award-winning building designed by Daniel Libeskind; **IWM Duxford**, a world renowned aviation museum and Britain's best preserved wartime airfield; **Churchill War Rooms**, housed in Churchill's secret headquarters below Whitehall; and the Second World War cruiser **HMS Belfast**.