

REINVENTING THE COMMONWEALTH

Kate Ford and Sunder Katwala

As the Commonwealth seeks to reinvent itself for the 21st century, this report sets out a radical reform agenda to turn the Commonwealth into an internationally-recognised standard for good governance and growth.

The 'Commonwealth Kitemark' could offer members a vital edge as they compete for investment and trade. But Commonwealth countries will have to live up to their shared values and deal with abuses to make reform pay off.

Defining a 'new Commonwealth consensus' in each of the key areas of global competition, democracy and the development of civil society, the report shows how members could benefit from this as long as they throw off the old Commonwealth caution to build the modern organisation that they need.

By standing proudly for its values so that they can deliver prosperity and democracy, the Commonwealth can pioneer a new model of international co-operation that gives countries greater ownership of their own development.

Kate Ford and Sunder Katwala are researchers at The Foreign Policy Centre. Their previous report **Making the Commonwealth Matter**, published on the modern Commonwealth's 50th anniversary, was described by the Daily Telegraph as "a challenge to member states to modernise themselves for the next century and shed the last remaining traces of the British Empire".

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