

Robin Bew

Former Managing Director, Editorial Director, and Chief Economist

Speaker on Global Economics, Politics, Finance and International Affairs, Management, Leadership and Workplace Inclusion



A seasoned economist and business leader who can engage with audiences on international economic, political, and business developments and relate them to company growth strategy and team development.

Professional experience

- Based in London, Robin has spent 27 years in leadership roles in The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), the research, forecasting and consulting division of The Economist Group.
- As Global Managing Director (CEO) of the EIU, he managed a worldwide team of 400 editorial and commercial colleagues and led operations, strategy and drove commercial success of the company. He also sat on The Economist Group ExCo, which managed operations and strategy across the entire Economist portfolio.
- As Editorial Director and Chief Economist of the EIU, he managed the company's editorial operations and led the intellectual debate on economic, political, and business issues worldwide.
- He has not only led the EIU Economics Unit, but also the Sovereign Credit and Operating Risk team, the Global Forecasting team and Custom Research teams including specialist operations focusing on Public Policy, Healthcare and Consumer Markets.
- He has worked extensively with clients on thought leadership issues, strategy, and advised them on global trends and business developments, helping to bring important topics to the attention of global decision makers.
- Prior to joining the EIU, Robin was a macroeconomist with Her Majesty's Treasury (the UK Finance Ministry) involved in forecasting government expenditure, analysis of UK fiscal policy, and the forecasting of UK trade performance.

Media and events

- A significant public profile, regularly speaking at client events, international conferences, and roundtables.
- A regular keynote speaker at conferences and round tables and board level presentations.
- Regularly invited as a guest host of CNBC *SquawkBox* Europe over a period of ten years.
- A frequent guest on BBC, CNN and regional news broadcast media.
- Extensive experience in chairing and moderating both large events and small panels.

Sample assignments

- Keynote speaker at client events, including Accenture, Temasek, British Council, American Express, Lockheed Martin, UBS, Investment Corporation of Dubai, Google, among others.
- Speaker at Board level meetings, intimate briefings and after-dinner events, for companies including Cathay Pacific, Dupont and SIA.
- An expert chair and moderator of conferences and summits, including at the Dubai International Financial Centre and Oxford University Economics and Business Programme.

Sample Speaking Topics

Robin speaks on global economic and geopolitical affairs, with a focus on the biggest issues affecting world prospects such as China's economic prospects, US China relations, the future of Europe, and the implications for clients' businesses and their teams.

- *The outlook for the global economy:* What will be the main engines of global growth. How will key geopolitical trends impact economic prospects. Where are the key opportunities and risks for businesses?
- *The rise of political risk:* How do the increasing tensions between the West and China, and the territorial ambitions of Russia, impact on global business. What is motivating the key players, and how might a new normal be reached?
- *International investment and globalisation:* How is the environment for cross-border business changing, and how can companies make the most of opportunities and respond to changing risks?

Personal biodata

- Managing Director (CEO) of the EIU from 2013- 2022
- Chief Economist from 1997- 2010 and Editorial Director from 2006-2013
- Joined the Economist Intelligence Unit in 1995 as an economist & global forecaster
- Previously an Economist with HM Treasury, the UK Government's finance ministry.
- Holds a degree in Economics and Business Finance, and a Master's in Economics.

Testimonials

"Explaining economics to executives like us is quite tough but Robin does an excellent job. He understands how we think and articulates his outlook in a way we understand. Although we don't always like his predictions, at least we understand what we need to pay attention to."

"I have always had enormous respect for the Economist Intelligence Unit and its forecasts. But with Robin Bew presenting them, you don't just get the numbers -- you get a clear picture of what we must focus on, and indeed what we can largely ignore, and that's invaluable."

"Very sharp and totally unflappable under fire from some pretty aggressive questioning today!"

"I respect the fact he is prepared to take a position and defend it."

"The session we all look forward to! Incredibly helpful insight, plain talking, fact sharing."

"Thank you for a really interesting session!!! Lots of food for thought and clearly lots of uncertainties ahead but all the information you shared will definitely help us to put things into perspective and will help us with our short to medium term planning!!!"

"Love his global economic update each year."