## The Bilderberg Group

## The annual Bilderberg Conference

The Bilderberg is an annual private conference of approximately 120-150 high-level people from various fields, spanning politics, industry, finance, academia and media. Typically, approximately two-thirds of the participants emanate from Europe, with the remainder from North America.

The first Bilderberg conference was held in the Netherlands at the Hotel de Bilderberg in Oosterbeek between 29-31 May, 1954. It was founded by several people, including Józef Retinger, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, Paul Guillaume van Zeeland and Paul Rijkens, the founding member and then head of Unilever.

Józef Retinger was a Polish politician who, after the second world war, was exiled by the communist government. In 1944, Józef Retinger parachuted into occupied Poland in Operation Salamander to meet with leading political figures and deliver money to the Polish underground. He survived an assassination attempt by factions in the Polish underground who mistrusted his secret mission into Poland. So too was he a founder of the European Movement that would lead to the founding of the European Union.

Prince Bernhard was a member of the German Nazi party until 1934. Having studied at Berlin's Humboldt University, he joined the Deutsche Studentenschaft, a National Socialist student fraternity, as well as the Nazi NSDAP and its paramilitary wing, the Sturmabteilung. Upon leaving university in December 1934, Prince Bernhard gave his memberships up following a placement at German chemical giant IG Farben (a firm notorious for its collaboration with the Nazi regime and for its large-scale production of Zyklon B gas, used in abundant proportions in extermination camps throughout the holocaust to purge millions of Jews and such "undesirables" from human civilization).

Paul Guillaume van Zeeland was a Belgian statesman and economist. Before serving his country as the Prime Minister, he was appointed to the position vice-governor of the National Bank of Belgium (a central bank established in 1850 with 100% private capital). In 1946, Paul Guillaume van Zeeland, along with Józef Retinger, was one of the founders of the European League for Economic Cooperation (ELEC). The ELEC defines itself as an "intellectual pressure group" in the service of the European project, anxious to carry out its mission in complete independence of private interests or of the public authorities. In other words, it is an unelected and unaccountable pro-European federalisation lobby aspiring to consolidate the three branches of government under a supranational union:

- Executive (European Commission)
- Legislative (European Parliament)
- Judicial (Court of Justice of the European Union)

The Treaty of Rome that established the European Economic Community, signed on 25 March, 1957 by six European nations (Belgium, Netherlands, Luxemburg, France, Italy and West Germany), was, as reported in 1977 by French television network TF1, conceived at a Bilderberg conference some years prior to its ratification in the 1950s.

A former Prime Minister of Belgium, Herman Achille Van Rompuy became the first full-time President of the European Council after assuming this position officially on 1 January, 2010. The Treaty of Lisbon—a quasi-Constitution for Europe—enabled it.

Herman Achille Van Rompuy was chosen unanimously by the European Council, at an informal meeting in Brussels, on 19 November, 2009. Significantly, Van Rompuy attended a dinner of the Bilderberg Group, exactly one week prior to his election, on 12 November, 2009. The dinner took place at Val Duchesse, a former priory on the outskirts of Brussels. Guests included Belgian industrialist and Bilderberg chairman, Etienne Davignon, the former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and luminaries from the fields of international politics and business. The dinner was held under conditions of secrecy, but details thereof were leaked to De Tijd, a Belgian broadsheet.

During the U.S. election year of 2008, the annual Bilderberg conference was held on 5-8 June in Virginia at the Westfields Marriott hotel in Chantilly, located just several miles from Washington, D.C. Both frontrunners vying for the Democratic nomination, Hillary Rodham Clinton & Barack Hussein Obama, were in attendance. Coincidently, just three days into the Bilderberg, on Saturday 7 June, 2008, Hillary Rodham Clinton announced that she was dropping out of the running, saying:

"Today, as I suspend my campaign, I congratulate him on the victory he has won, the extraordinary race he has run, and I throw my full support behind him; and I ask all of you to join me in working as hard for Barack Obama as you have for me!"

~ Hillary Rodham Clinton

After a three year hiatus, the Bilderberg returned to the United States in 2012, during another election year. From 31 May to 3 June, the venue for the conference was once again the Westfields Marriott hotel in Chantilly, Virginia. Willard Mitt Romney, who on 29 May, 2012 had been confirmed as the Republican nominee to challenge Obama in the upcoming presidential election, was allegedly in attendance at that Bilderberg meeting. Barely a couple of weeks after that, on 15 June, 2012, President Obama gave a speech on the DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) where he outlined his policy on granting permanent residency to certain immigrants.

Since 1954, there have been three most notable attendees: David Rockefeller; Henry Kissinger; the Dutch monarch.

David Rockefeller comes from a prominent family of bankers and business moguls. He has maintained for decades a keen interest in geopolitics. Rockefeller is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, an American think-tank, whose membership list attracts some of the world's most influential politicians and media moguls. So too did he found the Trilateral Commission, a think-tank incorporating Japan, North America and Western Europe. In his auto-biography on chapter 27, page 405, he wrote:

"...characterizing my family and me as "internationalists" and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure—one world, if you will—If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and, I am proud of it."

Henry Kissinger is an American diplomat and a former U.S. Secretary of State under the administrations of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. A winner of the coveted Nobel Peace Prize in 1973 for his input in the Paris Peace Accords, Kissinger is also viewed paradoxically in some circles as a controversial figure for having instigated American bombing operations over Cambodia in 1970, killing an estimated 40,000 combatants and civilians in the process.

In 1974, Kissinger drafted a policy directive which raised more than a few eyebrows, known as National Security Study Memorandum 200. The basic thesis of the memo is that population growth in the least developed countries is a concern to U.S. national security, because it would tend to risk civil unrest and political instability in countries with a high potential for economic development. It gave "paramount importance" to population control measures and called for the promotion of contraception among 13 populous countries.

The Dutch monarch regularly attends Bilderberg conferences by virtue of a legacy left behind by Prince Bernhard.

Anyone who participates in a Bilderberg conference is sworn to secrecy, and no press coverage is ever admitted inside. When participants are faced with having to answer questions for their attendance, the norm for such interrogation is to trigger off emotive responses of a defensive nature, and, to dismiss the conference as nothing other than a forum or a "talking shop" where candid discussions take place, away from the press, without fear of retribution. Arguments such as these are met with disbelief by cynics.

One of the underlying reasons why participants to Bilderberg conferences do not talk openly is because these meetings take place under a principle by consensus known as the "Chatham House Rule" [see link:].

http://www.chathamhouse.org/about/chatham-house-rule

The Chatham House Rule reads as follows: "When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed."

Whatever the truth may be about the Bilderberg, whether it is just an innocent talking shop comprised of elite intellectuals or, as the cynics put it, an organization comprised of rich capitalists who want to assert their control over the world for the sake of global profits, and, who conspire to deprive nation states of their sovereignty to impose a one world government by a ruling class, the consensus is that its existence is a contentious issue that shall remain an enigma for the foreseeable future.