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**Bio & Policy Statement from  
A Nominee for Correspondent Member Governor  
Board of Governors 2019-2020**



**George W. RUSSELL**  
**Affiliation: Financial Times**

I joined the Foreign Correspondents' Club more than 30 years ago, and have had an extensive relationship with the Club ever since, not just as a member but as Editor of the Correspondent in the run-up to the 1997 handover and as a board member during this most recent momentous year. As a result I have a good working knowledge of the club's activities and an understanding of why the FCC has become such a legendary destination.

This past year has seen the FCC thrust into unwelcome headlines, with protests over a Club event, criticism from officials, and major issues such as our lease renewal. In the next year, as a Correspondent Governor, I would promote dialogue to mitigate risks and build bridges over these issues without compromising the Club's core value of media freedom. I would also hope to help enhance the Club's financial stability to ensure we are fully prepared for the future.

As the perfect crossroads for media, business and politics in Hong Kong, China and the greater Asia-Pacific region, the FCC must focus on two core assets: (1) cementing its desirability as a venue known for great F&B and service and (2) upholding its central tenet of being a place where foreign correspondents and their contacts exchange notes and observations goals of the world around them.

The FCC's roster of speakers has always been compelling and I would work to maintain and develop that standard of professional events, adding to insight about the Asia-Pacific, China, Hong Kong – from hyper-local issues concerning our neighbourhoods to technological developments that affect our planet.

**About me**

I am an editor on the Hong Kong news desk of the *Financial Times*. I am also Editor-at-Large at the Journalism and Media Studies Centre at the University of Hong Kong, and Associate Editor of Asia Global Online, published by the Asia Global Institute at the University of Hong Kong. I have been published in the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *South China Morning Post* and *Variety* as well as numerous other consumer and trade publications..