

Dr. Martyn Davies

Executive Advisor -- Royal Commission for Riyadh City

Speaker on Africa and Emerging Markets



Martyn Davies is a leading economist, business analyst and commentator on the world's emerging markets.

Professional Experience - original, independent insights

- Dr Martyn Davies is an Executive Advisor at the Royal Commission for Riyadh City, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. In this position he leads the City Excellence Division of the RCRC.
- He has over 20 years of business and strategy experience across major industries advising the C-Suite of multinationals and public sector clients. He was formerly a Partner at Deloitte (MD of Emerging Markets & Africa) - the world's largest professional services company - occupying numerous roles across the firm. This included being the co-leader of Deloitte's Global CEO Program on behalf of Deloitte Africa through which the Firm engages with the CEOs of its leading clients
- He has extensive experience across multiple industries including auto, extractives, finance, FMCG, Government, industrial, infrastructure, multilateral organizations and tech & telecoms. He has worked and lived in numerous regions across the globe including Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East.
- He was Chief Economist of Deloitte (Africa) as well as a member of the Deloitte Global Economists team active in advising the world's largest multinationals on macroeconomic trends and interpreting what it means for their strategy. He is a Senior Fellow at the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth—a highly eminent group of leading economists working on strategies toward inclusive growth and sustainability.
- Prior to joining Deloitte, Martyn was a successful entrepreneur having founded Frontier Advisory, a strategy and corporate finance advisory firm that was acquired by Deloitte in September 2015.
- He was appointed in 2021 as an Advisor to the President of Namibia, H.E Hage Geingob and as a member of the President's 4IR Task Force Advisory Group advising on the adoption of technology to drive sustainability in the country's resources / industrial structure and wider economy.
- He is an alumnus of the Young Global Leaders Community of the World Economic Forum. He has served on numerous advisory groups at the WEF including the Global Agenda Council on China and as an expert adviser to the Mining & Metals Industry Group.
- He is a Non-Executive Director of FutureElect, an NGO that was launched through the WEF that trains young people for public service in Africa.
- He is a Visiting Professor at IE Business School, Spain, recognized as one of the world's leading business schools as well as a Professor of Practice in the College of Business and Economics, University of Johannesburg.
- Over his career, he has been an advisor to a large array of multinational firms on their market entry & engagement strategies in emerging markets and Africa. He has also conducted a large amount of advisory work on behalf of the public sector

- He has lectured by invitation at Harvard University, MIT, London School of Economics, Oxford University, IE Business School, Peking University, the African Development Bank, the OECD, the European Commission, the British Parliament and the World Bank as well as a wide number of multinational firms
- He was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2010.

Published books and papers

- Over the years, he has written over 200 articles in academia and the press and is a regular commentator for the international media. He has published a number of book chapters in political-economic publications and is a regular presenter at international conferences that include Chatham House, the African Development Bank, the OECD, the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, the European Commission, the School of Oriental & African Studies, the South African Parliament and the World Bank.
- He has published for the Organisation of Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD), Rockefeller Foundation, Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), Brookings Institution Press, and the South African Institute of International Affairs.

Sample assignments

- Martyn Davies is a regular presenter at local and international conferences
- He has been invited to present to Chatham House, the British Parliament, the African Development Bank, the OECD, and at various top universities around the world.
- He has provided business strategy and advisory services on behalf of listed and multinational clients in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America.

Sample Presentation Topics

- Outlook for the Emerging Markets
- Inclusive Growth in Fast Developing Economies
- Africa's Emerging Economy
- The Rise of China and Its Global Impact
- Company Competitiveness in a Dynamic Global marketplace

Martyn Davies – Personal Biodata

- Executive Advisor -- the Royal Commission for Riyadh City, Kingdom of Saudi
- Managing Director of Emerging Markets & Africa – Deloitte
- Formerly the CEO of Frontier Advisory – acquired by Deloitte
- Was at one time the Director of the China-Africa Network, at the Gordon Institute of Business Science.
- Advisor to MasterCard as a member of the company's Africa Knowledge Panel.
- Member of the Premier Limpopo Province's Employment, Growth and Development Advisory Council which advises the Premier on economic matters.
- Formerly a Senior Lecturer at the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS), University of Pretoria.
- Previously a founding Director of the Centre of Chinese Studies (CCS) at Stellenbosch University
- 2008 appointed as advisor to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for its Global Development Outlook Project.
- Awarded a certificate from Harvard Business School / GIBS for its "Making Markets Work" course.
- He earned his PhD in International Relations from the University of the Witwatersrand
- He has a Diploma in Asian Studies from Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea.
- Davies holds a BA degree in Law, an Honours Degree in International Relations (cum laude) and a Master's Degree in International Relations (cum laude) from the University of the Witwatersrand