



# Frank Gardner OBE

BBC's Security Correspondent



## CSA CELEBRITY SPEAKERS

Frank Gardner OBE is the BBC's fulltime security correspondent reporting for TV and radio on issues of both domestic and international security, notably on Al Qaeda related terrorism. He was awarded an OBE in June 2005 for services to journalism and released his first book 'Blood and Sand' in May 2006 which reached number three in the Sunday Times Bestseller List.

**"His work always reflects the true complexities of the stories he reports." Vin Ra**

### In detail

Frank's fascination with the Middle East began as a teenager when he had a chance meeting with Wilfrid Thesiger (who extensively travelled and photographed the Middle East). A fluent Arabist with a degree in Arabic and Islamic studies from Exeter University; Frank spent nine years as an investment banker in New York, London and Bahrain before switching to journalism and becoming the BBC's Middle East correspondent based in Cairo. He has reported extensively on the so-called 'War on Terror' in Guantanamo Bay, Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East. In 2004 he survived being shot six times at close range by Al Qaeda terrorists in the Riyadh suburb, Saudi Arabia. After many months in hospital he returned to the BBC to resume his job.

### What he offers you

Frank draws on his experiences as a security correspondent to offer audiences remarkable accounts of his time in the Middle East. Having witnessed some truly terrifying situations his determination to return to his full and active life makes his story both fascinating and inspirational.

### How he presents

Frank is a good communicator, knows how to handle situations spontaneously and comes across really well.

### Languages

He presents in English and fluent Arabic.

### Want to know more?

Give us a call or send us an e-mail to find out exactly what he could bring to your event.

### How to book him?

Simply phone, fax or e-mail us.