



Luncheon Speaker Series

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

The Group of 78
Le Groupe of 78

DISASTER FRAUD

Madelaine Drohan

www.group78.org



Tuesday Nov 28, 2017

Palais Imperial Restaurant,

12:00 p.m.

311- 313 Dalhousie St., Ottawa

RESERVATIONS: Group78@group78.org 613-565-9449 ext. 22 by Friday Nov 24, 2017 by 12:00 pm

The aid pipeline that stretches from donors to victims of crisis and disaster has sprung multiple leaks. Yet few governments, with the notable exception of the US, are trying very hard to find out how much is lost to fraud between donor and victim. Each party in the process has a reason for avoiding publicity: humanitarian organizations do not want to scare off donors; governments do not want to admit taxpayers' funds have gone astray; victims rarely have a voice; and fraudsters are more than happy to avoid the spotlight.

Yet if no one speaks publicly about the problem, there will be no pressure to grapple with it. Technology is the fraudster's friend, yet it might also lead to a solution if it gives the most important people in the aid pipeline – the victims – the ability to speak out about whether they received what they were promised. Ultimately the largest donors and international organizations will have to get over their reluctance to admit there is a problem and co-ordinate their efforts to reduce disaster fraud.

Madelaine Drohan is the Canada correspondent for The Economist. For the last 40 years, she has covered business and politics in Canada, Europe, Africa and Asia. In 2016, she became a senior fellow at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa. In 2015-2016 she was the Prime Ministers of Canada fellow at the Public Policy Forum.

She is the author of The 9 Habits of Highly Successful Resource Economies: Lessons for Canada, a research report that she wrote in 2012 for the Canadian International Council.

\$30 for luncheon and presentation (12:00 p.m.)

\$5 for presentation only (arrive 12:45 p.m. coffee and tea will be available)

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Late registrations are welcome for presentation only.

Individuals who do not cancel their reservations at least 24 hours before the luncheon will be billed \$30.