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Mr. Charles Powell is Director of the Elcano Royal Institute, Spain's leading international relations think-tank, and a Professor of Contemporary History at CEU San Pablo University. Prior to settling in Spain in 1997, he was Lecturer in History at Corpus Christi College (Oxford), J. A. Pye Fellow at University College (Oxford), and Junior Research Fellow at St. Antony's College (Oxford). He has published six books and dozens of articles on Spanish history, politics and foreign policy, with special emphasis on its European dimension. Mr. Powell holds a BA in History and Modern Languages from Oxford University, where he also obtained his D. Phil for a thesis on Spain's transition to democracy, which was supervised by Sir Raymond Carr.

In 2017 he was appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) for his services to British-Spanish relations.