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C4 Class of 2012: the lost generation?

With one million young people unemployed in Britain today, Channel 4 investigates how to create jobs for the Class of 2012 with a live panel debate.

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Hundreds of thousands of young people left full-time education this summer and are now starting the hunt for their first full time job. But with a stagnant economy and [over one million 16-24 year-olds unemployed](#), could this be the toughest year ever to find a first job?

Graduates are entering a market flooded with job-seekers where experience, rather than qualifications, is now more important to many employers. For school-leavers trying to get their first foot on the jobs ladder, the posts that are available are often temporary and part-time, and unlikely to lead to a career.

Channel 4 is hosting a live event with government experts, think tanks, business leaders and young people to debate why the employment situation is so bad for the Class of 2012 – and what can be done about it.

Could this be the toughest year ever to find a first job?

Hosted by [Jon Snow](#) and [Economics Editor Faisal Islam](#) on Wednesday 19 September, Channel 4 News will also ask where the responsibility for creating these jobs lies.

With top panellists including [David Miliband MP](#) and Justin King, Sainsbury's CEO, the debate will question whether key employment policies are working and hear from young people on the front line of the dole queue.

Channel 4 News will put your questions to the panel (email c4jobs@itn.co.uk) and will be taking to [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) using the #C4Classof2012 hashtag the week before the event to hear all about your job-seeking experiences.

Recent graduate [Myles](#) and school-leaver [Chelsie](#) will also be on the Channel 4 panel. They are working with [Battlefront](#), Channel 4's award-winning youth campaigning series dedicated to changing the world for young people, as campaigners to tackle youth unemployment.

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