

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-09015-5 - British Foreign Policy under Sir Edward Grey

Edited by F. H. Hinsley

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EDITED BY
F. H. HINSLEY

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE

LONDON · NEW YORK · MELBOURNE

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521213479

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First published 1977
This digitally printed version 2008

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Main entry under title:

British foreign policy under Sir Edward Grey.

Bibliography p.

Includes index

1. Great Britain – Foreign relations – 1901–10 – Addresses, essays, lectures.
2. Great Britain – Foreign relations – 1910–1936 – Addresses, essays, lectures.
3. European War, 1914–1918 – Diplomatic history – Addresses, essays, lectures.
4. Grey, Edward Grey, 1st Viscount, 1862–1933 – Addresses, essays, lectures.

I. Hinsley, Francis Harry, 1918–
DA570.B73 327.41 76-19631

ISBN 978-0-521-21347-9 hardback
ISBN 978-0-521-09015-5 paperback

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PREFACE

As a result of the operation of the rule by which the archives of British government departments were at the time opened to the public after the passage of fifty years, a new phase in the study of British foreign policy in the period from 1905 to 1916 began in the 1950s. By 1970 it was coming to an end: diplomatic historians, their ranks reinforced by increasing numbers of research students, had completed the scrutiny of the archives up to 1916 and, further encouraged by the decision to replace the fifty-year rule by a thirty-year rule, were turning their attention to those of later years. This volume, written mainly by scholars who first came forward as research students at the time, summarises the work that was done and presents its findings as a comprehensive account of the subject.

In my duties as general editor I have been assisted throughout by the individual contributors to the volume. Other contributors as well as myself have discussed each chapter with its author or authors in an attempt to keep duplication to a minimum and to arrive at consistency of treatment. In addition, Mrs Steiner has undertaken the task of compiling and checking the bibliography.

October 1975

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