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By Edward Fennell
In the City

Bear-faced lawyers

In the week that good old Gorby was in Berlin to recall the collapse of the Soviet Empire it is highly appropriate that nine top law firms from the Commonwealth of Independent States should launch a new alliance, the CIS Leading Counsel Network, to offer clients “seamless advice across these fast-developing markets”.

It may seem a long way from 1989 but this is the reality of the eclipse of Soviet power — free-market lawyers in a free multinational alliance. German and French law firms were invited to share in the inaugural celebrations. No Brits were involved. It’s nice to know that some things don’t change.