



2009 FEDERAL POLICY BRIEFING
*ADVANCING PEACE, SECURITY & HUMAN RIGHTS
IN AN ERA OF CHANGE*



MARCH 18-19, 2009
WASHINGTON, DC

WEDNESDAY AGENDA IN BRIEF

LOCATION: Reserve Officers Association (One Constitution Ave., NE)

8:30 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

8:45 WELCOME FROM PSFG AND IHRFG

9:15 KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE JAMES STEINBERG

10:15 COFFEE BREAK

10:30 TOUR D'HORIZON: WHAT TO EXPECT FROM
THE CONGRESS AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH

11:30 STRATEGY DISCUSSION:
WHAT SHOULD WE, AS FUNDERS, BE DOING?

12:00 LUNCH SERVED ON-SITE AT RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOC.

1:15-2:30 *CONCURRENT SESSIONS*

SESSION A BRINGING HUMAN RIGHTS HOME: DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTATION OF
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS

SESSION B NUCLEAR WEAPONS POLICY AT A CROSSROADS

2:45-4:00 *CONCURRENT SESSIONS*

SESSION A RESTORING THE RULE OF LAW: PURSUING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR
ABUSES COMMITTED IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM

SESSION B ENDING AMERICA'S WARS

4:00 COFFEE BREAK

4:15-5:30 BREAKING INTERTWINED STALEMATES:
HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE FOR
PALESTINIANS, ISRAELIS AND IRANIANS

6:00-8:00 RECEPTION FOR PSFG, IHRFG AND NGO COMMUNITY

LOCATION: MOTT HOUSE (122 MARYLAND AVE., NE)

THURSDAY AGENDA IN BRIEF

AM LOCATION: Capitol Visitor Center - Room SVC 212/210

9:00-11:30 BRIEFING FROM MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

11:30 STRATEGIC DISCUSSION AND IDENTIFICATION OF NEXT STEPS

- - Allow travel/security check time at Dirksen Building...

12:30 LUNCH IN THE DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

LOCATION: Dirksen Senate Office Building Buffet Dining Room

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ CONCURRENT PSFG & IHRFG MEETINGS ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Peace & Security Funders Group Meeting

Location: Mott House, 122 Maryland Ave., NE

2:00 PSFG ORGANIZATION MEETING

3:00-4:30 STRATEGY DISCUSSIONS FOR FUNDERS

International Human Rights Funders Group Meeting

Location: Friends Committee on National Legislation
245 Second St., NE

2:00-3:30 A CONVERSATION WITH REP. JIM MCGOVERN ON
HUMAN RIGHTS & THE WORK OF THE LANTOS COMMISSION

DETAILED AGENDA - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH

LOCATION: Reserve Officers Association (One Constitution Ave., NE)

8:30 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AVAILABLE

8:45 WELCOME FROM PSFG AND IHRFG

Michael Hirschhorn, *Director*
International Human Rights Funders Group
& *President, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Foundation*

Katherine Magraw, *Director*
Peace and Security Funders Group

9:15 KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE JAMES STEINBERG

Introduced by Katherine Magraw, Director
Peace and Security Funders Group



James B. Steinberg is the Deputy Secretary of State at the U.S. Department of State. Immediately prior to joining the Obama Administration, he was dean of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas (January 06 to January 09) and the vice president and director of Foreign Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution (2001-2005). During the Clinton Administration, Dr. Steinberg served as deputy national security advisor to the President, Director of the State Department's policy planning staff, and as deputy assistant secretary for analysis in the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Among other positions, Steinberg has also been a senior analyst at RAND in Santa Monica, California (1989-1993); a senior fellow for U.S. Strategic Policy at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London (1985- 1987); and served as Senator Edward Kennedy's principal aide for the Senate Armed Services Committee (1983-1985). Steinberg is the author of and contributor to many books and articles on foreign policy and national security topics, including *Difficult Transitions: Foreign Policy Troubles at the Outset of Power*, *Protecting the Homeland 2006/2007* and *An Ever Closer Union: European Integration and Its Implications for the Future of U.S.-European Relations*.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

10:15 COFFEE BREAK

10:30 TOUR D'HORIZON:
WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE CONGRESS AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH

John Isaacs, Executive Director
Center for Arms Control and Nonproliferation

Lisa Graves, Deputy Director
Center for National Security Studies

Moderator: Michael Hirschhorn, Director, IHRFG

This moderated conversation will bring funders up to date on the issues, players and strategies in the broad areas of national security and human rights policies. Our conversation will reflect on the Deputy Secretary of State's keynote address and set the stage for the subsequent strategy discussions.

11:30 STRATEGY DISCUSSION:
WHAT SHOULD WE, AS FUNDERS, BE DOING?

Moderator: Conrad Martin, Executive Director
Stewart R. Mott Charitable Trust

12:00 LUNCH SERVED ON-SITE AT RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

1:15-2:30 *CONCURRENT SESSIONS*

SESSION A BRINGING HUMAN RIGHTS HOME: DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTATION OF
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS

Joseph Zogby, Chief Counsel to Senator Durbin
Senate Judiciary Committee

Catherine Powell, Associate Professor of Law
Fordham Law School

Moderator: Ann Beeson, Director of US Programs
Open Society Institute

Although they've been called "more American than apple pie," Americans have come to think of human rights as the stuff of foreign policy. Domestic policymakers and rights advocates alike have tended to use a human rights lens as a telescope for the world beyond US borders, but rarely as a mirror. But recent years have seen a growing movement among domestic rights groups to "bring human rights home."

Last fall, with the participation of close to fifty bi-partisan social justice advocates, Catherine Powell authored a domestic policy blueprint for securing effective federal and state human rights reforms. Using this blueprint as a guide, panelists will explore the current and potential state of human rights accountability in policy, principle, and practice. Is the US rediscovering its human rights roots?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

SESSION B

NUCLEAR WEAPONS POLICY AT A CROSSROADS

Jon Wolfsthal, Senior Advisor to the Vice President for Nonproliferation and WMD

Lynn Rusten, formerly, Senate Armed Services Committee and State Department

Moderator: **Naila Bolus**, Executive Director Ploughshares Fund

The Obama Administration has committed to repair and strengthen the nuclear nonproliferation regime, to secure all nuclear materials within four years, and to renew engagement with Russia and seek reductions in nuclear weapons. It has also said it will pursue the goal of a world without nuclear weapons. Congressional leaders have voiced similar determination. This is welcome news and NGOs and foundations are ramping up their capacity to help secure some policy victories and, perhaps, turn U.S. nuclear policy around.

This session will discuss the political context surrounding the nuclear weapons issue in order to inform our thinking about how the philanthropic and NGO community should position itself, provide assets, and determine priorities. We will consider the Administration's thinking and intentions over the next two years: will it pursue discrete policy goals or reach for a dramatic change in U.S. nuclear weapons policy? Does Congress have the intention and resources to push a far-reaching agenda?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

2:45-4:00

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

SESSION A

RESTORING THE RULE OF LAW: PURSUING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR ABUSES COMMITTED IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM

US Representative **John Conyers, Jr.** (D-MI)

Suzanne Spaulding, Principal
Bingham Consulting Group

Moderator: **Wendy Patten**, Senior Policy Analyst
Open Society Institute

Some 62 percent of Americans favor a criminal investigation or an independent panel to examine the use of torture, rendition, illegal wiretapping, and other alleged abuses of power in the Bush administration. Many dismiss the idea as unfeasible, while others see some form of accountability as essential to moving forward to improve national security and uphold the rule of law.

President Obama has said that "nobody's above the law" and people should be prosecuted "if there are clear instances of wrongdoing," but he added that he is "more interested in looking forward" than backwards.

Rep. Conyers introduced a bill to establish a commission to investigate Bush Administration counter-terrorism policies. And Sen. Leahy called for the establishment of a nonpartisan commission of inquiry and has already held hearings. The Senate Intelligence Committee recently announced it will conduct a year-long review of the CIA's detention and interrogation program.

This session will provide a briefing on the current state of play with respect to the options on the table - including Congressional oversight, an independent commission, prosecution, and existing investigations. Speakers will discuss their assessment of the best ways forward, and of the challenges and opportunities in advancing various approaches to accountability.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

SESSION B

ENDING AMERICA'S WARS

Frederick Barton, Co-Director of the Post-Conflict Reconstruction Project
Center for Strategic and International Studies

Steve Coll, President and CEO
New America Foundation

Moderator: Katherine Magraw, Director
Peace and Security Funders Group

Two months in, the new Administration and Congress are struggling to end responsibly and promptly the war in Iraq, to identify a successful strategy to bring peace and stability to Afghanistan, and to re-conceptualize the "war on terrorism." How the new administration pursues these overdue and politically-fraught efforts will have major implications for U.S. military, foreign and human rights policies.

This session will provide a briefing on the state-of-play in these three arenas and identify the most critical issues. Speakers will offer their assessment on the process of, and key considerations for, charting a new policy orientation that de-emphasizes military solutions and is capable of promoting the rule of law, human rights, economic and political development, effective security institutions, and a deeper understanding of the root causes of terrorism.

4:00

COFFEE BREAK

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

4:15-5:30

JOINT PSFG & IHRFG SESSION

BREAKING INTERTWINED STALEMATES: HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE FOR PALESTINIANS, ISRAELIS AND IRANISANS

Robert Malley, Program Director (MENA)
International Crisis Group

Trita Parsi, President
National Iranian American Council

Moderator: Steven Riskin, Senior Program Officer
United State Institute of Peace

The Arab-Israeli conflict and U.S. relations with Iran are top priority issues on the administration's foreign policy agenda. How will the Administration approach these intertwined and complex challenges that have an enormous impact on the peoples of the Middle East, U.S. standing in the world and the cause of global peace?

Is it possible to revive a serious peace process given the ongoing Israeli occupation, the recent war and the profound political divisions on both sides? Is "time running out" on a two-state solution? Is that approach still viable? Amid the current crisis and beyond formal diplomacy, how can US policy advance development and reconciliation? With regard to Iran, will the administration's stated intent to pursue negotiations with Iran bear fruit? How can a new approach be shaped and implemented to enhance the likelihood of success? And what constructive role can funders and NGOs play?

6:00

RECEPTION FOR PSFG, IHRFG AND NGO COMMUNITY

LOCATION:

STEWART R. MOTT HOUSE (122 Maryland Ave., NE)

with **US Representative Donna Edwards** (D-MD)
and other invited Members of Congress

Emcee: Cora Weiss, President, Samuel Rubin Foundation

8:00

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

NOTE: We've held a small group reservation at **Johnny's Half Shell**, located at 400 North Capitol St., NW. Katherine Magraw is handling the sign-ups for this, so listen for further details on Wednesday.

DETAILED AGENDA, THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH

LOCATION: Capitol Visitor Center - Room SVC 212/210

9:00-11:30 BRIEFING FROM MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)
Co-Chair of the Progressive Caucus

Rep. Ellen Tauscher (D-CA)
Chair of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the
House Armed Services Committee

Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)
Member, House Foreign Affairs Committee and
Appropriations Committee

Other invited Members of Congress to be announced...

Moderator: Eric Schwartz, Executive Director
Connect U.S. Fund

11:30 STRATEGIC DISCUSSION AND IDENTIFICATION OF NEXT STEPS
Moderator: Cora Weiss, President
Samuel Rubin Foundation

- - Allow for travel/security check time at Dirksen Building...

12:30 LUNCH AT THE DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING BUFFET
Note: The buffet, NOT the cafeteria

2:00-4:30 Concurrent PSFG & IHRFG Meetings

*PSFG and IHRFG will hold concurrent meetings in
separate locations, as described on the following page.*

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009

Peace & Security Funders Group Meeting

Location: Mott House, 122 Maryland Ave., NE

2:00 PSFG ORGANIZATION MEETING

Chairs: Bonnie Jenkins and Naila Bolus
Co-Chairs of PSFG Steering Committee

3:00-4:30 STRATEGY DISCUSSIONS FOR FUNDERS

A. Military Spending
Chair: Conrad Martin, Stewart Mott Charitable Trust

B. Nuclear weapons policy
Chair: Naila Bolus, Ploughshares Fund

C. Peacebuilding
Chair: Stephanie Smith, Compton Foundation

D. Others, as requested

Note: This meeting runs concurrent with IHRFG's at an alternate location.



PEACE AND SECURITY FUNDERS GROUP

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009

NOTES

International Human Rights Funders Group Meeting

Location: Friends Committee on National Legislation
245 Second St., NE

2:00-3:30 A CONVERSATION WITH REP. JIM MCGOVERN ON
HUMAN RIGHTS & THE WORK OF THE LANTOS COMMISSION

Moderator: Regan Ralph, Executive Director
Fund for Global Human Rights

Join IHRFG for a conversation with Rep. Jim McGovern, Co-Chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission of the House Foreign Affairs Committee (with Rep. Frank Wolf [R-VA]). Rep. McGovern will describe his individual and Congressional journey toward human rights advocacy, provide an overview of the Lantos Commission's history and workings, and discuss the significance of its very recent (September 2008) elevation from caucus to full-fledged and staffed Commission. Finally, he will provide grantmakers with his perspective on potential areas for positive impact on the rapidly changing human rights landscape, both domestically and abroad.

Note: This meeting runs concurrent with PSFG's at an alternate location.



NOTES



THANK YOU TO THE
2009 FEDERAL POLICY BRIEFING PLANNING COMMITTEE

KATIE AULWES - STEWART R. MOTT CHARITABLE TRUST
NAILA BOLUS - PLOUGHSHARES FUND
SOPHIA CONROY - OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE
MICHAEL J. HIRSCHHORN - JACOB AND HILDA BLAUSTEIN FOUNDATION
KATHERINE MAGRAW - PEACE AND SECURITY FUNDERS GROUP
CONRAD MARTIN - STEWART R. MOTT CHARITABLE TRUST
REGAN RALPH - FUND FOR GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS
STEVEN RISKIN - U. S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE
ADDISON SMITH - INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FUNDERS GROUP
CORA WEISS - SAMUEL RUBIN FOUNDATION
PETER WEISS - SAMUEL RUBIN FOUNDATION

LOCAL AREA MAP

