



DENVER COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The DCFR Report

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Announcing Members' Day: The Middle East

Members' Day is a new initiative of DCFR and seeks to create an opportunity for members and guests to engage with a range of experts on a single theme during a single event. The Members' Day theme for this year's event will focus on the situation in the Middle East. The event is being organized with the cooperation of the Israel Public Diplomacy Forum, a non-profit, non-partisan, educational organization that seeks to advance international understanding of Israel and the Middle East by generating dialogue based on informed and reliable information.

In order to ensure members are able to engage with the speakers and panelists to the fullest possible extent, we are imposing time limits. The panelists will speak for 10 minutes each, and the speakers for 30, leaving time for audience participation.

LUNCH SPEAKER: We will begin at lunch with a presentation by Roger Harrison who was appointed by President

Date: Nov. 5th 2015
Location: Hyatt Place Cherry Creek (4150 E. Mississippi Ave.)
Time: 12 to 9 pm

George H. W. Bush as Ambassador to Jordan the day after

the Gulf war began. He is presently the founding director of the Eisenhower Center for Space and Defense Studies at the Air Force Academy.

PANEL ONE: Following the lunch speaker, a panel will assess the Obama Administration's Foreign Policy. The participants will include: DCFR's Dr. Paul Viotti, Ambassador Roger Harrison, University (Denver) Professor Tom Farer and others.

AFTERNOON SPEAKER: Our afternoon speaker, Dr. Ely Karmon, will discuss "Countering Terrorism." Dr. Karmon is a Senior Research Scholar, International Insti-

tute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT).

PANEL TWO: Our second panel will focus specifically on assessing U.S. Policy in the Middle East. Participants will include Korbel's Professor David Goldfisher, Ambassador Roger Harrison, and two others.

DINNER SPEAKER: Professor Eytan Gilboa will conclude the event with a presentation on, "The Changing Middle East." Dr. Gilboa is the Founding Director, School of Communication, Bar-Ilan University, Israel; He is also Director, Center for International Communication and Senior Research Associate, BESA Center for Strategic Studies.

This will be an outstanding opportunity to engage with experts about the Middle East, a region that is of great concern to all, and to do so in a stimulating environment. So, be sure to mark the afternoon of Nov. 5th on your calendars and by all means bring along one or more guests who will be charged a modest \$75 to cover the costs of the lunch, reception, and dinner.

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From Our President:



Dr. Joseph Szylowitz
President of the Denver Council of Foreign Relations

As we begin our 77th year, the members and Board of DCFR have much to be proud of. Our meetings have provided a forum for enlightened, non-partisan discussion and debate on important international issues.

Our outreach and fellowship programs have contributed to the development of young professionals and future leaders. Yet the global challenges we face today — refugees, climate change, population growth in developing countries, unequal economic development, and the rise of ethnic and religious separatist movements—are as

demanding as those we faced in 1938 when DCFR was established. 1938 was the year, as some of us remember, of the Munich Pact that brought “Peace in our Time,” according to the British PM, Neville Chamberlain.

Clearly, informed discussion on the state of the world and the foreign policy options available to the United States is urgently required in our community as is the need to build an understanding of the contemporary and emerging international issues. These are the obvious challenges that we must continue to strive to meet. Given the state of the world today, the need for better informed Colorado citizens on the global issues that impact us is at least as great as it was in 1938.

So, in our new season, on behalf of the officers and Board members, let me welcome our new and returning members. We all have our work cut out for us if DCFR is to contribute to the building of a better world.

I’m happy to be able to report to you that we are not satisfied with the status quo and are continually striving to innovate in many ways so as to enable our members and associates to engage in informed and knowledgeable dialogue. On our website (denvercfr.org), you will find not only information about our programs, but board meeting minutes, reports and articles by DCFR research efforts as well as upcoming and past speakers, and other resources for those seeking to understand our world. To enhance its utility we are in the process of updating it.

We are also planning to make wider use of technology; one example is our exploration into the possibility of “phone in” meetings during lunch hours with experts who may not be locally available. Any ideas that you might have that will enhance our ability to meet our goals are, of course, very welcome.

These are only some of the ways through which we seek to enhance your experience as a DCFR

member. This is our primary concern. And, you are our ambassadors to the community. Accordingly, we are working hard to ensure that we provide our members with interesting and knowledgeable speakers. And, to ensure that we are meeting the needs of our membership, we are planning to implement a new idea — to ask everyone to fill out a short questionnaire at the end of each meeting. We also seek to make our meetings more interactive and are experimenting, for example, with a debate format.

As always, we welcome your ideas and active involvement as we work to heighten public awareness and build understanding of the serious contemporary international issues — as well as the emerging ones that our children will have to deal with.



Outreach Update: World Affairs Challenge

The World Affairs Challenge (WAC) is a program dedicated to developing tomorrow's global leaders. Through ongoing mentoring, education, and competition, WAC identifies middle-school and high-school students who are passionate about world affairs and helps engage them in developing solutions to the world's most pressing problems.

WAC's centerpiece is its annual one-day competition held each spring. The DCFR collaborates with the Center for Teaching International Relations (CTIR) to provide participation grants to rural Colorado schools for the exciting annual event.

The 2016 Theme *Smart Villages*

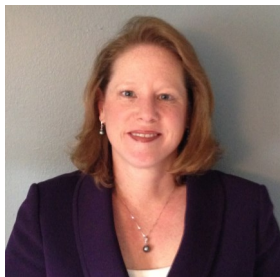
Location: Regis University
Date (high-school): March 5th
Date (middle-school): April 9th

For *Smart Villages*, students will examine how remote, often off-grid, communities are integrating the basic necessities of life - water, agriculture, energy, sanitation, health, and education - to enhance the lives of some two billion inhabitants on Earth.

In 2017, the theme will be *Smart Cities* and in 2018, students will link these themes to craft a *Smart Planet!*

WAC is more than a one-day event. Students are mentored by individuals, businesses, and non-profit organizations in the community to foster their understanding of global issues and opportunities. And following the competition, students are connected to a network of universities and organizations where they can continue their development into global thinkers, doers, and leaders.

If you are part of a group that is interested in developing tomorrow's global leaders, consider becoming a mentor or judge! Details can be found here: <http://www.worldaffairschallenge.org/>



**First Quarter 2015
DCFR Member of the
Month — Paula
Schriefer**

"I have been greatly impressed by the quality of DCFR's membership and opportunities it provides to stay informed about the most important issues taking place around the globe."

New Member Profile: Paula Schriefer

With over two decades of experience working on international human rights issues, Paula Schriefer brings an array of knowledge to the DCFR community.

Ms. Schriefer completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Denver and moved on to complete her graduate studies and begin working in D.C. It was a trip that would last 23 successful years: "Most of that time was spent working for Freedom House, a nonprofit human rights organization,

and the last two and half years I spent at the U.S. State Department as a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs."

She was recently drawn back to Colorado to lead the renown Spring Institute for Intercultural Learning and it turned out to be a welcomed change. "I was thrilled to return to Denver and my home state Colorado and even more thrilled to find that it has become a much more di-

verse community in terms of the number of immigrants and individuals with an international perspective among its residents."

Once back in Denver, Ms. Schriefer found within the DCFR community an opportunity to both share her personal expertise as well as share the fantastic work done by the organization she now leads.

The entire DCFR community offers her its warmest welcome.



DCFR

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Founded in 1938 as a committee of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, the Denver Council on Foreign Relations (DCFR) is incorporated as an independent, non-partisan, non-profit [(501(c)3] organization. Our mission is to conduct informed, non-partisan discussions on foreign policy among citizens, community leaders and policy makers; to heighten public awareness and expand understanding of contemporary and emerging international issues, locally and regionally; and to stimulate inputs to policy makers, based on research and related activities, that reflect perspectives developed in Denver and the Rocky Mountain region. We welcome participation via membership or, for those contemplating application, as a guest at any of our speaker events or collateral programs.

Visit us! www.denvercfr.org

Stay Connected - Upcoming Events and Speakers

Oct. 15th - Dinner Meeting:

[Brent Shapiro & Lewis Griffith](#)

Mr. Shapiro is a Regional Security Consultant and Dr. Lewis Griffith is the DCFR's Executive Director.

Topic: "Realities on the Ground in the Middle East." - A Debate

@ The Denver Country Club Mixer at 6pm; Dinner begins at 7pm. Registration via Polly Cox by TBA.

Nov. 5th - Members' Day Lunch, Discussion, and Dinner Speaker:

[Amb. Roger Harrison, Prof. Eytan Gilboa and many more](#)

See Related Article in This Newsletter



Nov. 19th - Dinner Meeting:

[Toby Matthiesen](#)

Mr. Matthiesen is a Research Fellow in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at Pembroke College, University of Cambridge.

Topic: "Buttressing the Twin Pillars: The Future of US Relations with Saudi Arabia and Iran."

@ The Denver Country Club Mixer at 6pm; Dinner begins at 7pm. Registration via Polly Cox by TBA.