

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Congressionally Chartered. Scholarship Driven. Fiercely Nonpartisan.



To all of you here and to the Wilson Center, thank you so much for allowing us to be here today and for helping us to set the stage for this important conference."

### JOHN KERRY

Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, US Department of State

#### EVENT:

*Our Ocean Countdown: Panama 2023, the Great Blue Connection February 9, 2023* 



With the world facing era-defining conflicts, the accelerated growth of potentially disruptive technologies, and increasing economic competition, the Wilson Center formula of scholarship-driven, fiercely nonpartisan analysis has never been more important."

#### AMBASSADOR MARK A. GREEN

President & CEO, Wilson Center

### WILSON CENTER LEADERSHIP



There is always room for the truth. The Wilson Center's independent and nonpartisan scholarship has never been more important than it is in these complex and challenging times."

> JOE ASHER Chair, Board of Trustees

With its impressive roster of fellows that grows each year, the Wilson Center acts as a bridge between public policy and academia, and delivers unparalleled policy-relevant scholarship. With almost half of the fellows coming from abroad, the Wilson Center brings the world to Washington."

**BISHOP LEAH D. DAUGHTRY** 

Vice Chair, Board of Trustees

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In a year of quickly-moving and era-defining events, the fiercely nonpartisan scholarship produced from across the Wilson Center helped to bring context to some of the most important, interconnected issues facing the world today. Areas of focus for 2023 included:

- Ukraine in Europe
- Israel-Hamas War
- State of Democracy





## Israel-Hamas War

Hamas' unprecedented attack on Israel and the ongoing Hamas-Israel war in Gaza surfaced political and security implications across the Middle East and North Africa region. The Wilson Center analyzes the consequences in this burgeoning special collection.



Hamas' unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7 and the ongoing Hamas-Israel war in Gaza will have political and security implications across the Middle East and North Africa region. The humanitarian dimension with surging death tolls amongst innocent civilians in Israel and in Gaza is at the heart of this conflict. RELATED PREGRAMS



## **State of Democracy**

From its "Mexico Election Guide" to Nigeria election programming to convenings with Latin American heads of state, and more, the Wilson Center established a new hub to house a growing body of resources to better understand the state of democracy—and participate in it—during crucial elections.



## **CONVENING POWER**

I found our discussion very useful, especially on the close cooperation between our two countries. For Labor, the US is the UK's most essential ally, and the UK will remain the US's closest security ally. We would look to deepen this relationship under a Labor Government, broaden US-UK defense industrial and technology collaboration, and build on our NATO and Indo Pacific commitments."

JOHN HEALEY, MP, UK Shadow Secretary of State for Defense The UK Labor Party's Foreign and Defense Priorities: A Conversation with David Lammy and John Healey, September 22, 2023

> Rt. Hon. JOHN HEALEY MP

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Public-private partnerships are more important than ever, in fact, this whole Center for Strategic Competition doesn't happen if it's just the government,

ina Raimondo

partment of Commerce.

so I want to thank you for recognizing that and working so closely with us."

#### GINA RAIMONDO, US Secretary of Commerce

A Conversation on the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework with Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, July 25, 2023

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## CONVENING POWER \\







#### JANUARY 2023

## Bucha After Russian Occupation: Bucha's Mayor on the Destruction of His City and Hopes for the Future

Russian forces invaded Bucha as part of their campaign to take Ukraine, leaving devastation and mass graves in their wake. **Bucha Mayor Anatolii Fedoruks** spoke of recovery efforts and the investigation of war crimes committed during Russia's occupation.

#### The Future of the American Digital Economy: A Wilson Conversation with City of Miami Mayor Francis Suarez

**Miami Mayor Francis Suarez** discussed digital assets and the global ramifications for the race to Web3 with a focus on the importance of understanding the best path forward with regulation and reform in an ever-changing environment.

#### FEBRUARY 2023

#### Arctic Research Commission Report Event with Senator Murkowski

**Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)** keynoted the public release of the US Arctic Research Commission's new report, hosted by the Polar Institute. The report was presented to the president and Congress and established national Arctic research priorities and recommendations to advance Arctic policies, strategies, and plans.

#### Our Ocean Countdown: Panama 2023, the Great Blue Connection

As part of Panama's efforts to build support for this year's *Our Oceans Conference* and encourage ambitious national commitments, we joined with the Panama Embassy to host a special dialogue, featuring **US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry**.

## // CONVENING POWER

## Iraq And the United States: A Conversation with Iraq's Deputy PM and Foreign Minister Fuad Hussain

To better understand the Iraqi perspective and advance US-Iraq relations, we hosted a conversation between **Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Iraq Fuad Hussein** and Ambassador Jim Jeffrey, Chair of the Middle East Program and former Ambassador to Iraq.

#### **MARCH 2023**

#### Democracy and Governance in Africa: A Look at Elections in Nigeria and Across the Continent

"Democracy and Governance in Africa: A Look at Elections in Nigeria and Across the Continent" featured **Wilson Center President & CEO**, Ambassador Mark A. Green and Special Representative for US-Africa Leaders Summit Implementation Ambassador Johnnie Carson, both of whom traveled to Nigeria as official election observers.

#### Crisis in Venezuela: Implications for Democracy, Human Rights, and the Environment

As the situation in Venezuela deteriorated amid the persistent oppression, violence, and economic mismanagement of the Nicolás Maduro regime, we launched the "Hemisphere of Prosperity and Freedom" series with keynote speakers **Iván Duque Márquez**, former President of Colombia, and **Florida Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz**.

#### Economic Diplomacy Through Infrastructure Support: A Conversation with Amos Hochstein

With international infrastructure investment more important than ever, **Special Presidential Coordinator for Global Infrastructure and Energy Security Amos Hochstein** discussed the Biden administration's priorities and how best to collaborate on global infrastructure investments.



## CONVENING POWER \\

#### Handoff: How George W. Bush Mobilized Smart Development and New Partnerships, and Lessons for Today's World

When the Bush administration came into office, it encountered a world grappling with a range of historic hurdles. We convened **Stephen Hadley, Josh Bolton, Henrietta Fore, and Gary Edson—all high-level officials in the Bush administration**—to apply lessons to today's development challenges.

#### APRIL 2023

#### Nicaragua's Political Crisis and its Impact on the United States

To learn more about the deteriorating human rights conditions in Nicaragua and the implications for the United States and the region, **Stephen Schneck, Commissioner with US Commission on International Religious Freedom,** joined distinguished discussants as part of the **Hemisphere of Prosperity and Freedom** series.

#### The Sentencing of Vladimir Kara-Murza: Russian Civil Society in Europe Responds

Member of the European Parliament for Germany Sergey Lagodinsky, News Director Ekaterina Kotrikadze, and human rights lawyer Ivan Pavlov discussed the sham trial of Vladimir Kara-Murza, and what Russian political exiles are doing to create a Russia that the activist and former journalist envisions.



#### MAY 2023

#### The Battle for Democracy in Venezuela: A Conversation with Former Interim President Juan Guaidó

As deteriorating conditions under Nicolás Maduro's authoritarian government raised concerns about democracy and human rights in Venezuela and migration challenges throughout the region, we heard from **former Interim President Juan Guaidó** who had recently escaped the country amid persistent threats of government persecution.

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#### JUNE 2023

#### Wilson Center Delegation Meets with President of Taiwan

**Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen** met with a delegation from the Wilson Center, where she called on the United States government to negotiate the signing of a free trade agreement with Taiwan to further advance the development of Taiwan-US economic and trade relations.

#### MCC at 20: Applying the Model to Emerging Challenges Globally

20 years since the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) was created, we heard from **MCC CEO Alice Albright** about what comes next and how the model can be used to face today's foreign affairs challenges.

#### JULY 2023

## A Conversation on the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework with Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo

**Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo** and **Dr. Sadek Wahba**, Chair of the Wahba Institute for Strategic Competition, discussed the the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework—the cornerstone of the White House's strategy in the world's most dynamic region.

#### Critical Minerals in the Arctic: Forging the Path Forward

We joined forces with the **University of Alaska**, **Department of Energy's Arctic Energy Office**, and **RAND Corporation** in hosting a special two-day dialogue to develop policy recommendations pertaining to critical mineral resources in the the North American Arctic.



## CONVENING POWER \\





#### AUGUST 2023

#### Assessing Taliban-Led Afghanistan, Two Years On

Two years after the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan, three prominent Afghan thought leaders—all of whom served as senior officials in Afghan governments prior to the takeover—offered their views about the country today.

#### SEPTEMBER 2023

#### A Conversation with President of Ecuador Guillermo Lasso

During his time in office, **President Guillermo Lasso** made a series of historic decisions to defend his country's natural spaces and address the global climate crisis. He discussed his environmental legacy and other priorities.

#### The UK Labour Party's Foreign and Defense Priorities: A Conversation With David Lammy and John Healey

**Shadow Defense Secretary John Healey** and **Shadow Foreign Secretary David Lammy** provided unique insights into the Labor Party's approach to foreign and defense policymaking and global challenges shared between the US and the UK.

#### Two Years After Moïse Assassination: The Impact of Gang Violence in Haiti

With a deteriorating security situation and no elected leaders left in Haiti, **UN human rights expert William G. O'Neill, Chile Ambassador to the US Juan Gabriel Valdés, and Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs Todd D. Robinson** discussed implications for the US and Canada, and solutions for the Caribbean nation.

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#### **OCTOBER 2023**

#### "Primavera Democrática": A Conversation with President-Elect Bernardo Arévalo of Guatemala

In a surprising landslide victory, **Bernardo Arévalo**, an anti-corruption campaigner who had polled in single digits before the election, won Guatemala's second-round presidential contest with 58% of the vote. **Guatemala's President Elect** updated participants on his transition to power.

#### A New Chapter for Paraguay: A Conversation with President Santiago Peña

**Paraguay's new President Santiago Peña** discussed what lies ahead for the country after his decisive victory in Paraguay's 2023 presidential election.

#### Holding Russia Accountable: Progress in Investigating and Prosecuting War Crimes in Ukraine

**Ambassador Clint Williamson**, Lead Coordinator of the Atrocity Crimes Advisory Group—a joint initiative of the United States, European Union and United Kingdom—discussed how international law is changing because of the Russia-Ukraine war.

#### NOVEMBER 2023

#### Driven Out: Global Response to the Plight of Forcibly Displaced People

Forced migration experts **Pieter Bevelander, David Scott Fitzgerald, Gerasimos Tsourapas, Kamal Sadiq, and James Hollifield** analyzed the root causes, effects, and complex dynamics of human displacement and how the global system addresses the plight of refugees and other displaced people.



## CONVENING POWER \\





#### Mobilizing Private Investment in International Infrastructure

In a cross-organizational event the Wahba Institute for Strategic Competition launched several working groups to explore how America can be a catalyst for greater private investment that supports international development, climate action, and a free and open environment for individuals and countries. **Hon. Nisha Biswal, Deputy CEO, US International Development Finance Corporation** was keynote speaker.

#### Book Launch | The Arts of War: Ukrainian Artists Confront Russia

In the launch of his newest collection, *The Arts of War*, **Blair A. Ruble** highlighted the ways in which Ukrainians have long explored the meaning of their country and culture through the arts.

#### **DECEMBER 2023**

#### **US-ROK-Japan Trilateral Relations**

In a half-day conference following the historic Trilateral Summit at Camp David, members of the Wilson Center's 2023 Trilateral Commission assessed areas of risk and opportunity for trade and supply chain resiliency, economic growth, and climate solutions among the US, Korea, and Japan.

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## WILSON CENTER PODCASTS

## **Now Hear This**

*Need to Know* showcases the Wilson Center's nonpartisan research through interviews with experts and practitioners covering the world of issues and ideas. Our goal is to bring the best independent research, open dialogue, and actionable ideas to congressional staff, policy makers, and anyone else who needs to know.



## FOREIGN POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## **Training the Next Generation of Policy Staff**

The Congressional Relation's Foreign Policy Fellowship Program and the Science and Technology Innovation Program's Technology Labs are six-week seminars combining expert discussion, hands-on exercises, and study trips designed to equip the next generation of Capitol Hill staffers with the very latest knowledge on the world's most pressing foreign policy topics.





In October of 2023, the Wilson Center's Foreign Policy Fellowship Program hosted a bipartisan delegation of ten Congressional staff to South Korea. The trip focused on the US-ROK alliance within the larger regional context of the Indo-Pacific. The delegation was briefed by senior US and South Korean government officials and met with industry leaders throughout the country.

## **RESEARCH & ANALYSIS**



Wilson Center 2023 Fall Fellows with Ambassador Mark A. Green

### WILSON QUARTERLY

Featuring original reporting, expert voices, and interactive multimedia elements, the Wilson Center's award-winning digital magazine, the *Wilson Quarterly*, earns consistent and widespread accolades.

"This year we examined multiple angles related to trade and strategic competition, both of which are fundamentally important to US foreign policy and US global leadership. We also dedicated the space and resources of two issues to more fully understand the ever-evolving African continent and its increasing consequence on the global stage."

-STEPHANIE BOWEN, Editor





## BOOKS @ WILSON

Based on their work at the Wilson Center, staff and fellows published seminal books that expanded public understanding of history and issues critical to current conflicts, increased competition, and the relevance of religion in regional and global politics. Books @ Wilson titles were vital to the Wilson Center's work in bridging scholarship and public policy.





### DEMOCRACY: TRIUMPHS AND TRIALS

Throughout the year, democracy was both tested and displayed resilience across the world. To help policymakers better understand the threats and opportunities, the Wilson Center undertook distinct activities and produced a wide selection of resources that focused on the state of democracy.

The following pages include a few examples.



The Hemisphere of Prosperity and Freedom series, chaired by Distinguished Fellow, H.E. Iván Duque Marquez, former President of Colombia, which aims to remind policymakers of the crucial importance of the Western Hemisphere for both the US and the world. It also brings new attention to both the challenges and opportunities faced in the Hemisphere.



Produced by the Mexico Institute, the 2024 **Mexico Election Guide** is the ultimate resource for an English-speaking audience interested in understanding the nuts and bolts of Mexican democracy—and what is at stake in one of Mexico's largest and most important elections in its history.



Argentina Elige is the Wilson Center's hub for information about elections in Argentina. It provides comprehensive coverage of the election that includes expert insights into the main issues facing Argentina, analysis of the candidates, their parties, and their platforms.



Wilson Center President & CEO Ambassador Mark A. Green and Ambassador Johnnie Carson, Special Presidential Representative for the US-Africa Leaders Summit Implementation, **co-led the NDI/IRI International Election Observation Mission to Nigeria**.

The mission provided rich learnings shared through Wilson Center events, literature, and multimedia content.



The Latin America Program hosted three Heads of State— Santiago Peña of Paraguay, President-elect Arévalo of Guatemala, and Guillermo Lasso Ecuador—all from countries in the midst of pivotal political transitions. Their insights contributed to greater understandings of crucial issues affecting their countries and the region.



The Brazil Institute's **"Brazil 100"** explores the implications of Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva's first 100 days in office. The project's interviews, podcasts, and articles focus on the country's key challenges including sluggish economic growth, poverty, deforestation, and climate change, providing insight into the strategies and policies that Brazil's new president is taking to address these issues.

#### **TOPICS**

## DEMOCRACY



### INFORMING CONGRESS

"After being in exile and learning first-hand the testimonies of hundreds of democracy defenders, I now know that far from being an isolated case, this is the story of millions of individuals willing to stand up and fight for freedom around the world."

 LEOPOLDO LOPEZ, Wilson Center Public Policy Fellow testifying before Congress



Wilson Center Public Policy Fellow and Cofounder of the World Liberty Congress Leopoldo Lopez testified before the Senate Foreign **Relations** Committee about the struggle for freedom and democracy in Venezuela, conveying his harrowing tale and that of others: "After being in exile and learning first-hand the testimonies of hundreds of democracy defenders. I now know that far from being an isolated case, this is the story of millions of individuals willing to stand up and fight for freedom around the world."



Eddy Acevedo, Chief of Staff & Senior Adviser to the President, Director, and CEO, Amb. Mark A. Green, testified before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on the "Perilous State of Religious Freedom in Nicaragua," providing vital information about Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's ongoing attacks on democratic values and institutions, and on the basic freedoms of the Nicaraguan people.



Wilson Center Fellow Margaret Meyers testified before the Senate Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness on Economic Cooperation for a Stronger and More Resilient Western Hemisphere. Her testimony considered prospects for broader economic cooperation within the hemisphere, underscoring the value of engaging more extensively within the region, and the ways in which US prospects are shaped by China's expansive efforts across the Americas.

## **GLOBAL IMPACT**

The staunch friendship between Taiwan and the US is a result of the concerted efforts of both sides. I believe that the research conducted by the Wilson Center and the discourse it fosters can yield even more rewards in terms of developing Taiwan-US relations." —TSAI ING-WEN, President of Taiwan

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## Africa Program



The Africa Program centered African knowledge in US policy discussions through its Southern Voices Network for Peacebuilding, or SVNP. This year's conference, hosted in South Africa and Ghana,

convened leaders from African peacebuilding organizations, and US and African policymakers. It increased the visibility of African perspectives, fostered dialogue, and established key takeaways. The SVNP scholarship created opportunities for African scholars to share knowledge, engage with US experts, and increase the visibility of their work. The SVNP-sponsored *Africa Up Close* blog reached a global audience with more than 82,000 views.

## Asia Program



The Asia Program focused on rising tensions between China and the US, and their impact on the regional order, security relations, and economic prospects. Middle powers across the Indo-Pacific

are reshaping the region. The Asia Program hosted more than 40 public and private events to address key regional issues, which included a Wilson Center delegation to Taiwan that met with President Tsai Ing-wen as pressure on Taipei from the People's Republic of China intensified.

## **Brazil Institute**



The Brazil Institute was pivotal in analyzing Brazil's transforming political landscape. Amidst a razor-thin presidential election, its Brazil100 project chronicled President Lula's first 100 days, spotlighting key shifts.

Its robust event lineup brought together notable figures, including Senate President Rodrigo Pacheco and Brazil's Chief Justice Luís Roberto Barroso, fostering deep dialogues on democracy, economic growth, and ecological preservation. This effort garnered 75 global media mentions. Through this and more, the Brazil Institute solidified its position as a leading source of analysis and policy guidance, and crucial interpreter of Brazil's dynamic political scene.

## **Canada Institute**



The Canada Institute convened officials from Global Affairs Canada, the US State Department, and US Treasury Department for a symposium on economic sanctions laws. The event marked the first public

discussion between Canadian and US officials on sanctions policy, drawing a widespread audience of legal practitioners, students, and scholars. It included a private lunch for the speakers that, in the words of one senior Canadian official, was the "kind of face-to-face meeting [that] wouldn't have happened without Wilson."

## // GLOBAL ACTION ACROSS PROGRAMS

## **China Environment Forum**



The China Environment Forum's "Cool Agriculture" project produced a collection of publications, webinars, and podcasts examining areas for US and Chinese collaboration to curb agricultural greenhouse gas

emissions. Through the "Vulnerable Deltas" project, the team is building new research and education networks to investigate climate, plastic waste, and development threats to Southeast Asian and Chinese deltas. And in a workshop in East Kalimantan, it brought together experts from the region to better understand the complex pressures on biodiversity and local communities in the Mahakam Delta.

## Environmental Change & Security Program



The Environmental Change & Security Program brought together a diverse group of experts to better understand how climate change, insecurity, and migration interact in Northern Central America. The workshop series culminated

in a report that provides key takeaways for policymakers, including specific and important avenues for more effective investments, providing a critical perspective on an often-overlooked dimension of regional challenges as the Biden administration works to mobilize significant private sector funding to address the root causes of migration in the region.



## **Global Europe Program**



With Europe being redefined by Putin's war in Ukraine, the Global Europe Program focused on key decisions shaping Europe's future, engaging at conferences in the US and Europe on the

critical capabilities needed. It launched the "Ukraine in Europe" initiative on Ukrainian Independence Day to examine Ukraine's European trajectory. Additionally, the Global Europe Program was the only US organization to make the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe's expert network.

## GLOBAL ACTION ACROSS PROGRAMS \\



### 🛅 HISTORY AND PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM

The History and Public Policy Program makes public the primary source record of 20th and 21st century international history from repositories around the world, facilitates scholarship based on those records, and uses these materials to provide context for classroom, public, and policy debates on global affairs.

## **History and Public Policy Program**



The History and Public Policy Program launched the redesigned Wilson Center Digital Archive. Completely rebuilt, the online Archive features an intuitive interface, robust search capabilities, and a new data visualization

tool, giving users multiple ways to explore and discover thousands of historical documents from often difficult to access archives in places like Russia, China, and the Middle East. The award-winning Wilson Center Digital Archive reaches hundreds of thousands of users each year, enriching international scholarship, history education, and public policy debate on important global challenges.

## **Kennan Institute**



The Kennan Institute continues to improve American understanding concerning Russia's invasion of Ukraine and Ukrainian efforts to forge a European home for its people. Its Russian language blog, *In Other Words*,

connects independent Russian journalists in exile with their compatriots at home and abroad, with nearly 1 million hits in its first year of operation. Its popular Arts of War series, authored by former Kennan Director Blair Ruble, documents Ukrainian resiliency and resistance through visual and performing arts. And the Kennan Conversation series connects scholars and experts with local communities across the nation and has reached more than 40 cities in the past 8 years.

## Kissinger Institute on China and the United States



Following the Camp David Summit, and in partnership with the Asia Society, the Kissinger Institute built and co-leads a new Track 1.5 dialogue between high-level China watchers from the US, the Republic of Korea,

and Japan. The group met at the Wilson Center in July 2023, in Seoul in November, and gathered at the Sunnylands Estate in February 2024. The goals of the dialogue are to share analyses on aspects of China's domestic and diplomatic development, to alert all three governments on areas of China policy in which the partners are not fully aligned, and to make recommendations for strengthening the Camp David partnership such that it can withstand political shifts in any of the three countries.

## **Korea Center**



The Korea Center continued to lead the way as a trusted forum to deepen relations between the United States and the Republic of Korea. The US-ROK partnership is critical not only for security across the

region, but for stability and prosperity across the two countries. Meanwhile, North Korea's nuclear ambitions also remain a key focus area for the Korea Center, as aggressions intensify and efforts to confront hostilities are enhanced. Together with the Wilson Center's Congressional Relations team, the Korea Center took a group of Congressional aides to the ROK for the first time. It also hosted a series of closed-door discussions on US-Japan-Korea trilateral relations which concluded with a public forum.

## Latin America Program



From an unprecedented migration crisis to the acceleration of nearshoring and the increased production of battery metals for US electric vehicles, Latin America's challenges are increasingly felt in the

## // GLOBAL ACTION ACROSS PROGRAMS

United States. In 2023, the Latin America Program was a leading independent source of insights on these trends and US policy in the Western Hemisphere. Through prominent dialogues—including with the presidents of Ecuador and Paraguay, the president-elect of Guatemala, the president of the Inter-American Development Bank, and White House Climate Envoy John Kerry—the program helped develop ideas to strengthen US policy.

## **Maternal Health Initiative**



The Maternal Health Initiative focused on pressing global issues through its quarterly Global Health and Gender Policy Briefs, with particular attention paid to the needs of women, pregnant people, and children

in the context of war, forced displacement, and climate change. Its policy briefs explored the global rise in stillbirths, menstrual health and management as a human security issue, the effects of climate change on maternal and newborn health, and the complex roles of women and girls in wartime. Each policy brief led to convenings with high-level global experts and collectively were instrumental to its engagement at three high-level global conferences.

## GLOBAL ACTION ACROSS PROGRAMS \\

## **Mexico Program**



Ahead of the 2024 elections in Mexico and the United States, the Mexico Institute focused on fundamental issues of the bilateral agenda and the importance of North American integration. It pub-

lished a report on efforts to reduce or eliminate femicide with Mexico's Senate and hosted a cyber-harassment forum. It convened the 7th Innovation Forum for Mexican legislators, continued work on improving the working conditions for agricultural laborers across North America and hosted its annual Border Conference. It launched a 2024 Mexico Elections Guide on Mexico's upcoming electoral process and released a policy recommendations booklet on six key issues for Mexico's presidential candidates.

## **Middle East Program**



The Middle East Program focused on the Palestinian-Israeli and Arab-Israeli arena with research, analysis, and discussions on the Hamas-Israel War, its implications for US national security interests across

the region, and impact on the Abraham Accords. It launched its flagship report on Women and Entrepreneurship in the MENA region, and participated in the Erbil Forum in Iraq and the Doha Forum in Qatar. This year saw the first cohort of the Agents of Youth Fellowship in collaboration with the Environmental Change and Security Program at COP28 and the launch of a joint project on Euro-MENA relations in the aftermath of the Ukraine war with the Global Europe program.

## **Polar Institute**



The Polar Institute made significant strides in shaping polar policy discussions. In July, the Polar Institute conducted a two-day, solutions-oriented dialogue focusing on critical mineral development in the North

American Arctic. This comprehensive effort produced six briefs that included policy recommendations that were shared with key Arctic policymakers. In September, the Polar Institute hosted its inaugural Antarctic policy conference, addressing key issues including geopolitics, fisheries, and conservation; it emphasized the pivotal role of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean in global climate change and underscored the need for urgent US action to maintain regional leadership.

## Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative



In 2023, UN High Commissioner for Refugees projected more than 117 million forcibly displaced people in 134 countries and territories. Against this backdrop, the Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative convened

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## // GLOBAL ACTION ACROSS PROGRAMS

events that raised awareness and increased visibility on refugee policy issues; produced publications that filled existing knowledge gaps; and participated in internal and external interviews discussing drivers of protracted displacement. It was featured in panels at The Hague, the UN General Assembly, and the World Bank's World Development Report 2023 launch. It also hosted distinguished speakers including US Representative Gerry Connolly, Assistant Secretary of State Julieta Noyes, former British Member of Parliament Douglas Alexander, Acting Director-General Michael Kohler, and Danish Refugee Council Secretary General Charlotte Slente.

## **Serious Games Initiative**



The Serious Games Initiative launched an array of projects this year designed to support decision leaders and the public in learning about key public policy topics. Games like the Plastic Pipeline,

developed with the Wilson Center's China Environment Forum, were previewed at top venues including Games for Change, the twenty-year-old initiative that develops games to communicate policy research and research innovations in gaming. Recent reports have examined how games are being used to communicate the refugee crisis or leveraged to support scientific discoveries, demonstrating the power of games for public education and engagement.

## Science and Technology Innovation Program



Throughout the year, the Science and Technology Innovation Program provided opportunities for hands-on experience with complex topics like artificial intelligence, or Al. Together with partners, including the White House Office of Science

and Technology Policy, it led a Generative AI Red Teaming Exercise where 2,300 participants were able to attack 10 leading AI models and learn about inherent security and bias challenges in generative systems. Its new work on neural networks and on bias offered interactive opportunities to understand AI through direct engagement. The program's long-standing Technology Labs also gained new significance for policymakers and their staff: demand rose by nearly 60% as Congress turned its attention to AI.

## Wahba Institute for Strategic Competition



In its first year, the Wahba Institute for Strategic Competition hit the ground running pursuing its mission to shape conversations and inspire meaningful action to strengthen American economic and global leadership that benefits

the nation and the world. Highlights included hosting Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo's discussion of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, an event featuring cross sector recommendations on mobilizing private investment for global infrastructure, and hosting Millennium Challenge Corporation CEO Alice Albright.

### AWARDS

With a nod to the importance of understanding history to make sound foreign policy decisions today, the Wilson Center's History and Public Policy Program received distinguished recognition for its work.

The program's recently launched **Digital Archive**, along with d'Vinci Interactive, the company that built the online resource, won two industry awards: a **silver Davey Award and a silver W3 award**.

The rich repository has a data visualization tool that enables users to see connections between people, places, and topics across the Digital Archive, and offers new ways to discover historical documents. It also features thousands of historical documents from around the world and continues to grow as new information is added.

Additionally, Christian Ostermann, director of the History and Public Policy Program and Gerhard Sälter, head of research and documentation at the Berlin Wall Foundation, curated the exhibition, **"The Berlin Wall. A World Divided,"** at the Fundación Canal in Madrid, that features "more than 300 original objects and testimonies unpublished from the citizens on both sides of the Wall."



ANALYTICS

Website Visitors 9,500,000+

We have grown our audience worldwide

YEAR-OVER-YEAR GROWTH, 2022-2023 Instagram Followers

LinkedIn Followers INCREASED BY 18.5%



Youtube Subscribers



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## PARTNERSHIPS



The Africa Program renewed its long-term commitment with **Brown Capital** through the Brown Capital Management Africa Forum. In 2023, the partnership published the *US-Africa Leaders Summit Paper Series* which featured policy recommendations about important issues in US-Africa economic relations from public and private sector experts. The Brown Capital Management Africa Forum is a premier platform for solution-oriented dialogue on trade, investment, and development issues regarding Africa and US-Africa relations.

## KOREA KF FOUNDATION

The **Korea Foundation**—a founding Korea Center donor— supported its year-long Trilateral project to advance US-ROK-Japan economic relations meant to further ties between the three countries. The public institution also made it possible for a Congressional Fellowship trip to the ROK, and continued to support the next generation of Korean researchers through the Korea Junior Scholars initiative.



#### **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**

The **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation**, a leading philanthropic organization that envisions a world in which improving the human condition is a shared and sustainable goal, is the founding funding partner of the Refugee and Forced Displacement Initiative. With seed funding, the initiative held public and high-level events, and produced insightful publications and analysis to inform refugee policy and programming.



#### **Inter-American Development Bank**

The **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)** is an important partner for the Latin America Program's research and activities related to critical minerals and the global energy transition. The IDB hosted the launch of the program's Lithium Triangle Initiative in 2020; it has supported our flagship report on Latin America's lithium industry, and it co-sponsored the high-profile 2023 launch of the Latin America Energy Transition Initiative in Chile, and related research and activities for 2024.
# PARTNERSHIPS



## **USAID Momentum**

**MOMENTUM** is a suite of projects coordinated by USAID to reduce maternal, newborn, and child mortality and morbidity in high-burden countries by increasing commitment and capacity to provide high-quality, integrated health care. The Wilson Center has partnered with MOMENTUM country and global leadership, the MOMENTUM Knowledge Accelerator, and MOMENTUM Routine Immunization Transformation and Equity projects to host high-level discussions featuring country partners, implementers, and global government officials.

## Redkollegia

**Redkollegia** is a prestigious independent award established in 2016 to support free journalism in Russia. From 2018-2023, the Kennan Institute has partnered with Redkollegia to organize a series of Russian newsroom conferences aimed at fostering a community of independent Russian journalists. It brought together journalists, editors, and media managers from Russian regions to foster high professional standards, protect freedom of speech, and withstand government pressure.

## Year of Open Science of the White House

The Wilson Center is a Participating Organization in the **Year of Open Science**, launched by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. This includes participation in a convening of these organizations in Washington, DC in 2023, and in a culminating event in early 2024.



## **The Doha Forum**

The **Doha Forum** is a global platform for dialogue, bringing together leaders in policy to discuss critical challenges facing our world, and to build innovative and action-driven networks. The Wilson Center co-hosted a panel discussion at the Doha Forum titled "Toward a Multilayered World: Rethinking Alliances" tackling how fluctuating power dynamics shaping global politics has seen an increase in smaller, issue-based regional and intraregional alliances, thereby signifying a shift from traditional alliance frameworks to more nuanced engagement.

# PARTNERSHIPS



## **Sandia National Laboratories**

**Sandia** is an ongoing grantor and collaborator on the Polar Institute's work on Arctic methane and climate intervention policy decisions and action. The Polar Institute and Sandia have hosted workshops to bring together diverse high-level science and policy expertise to discuss current and planned Arctic methane measurement, monitoring and modeling capabilities, and the challenges of integrating these components into a cohesive system.



## SeedAl

The Wilson Center partners with **SeedAl** to present our Al Primer series of programming, offering an opportunity for Hill staff to learn more about Al governance and security, to connect with experts across industry and academia, and to directly engage with Al through hands-on experiences. We also work together on the Hack the Future project, which seeks to activate US communities to work with Al and more deeply engage with tech policy.



## **Royal United Services Institute**

The Global Europe Program partnered with the **Royal United Services Institute**—the world's oldest defense and security think tank—on multiple events and activities. Global Fellow Dr. Jack Watling also lends his expertise and experience on the frontlines of Ukraine to the Wilson Center's *Ukraine in Europe Initiative*.

# SUPPORT THE WILSON CENTER

# The Wilson Center is a public-private partnership with a broad-based and committed community of sponsors dedicated to our mission.

Our goal is to work individually with partners and donors to provide specific benefits to meet their investment needs. This work is grounded in the programs and initiatives at the Wilson Center.

Our partners have questions. We have the ability to research and present independent and cohesive answers. We analyze, inform and present our partners with cohesive information that far exceeds their investment.

The Wilson Center's reputation and inspiration resides in the dedicated work of our scholars and the integrity of our scholarship.

For more information on becoming a Wilson Center sponsor, please contact us at (202) 691-4171.

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# **INSIDE THE WILSON CENTER**

The Wilson Center's unparalleled commitment to fostering a unique and vibrant interdisciplinary community has not only broadened my intellectual horizons, it has also expanded my network and, in turn, my vision for the research."

NATALIYA SHOK Public Policy Fellow

# ALUMNI RELATIONS



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# DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COUNCIL

# **Mission Statement**

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council was established in July 2020 to serve as the primary body responsible for advising the Executive Team on all subjects related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

# **Guiding Principles and Initiatives**

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council works to institutionalize diversity, equity, and inclusion across all functions at the Center. To achieve this mission, the Council has prioritized four core initiatives that will:



- 1. Promote, achieve, and sustain a diverse workforce.
- 2. Promote an equitable, inclusive, and respectful work environment.
- 3. Support research and programming on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- 4. Imbed diversity, equity, and inclusion into all Wilson Center policies, practices, and procedures.

# **Council Leadership**



# Mary D'Amico

Assistant Director of New Initiatives

Mary D'Amico is the Assistant Director of Strategy and New Initiatives. She is also a co-chair of the Women & Gender Employee Resource Group. She came to the Wilson Center

from the European Parliament and completed her Master's Degree in International Economics at Johns Hopkins University.



## Shaarona Harris

Multimedia Producer/Video Editor

Shaarona manages and coordinates the Wilson Center's television studio, running camera and creating audio mixes for television and radio feeds with experts.

Shaarona also serves as a co-chair for the Wilson Center's Diversity and Inclusion Council and is the manager of the Center's Black Employee Resource Group.



# **Mary Ratliff**

Social Media and Editorial Specialist

Mary Ratliff is the social media and editorial specialist for the Asia Program at the Wilson Center. She is also an independent filmmaker and podcast producer.

# WILSON CENTER LEADERSHIP

Ambassador Mark A. Green, President & CEO, Wilson Center

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You're really quick off the mark in the work that you've been doing...it's just another example of the timely efforts of the Woodrow Wilson Center on studying the important subjects of the day."

## AMBASSADOR JOHN D. NEGROPONTE

Chairman Emeritus of the Council of the Americas/Americas Society; Vice Chairman, McLarty Associates

EVENT: US-ROK-Japan Trilateral Relations December 5, 2023



Chartered by Congress, the Wilson Center provides nonpartisan counsel and insights on global affairs to policymakers through deep research, impartial analysis, and independent scholarship.



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