



WORLD
AFFAIRS
COUNCILS of
AMERICA

WACA National Conference Agenda *America and Global Megatrends* November 16-18, 2016

All sessions held at The Capital Hilton in the Congressional/Senate Room unless otherwise noted

Wednesday, November 16

- 8:00 am-9:00 am** **Conference Check-in Begins**
1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036
- 9:00 am-3:30 pm** **Leadership in a World of Uncertainty and Rapid Change**
Keynote: **Amb. Barbara Stephenson**, President, American Foreign Service Assn.
Full Schedule TBD
- 3:30 pm-4:30 pm** **Annual Membership Meeting**
Introduction: **Amb. Roman Popadiuk**, Chairman, WACA National Board
- 5:30 pm-6:30 pm** **Welcome Reception**
- 6:30 pm-8:30 pm** **Opening Dinner: A Path to Peace**
Welcoming Remarks: **Bill Clifford**, President and CEO, WACA
Keynote: **The Honorable George J. Mitchell**, former Senate Majority Leader and
United States Special Envoy
- 8:40pm-9:30pm** **Young Professional and Student Scholars Event**
Carmen Iezzi Mezzera, Executive Director, the Association of Professional Schools of
International Affairs (ASPIA)

Thursday, November 17

- 8:30 am-9:30 am** **Unfinished Business: The U.S. Pivot to Asia**
Capt. Bernard D. Cole, USN (Ret.), Professor Emeritus, National War College
Jeremy R. Haft, CEO Safe Source Trading
Cynthia Watson, Ph.D., Professor, National Security Strategy, National War College
Moderator: **Shihoko Goto**, Senior Associate, the Wilson Center
- 10:00 am-10:30 am** **The Challenge of Resurgent Authoritarianism – Can America Turn the Tide?**
Keynote: **Carl Gershman**, President, National Endowment for Democracy

Thursday, November 17 (continued)

10:30 am-11:30 am Transatlantic Security and the Future of the West

Stephen Sestanovich, Ph.D., George F. Kennan Senior Fellow for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Council on Foreign Relations

Angela E. Stent, Ph.D., Director, Center for Eurasian, Russian, & East European Studies, Georgetown University

Ömer Taspınar, Ph.D., Professor, National War College

Moderator: TBD

12:30 pm-2:00 pm Ambassadors Luncheon Keynote: Shaping the American Competitiveness Agenda for the 21st Century

Keynote: The Honorable Penny Pritzker, United States Secretary of Commerce

Keynote: David Abney, Chairman and CEO, UPS Inc.

Moderator: Edward Alden, Bernard. L Schwartz Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations

2:30 pm-3:30 pm Presidential Leadership and U.S. Foreign Policy

Tom DeFrank, Contributing Editor, National Journal

Michael Duffy, Deputy Managing Editor, TIME

Evan Thomas, Journalist, Historian, and Author, "Being Nixon: A Man Divided"

Moderator: Talmage Boston, Attorney and Author, "Cross-Examining History"

4:00 pm-5:00 pm Countering Violent Extremism: Prevention and Intervention

Salam Al-Marayati, President and Co-founder, Muslim Public Affairs Council

Michelle Breslau, Director, Americas Program, Institute for Economics & Peace

Celina Realuyo, Professor of Practice, Perry Center, National Defense University

Moderator: Andrew Parasiliti, Director, Center for Global Risk and Security, Rand Corporation

5:30 pm **DIPLOMATIC RECEPTIONS:** Board buses by K Street entrance to hotel

6:00 pm-8:00 pm Embassy of Canada

501 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001

Host: Mr. Denis Stevens, Deputy Head of Mission

6:00 pm-8:00 pm Embassy of France

4101 Reservoir Rd NW, Washington, DC 20007

Host: His Excellency Gérard Araud, Ambassador of France to the U.S.

5:30 pm-7:30 pm Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center

1100 16th St NW, Washington, DC (walk across street from Capital Hilton)

Host: Her Excellency Hunaina Sultan Ahmed Al Mughairy,
Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman

Canada



Sultan Qaboos
Cultural Center

Friday, November 18

8:30 am-9:30 am **Session time subject to change**

Keynote: The Honorable Chris Murphy, United States Senator (D-CT)

THINK TANK OFF-SITES

10:00 am-11:00 am **The Atlantic Council: "Global Risks 2035"**

1030 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005

Chair: Mathew J. Burrows, Director, Strategic Foresight Initiative

Jasmine El-Gamal, Senior Fellow, Brent Scowcroft Center on International Security

10:00 am-11:00 am **The Brookings Institution: "The Future of the International Order"**

1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

Chair: Thomas Wright, Director, Project on International Order and Strategy

Tanvi Madan, Fellow and Director of the India Project, Brookings Institution

Michael Doran, Senior Fellow and Specialist on Middle East Security, Hudson Institute

10:00 am-11:00 am **Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS):**

"Transatlantic Relations: the Brexit Era, Energy Politics & U.S. Interests"

1616 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

Chair: Jeffrey Rathke, Senior Fellow and Deputy Director, Europe Program

Edward Chow, Senior Fellow, Energy and National Security Program

10:00 am-11:00 am **The Washington Institute: "Middle East Meltdown: Syria, Russia and the Dilemmas Facing a New American President"**

1111 19th St NW #500, Washington, DC 20005

Chair: Andrew J. Tabler, Martin J. Gross Fellow

Anna Borschchevskaya, Ira Weiner Fellow

Soner Cagaptay, Beyler Family Fellow and Director, Turkish Research Program

Sarah Feuer, Ph.D., Soref Fellow and Expert on Politics and Religion in North Africa

11:30 am-1:30 pm **Great Decisions Keynote Luncheon- Dealing With a Nuclear-armed Korea: Time for a New Approach**

Introduction: Noel Lateef, President, Foreign Policy Association

Keynote: Evans Revere, Senior Advisor, Albright Stonebridge Group

Closing Remarks: Bill Clifford, President and CEO, WACA

1:35 pm Buses depart from K Street for Pentagon and CIA visits

2:00 pm-5:00 pm **1918 Society: Pentagon Briefing and Tour**

1400 Defense Pentagon Washington, DC 20301-1400

Featured Speaker: Brian P. McKeon, Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, United States Department of Defense

2:00 pm-5:00 pm **1918 Society: CIA Visit**

Central Intelligence Agency

Colonial Farm Rd. McLean, VA 22101

Friday, November 18 (continued)...

6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Special Dinner

The Capital Hilton – South American Room

1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036

Featured Speaker: Thomas L. Friedman, Author and Columnist, The New York Times