

# MISSION STATEMENT

**F**ounded in 1921, the Council on Foreign Relations is a nonpartisan membership organization, research center, and publisher. It is dedicated to strengthening America's role in and understanding of the world by better comprehending global trends and contributing ideas to U.S. foreign policy. The Council does this through cutting-edge studies; serious, civil discussions; and rigorous analyses. The Council does not take institutional positions; however, Council Fellows and independent task forces do advocate certain policies as a result of their work.

The Council's highly diverse membership of over 3,800 American citizens includes the country's leaders in business, academia, the media, civil society, and government. Evenly divided among New York, Washington, D.C., and across the rest of the nation, Council members convene to hear world leaders and thinkers, and meet in small groups to work with one another and Council staff on particular issues.

The Council's Studies Department is now one of the largest foreign policy "think tanks" in the nation. It consists of experts on every region of the world as well as on particular subjects such as international economics, security, science and technology, and cul-

ture. Its more than 100 Fellows and research associates produce research-based, policy-oriented books and articles. The Fellows also are often called upon for congressional testimony, newspaper op-eds, and TV and radio commentary.

*Foreign Affairs* magazine is the jewel in the Council's publishing crown. For over 75 years it has been the preeminent international periodical, known as the place to write on world affairs for leaders and thinkers in America and abroad. The Council also publishes a new semiannual periodical, *Correspondence*, focused on the links between culture and policy. In addition, the Council publishes a number of books yearly under its own imprint.

Like the great universities, foundations, and other think tanks in America, the Council aims to uphold the quality of debate and studies about global issues, develop new generations of leaders and thinkers, and help meet the problems and challenges of the world with concrete and workable ideas.

The Council is governed by a Board of Directors chosen by its membership. It is an independent, tax-exempt organization financed by member dues and gifts, foundation and individual grants, corporate contributions, and revenues from its own endowment.