

## Mission Statement

The Council on Foreign Relations is an independent, nonpartisan membership organization, think tank, and publisher dedicated to being a resource for its members, government officials, business executives, journalists, educators and students, civic and religious leaders, and other interested citizens in order to help them better understand the world and the foreign policy choices facing the United States and other countries.

Founded in 1921, the Council takes no institutional positions on matters of policy. The Council carries out its mission by

- ◆ Maintaining a diverse membership, with special programs to promote interest and develop expertise in the next generation of foreign policy leaders;
- ◆ Convening meetings at its headquarters in New York and in Washington, DC, and other cities where senior government officials, members of Congress, global leaders, and prominent thinkers come together with Council members to discuss and debate major international issues;
- ◆ Supporting a Studies Program that fosters independent research, enabling Council scholars to produce articles, reports, and books and hold roundtables that analyze foreign policy issues and make concrete policy recommendations;
- ◆ Publishing *Foreign Affairs*, the preeminent journal on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy;
- ◆ Sponsoring Independent Task Forces that produce reports with both findings and policy prescriptions on the most important foreign policy topics; and
- ◆ Providing up-to-date information and analysis about world events and American foreign policy on its website, CFR.org.



*We left the Gaza Strip in order to open a new window of opportunity for peace. Instead we are facing now a new terror that comes out from the Gaza Strip, targeting Israel.*

—TZIPI LIVNI

Vice Prime Minister and  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel



*Colin Powell once said [about Iraq], "You break it, you own it." This is not true in this case. You broke it, but the Iranians, the Turks, the Saudis, the Syrians will own it.*

—JOSCHKA FISCHER

Distinguished Visiting Diplomat,  
Council on Foreign Relations

## AT THE COUNCIL

Unless we decide in our region to stop relying on extremism as an instrument of policy or the use of extremism for political purposes, the question of terrorism, the question of destruction of the rest of us around the world, will not be resolved.

—HAMID KARZAI  
President of Afghanistan



*The innovative use of targeted financial measures has advanced our national security, but there are gaps in this effort. . . . One of the greatest challenges . . . will be to keep the most dangerous weapons out of the hands of dangerous people.*

—HENRY M. PAULSON JR.  
U.S. Treasury Secretary



*The accelerating spread of nuclear weapons, nuclear know-how, and nuclear materials has brought us . . . to a nuclear tipping point, and the world is heading in a very dangerous direction.*

—SAM NUNN  
Co-Chairman and CEO,  
Nuclear Threat Initiative



*We don't have a language problem in the United States; we have a bureaucracy problem. We have more people who speak more foreign languages than any country on the planet. We just don't use them.*

—NEWT GINGRICH  
Senior Fellow, American Enterprise Institute  
for Public Policy Research



*As for [China's investment in Africa], we think it's a good thing. After all, we welcome investors from all countries. We think all investors must be treated fairly, be subjected to the law of the land, and environmental considerations should be taken into account.*

—FESTUS G. MOGAE  
President of Botswana



*We have to hold leaders accountable for their solemnly swearing the responsibility to protect. In Darfur, we're not protecting. We're keeping people alive until they are massacred.*

—JAN EGELAND  
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General,  
United Nations



*Even if we had peace [in Iraq], it would still be a folly to try to create independent ethnic states out of its society where the level of interdependency is so high, where each ethnic group depends on the others when it comes to all the crucial questions—be it the distribution of national wealth, the foreign relations of the country, or the traditional forms of interaction between these groups.*

—ABDULLAH GÜL  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey



**[Climate change] is a problem for today, not tomorrow—for us, not just for our children. The investment decisions we're making will determine our emissions for decades ahead. . . . Different views in different governments across the world will be influenced more dramatically by the views and pressures of the business community than by anything else.**

—MARGARET BECKETT  
Foreign Secretary, United Kingdom



*We've got to begin to look at this immigration phenomenon as a way to strengthen the country. We are short a lot of people that we need to make this country work to be more productive, more competitive, and more entrepreneurial.*

—LEE H. HAMILTON

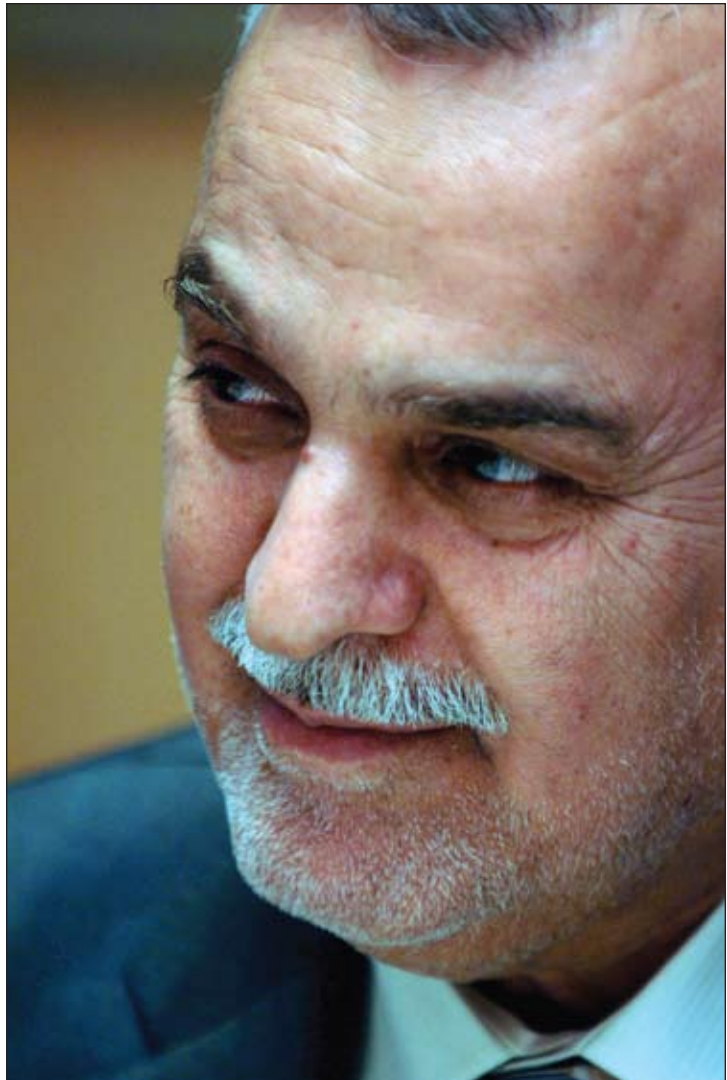
President and Director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars



*The global automotive industry has a responsibility to be a part of the solutions that increase fuel efficiency, reduce greenhouse gases, and develop new technologies and alternative fuels.*

—CARLOS GHOSN

President and CEO, Nissan Motor Co., Ltd, and President and CEO, Renault



**Iraqis have no interest in fighting each other. . . . There is no way for the Shia to dominate Iraq without Sunni participation. The recipe is a foreign recipe, not a national one. Believe it or not, Iraqis are victimized [by] this sectarian tension.**

—TARIQ AL-HASHIMI

Vice President of Iraq and Secretary-General of the Iraqi Islamic Party