

# Outreach Program

This year the Council spearheaded a broad set of outreach activities targeted to four constituencies—educators and students; religious leaders; state and local officials; and nonprofit, civic, and community leaders. The objective is to connect the Council with—and make it a resource for—these groups of interested citizens whose voices are increasingly important to the national foreign policy debate.

The Academic Outreach Initiative is designed to link the academic community with Council fellows and analysis. In support of this goal, the Council more than doubled the number of student groups it hosted this year, welcoming nearly four hundred students to meet with fellows and staff. Students and professors also spoke with Council experts and *Foreign Affairs* authors through an Academic Conference Call series. The Council expanded its library of

online teaching notes on CFR.org, published ads in major conference programs, and participated in the International Studies Association's annual convention.

In cooperation with the Forum for the Future of Higher Education, the Council formed the Higher Education Working Group on Global Issues to explore the role of colleges and universities in a complex and changing world and how institutions, as well as students, can better meet the challenges of globalization. This select group of college and university presidents and foundation leaders met twice to discuss climate change and China's future, respectively.

Seeking to serve as a resource for religious and congregational leaders, the Religion and Foreign Policy Initiative convened its first Religion and Foreign Policy Summer Workshop. The gathering brought together a

denominationally diverse group of fifty U.S. religious leaders to examine critical international concerns. Religious leaders also attended the Religion and Foreign Policy Symposium series, funded by the Henry Luce Foundation.

The Council continued to raise its visibility within this community by facilitating the appearances of its experts at religious conferences. Council Senior Fellows **Isobel Coleman** and **Steven Simon** and Fellow **Steven A. Cook** spoke, respectively, at the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion, the Muslim Public Affairs Council, and the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. Council Senior Fellows **Walter Russell Mead** and **Michael J. Gerson** addressed respectively the congregations of Bethel AME Church in Baltimore, Maryland, and Glenview Community Church in Glenview, Illinois.





The State and Local Officials Initiative provides a forum for bipartisan discussion of pressing foreign policy issues that affect the priorities and agendas of state and local governments. The monthly State and Local Officials Conference Call series examined topics such as immigration, pandemic flu, and globalization with state and local leaders from across the country.

Council President **Richard N. Haass** addressed the Democratic Governors Association Fall Policy Conference, which included governors **Christine Gregoire** of Washington, **John H. Lynch** of New Hampshire, **Joe Manchin** of West Virginia, **Edward Rendell** of Pennsylvania, **Brian Schweitzer** of Montana, and **Kathleen Sebelius** of Kansas. In addition, Senior Fellow **Edward Alden** and Adjunct Senior Fellow **Matthew J. Slaughter** spoke respectively to the Council of State Governments Annual State Trends and Leadership Forum and the State International Development

Organization's Washington Conference.

The Council connects to non-profit, civic, and community leaders across the country. Representatives from civic organizations participated in sessions in New York and Washington, DC. Council Fellow **Steven Cook** spoke to the Philadelphia World Affairs Council, and Council Visiting Fellow **Jessica LeCroy** to the Connecticut Business and Industry Association.

*Opposite left:* State and local officials from around the country participated via teleconference in a meeting on immigration policy with New Mexico governor **William B. Richardson**.

*Opposite right:* Senior Fellow **Isobel Coleman** and the Reverend **Eugene F. Rivers III** at the inaugural Religion and Foreign Policy Summer Workshop.

*Above:* McDonnell International Scholars from Washington University in St. Louis at a meeting with Council President **Richard N. Haass**.

## Connecting with New Constituencies

*The Outreach initiative accomplishes its mission of connecting the Council with—and making it a resource for—groups of interested citizens whose voices are increasingly important to the national foreign policy debate. It does so through special workshops, meetings, conference calls, ads in conference programs, and special sections of CFR.org. The Council now has nearly 11,000 subscribers to its monthly eNewsletter, Educators Bulletin, and has engaged more than 115 schools in its Academic Conference Call series. Additionally, more than 5,000 state and local officials and 1,600 religious leaders are invited to customized monthly conference calls and webcasts, and to select New York, Washington, DC, and National Program meetings. With these efforts, the Council has raised its profile as the leading resource for foreign policy information and analysis and is helping these groups better understand the world and the foreign policy choices facing the United States and other countries.*