

The Peacemaker

April 2011

Monthly E-Newsletter of the Peace and Security Funders Group
www.peaceandsecurity.org

2011 Federal Policy Briefing

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Advancing Peace, Security and Human Rights March 29-31, 2011, Washington, D.C.

Over 60 funders converged on Washington for the 2011 Federal Policy Briefing, co-sponsored by PSFG and the International Human Rights Funders Group (IHRFG). The meeting marked another successful collaboration between the two funder affinity groups.



The meeting will begin with dinner on Tuesday, March 29 and featured former House Speaker and current Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), pictured above with Cora Weiss of the Samuel Rubin Foundation and Michael Hirschhorn of IHRFG.



Peace and Security Funders Group

7 Elliewood Ave
Third Floor
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Phone:
(434) 989-1514

E-mail:
Kmagraw@peaceandsecurity.org
cong@peaceandsecurity.org



Pictured above: former Deputy Secretary of State Jim Steinberg and Katherine Magraw

Federal Policy Briefing Cont.

Deputy Secretary of State **Jim Steinberg**, pictured left with PSFG Director **Katherine Magraw**, delivered the keynote note address on Wednesday morning.

A stellar cast of experts and policy makers addressed some of the most pressing issues facing the peace & security and human rights advocacy and funding communities.



(Pictured above: **Steve Riskin** of USIP, **Zainab Salbi** of Women for Women International and **Shibley Telhami** of the University of Maryland and Brookings Institution)



Pictured above: Matthew Hoh, Clare Lockhart, Barmak Pazhwak and Stephen Del Rosso

Sessions were held on the following issues, among others:

- Ending military involvement in Afghanistan
- Confronting violent extremism
- Promoting peace-building and military withdrawal
- Unpacking budget reform and national security
- Examining U.S. responses to popular uprisings in the Middle East
- Ensuring government accountability in national security and human rights policy-making



Pictured above: Gordon Adams, Ryan Alexander, Susan Shaer and Nandini Merz

As has become tradition, the first day was capped by a large reception at the Stewart R. Mott House. **Susan Eisenhower**, President of the Eisenhower Group, addressed the group, which included speakers and leading Washington, DC activists and analysts from among our grantees.



(Pictured above: **Susan Eisenhower**, President of the Eisenhower Group; Chairperson, Leadership and Public Policy Programs, Eisenhower Institute)



Pictured above: Naila Bolus and Rep. Jim McGovern

Federal Policy Briefing Cont.

The second day was spent on Capitol Hill where we met in the Capitol Visitors Center and ate lunch at the Senate Buffet. Representatives Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) and Jim McGovern (D-MA) among others, spoke to the group. In the afternoon, PSFG held an organizational meeting on what we can and should be doing to enhance the effectiveness of philanthropy in the field of peace and security.

[Click here](#) to download the full meeting program.



Pictured above: Rep. Jan Schakowsky



In the Loop

The **Rockefeller Brothers Fund** announced guidelines for its [Peacebuilding Program](#), formerly known as the Peace and Security Program. The new program is grounded in the theme of conflict transformation and currently includes a focus on the wider Middle East. **Ariadne Papagapitos** will serve as the Program Officer and **Debra Eisenman** will serve as the Program Assistant.

The **United States Institute of Peace** moved on March 21 into its splendid [permanent home](#) in the nation's capital on Constitution Ave. Meanwhile, federal funding for the Institute remains precarious. PSFG members and many others rallied to defense of the Institute, including General Zinni in a [New York Times](#) oped.

With great sadness, we report the death of **Sandra Silverman**, past President of the **Scherman Foundation**. Sandy died on March 17, following a long illness. Many PSFG'ers will remember Sandy's warmth, generosity, and passion about the pursuit of peace, justice and reproductive rights.

Cynda Collins Arsenault, founder of the **Secure World Fund**, will be speaking this month in Paris on the peaceful uses of space at UNESCO's 50th anniversary celebration of Yuri Gagarin's flight into space.

John Harvey, former Director of Grantmakers without Borders, is joining the **Council on Foundations** as managing director for the Global Philanthropy Program where he will be designing and overseeing the global leadership role of the Council. We look forward to working with him in his new position.

The **Chicago Council on Global Affairs** convened a panel ([listen here](#)) in March to discuss the Japanese nuclear reactor crisis. Participants included **MacArthur Foundation** President **Robert Gallucci** and **Kennette Benedict**, publisher of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* and former **MacArthur Foundation** staff. In addition, **Ploughshares Fund** President **Joe Cirincione** and many grantees have been following developments and [responding to the crisis](#).

Upcoming Events

NEWSFLASH!

PSFG's 2011 Annual Meeting will be in New Mexico this fall. Stay tuned for an email survey on your preferred dates!

May 16: The [U.S. launch](#) of **Peace Direct** in New York. Tickets are only available in advance.

May 20-22: The **Institute for Inclusive Security's** Deputy Director for Management and Partnerships **Evelyn Thornton** will teach a course at American University's [Peacebuilding and Development Summer Institute](#). She will be joined by a member of the Women Waging Peace Network who will co-facilitate the course.

June 2011: **Connect U.S. Fund** Community-wide meeting.

July 11-13: **IHRFG** [New York Conference](#).

September 19-22: **Clinton Global Initiative** [2011 Annual Meeting](#) in New York.

September 25-28: **Environmental Grantmakers' Association** [2011 Fall Retreat](#) in Jackson, WY.

Switchboard

If you're traveling in San Francisco, the **Compton Foundation** has extended a generous offer of a desk and phone to needy colleagues in their soon-to-be new digs in downtown San Francisco.

The **IHRFG/PSFG working Group on Civil Society and Counterterrorism** is dedicated to creating a more constructive legal environment for organizations engaged in peacebuilding and humanitarian relief efforts in conflict zones. The Working Group is seeking signatories on a letter to Secretary Clinton asking her to use her legal authority to grant an exemption to organizations providing limited types of "material support" to peaceful conflict resolution activities. If you are interested in signing the letter or joining the Working Group, write to kmagraw@peaceandsecurity.org.

The **Carnegie Corporation** approved [30 grants totaling \\$22,140,900](#) in March for peacebuilding, nonproliferation and higher education. Eight of the grants, [totaling \\$3.15 million](#), were made to grantees focused on mitigating nuclear threats associated with the expansion of nuclear power and proliferation of fissile materials. In February, the **MacArthur Foundation** approved six grants [totaling nearly \\$4 million](#) for efforts to prevent nuclear terrorism and strengthen regional nuclear stability in South Asia.

The **Skoll Foundation** is accepting applications for the 2012 Skoll Awards for Social Entrepreneurship. The application deadline is Wednesday, April 27, 2011. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

The **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** named **Handicap International** the winner of the 2011 \$1.5 million Hilton Humanitarian Prize. Handicap International helped spearhead the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, which promoted the 2007 Mine Ban Treaty. Nominations for the 2012 Humanitarian Prize are [open](#) until April 29.

In the News

The **Ford Foundation** [announced that it will cease funding](#) civil society NGOs in Israel once its current grant round ends in two years. The foundation's grants in the areas of advancing civil and human rights, helping Arab citizens in Israel gain equality and promoting Israeli-Palestinian peace, have totaled \$40 million since 2003. Its departure will be a significant loss for progressive Israeli NGOs. Ford spokespeople explained the move has to do with changed foundation priorities, not with politics.

The **Council on Foundations** [Annual Meeting](#) kicked off on April 10 with a focus [on how philanthropy can do a better job](#) of meeting today's challenges by ditching the jargon, getting over its aversion to paying for fundraising costs, and tackling the kinds of goals that capture people's imaginations.

General Stanley A. McChrystal, who was relieved of command in Afghanistan after a controversial magazine profile, has been appointed to lead the White House [Joining Forces initiative](#) to encourage companies, schools, philanthropic and religious groups and local communities to respond to the needs of families of active-duty personnel, reservists and veterans.

Resources

A study on peace and security NGO interactions with the Hill commissioned by the **Colombe Foundation** is now available for those interested. For a copy, please contact Dini Merz at dmerz@proteus.org.

The co-chairs of **The Century Foundation's** International Task Force on Afghanistan, Lakhdar Brahimi and Thomas R. Pickering, released [Afghanistan: Negotiating Peace](#), a report by a high-level international task force on the political path to peace in Afghanistan. Support for the project came from the **Carnegie Corporation**, the **Friedrich Ebert Stiftung of Germany**, and the **Rockefeller Brothers Fund**.

The **Berghof Peace Support and Conciliation Resources** convened a workshop at the **European Foundation Centre** last October with funding from the **Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust** on the implications of EU counter-terrorism legislation on peace processes. [Click here](#) for the workshop report, "Mediating peace with proscribed armed groups."

Institute for Economics and Peace released the [United States Peace Index](#) (USPI) on April 6. The report is the first-ever ranking of the fifty U.S. states based on their levels of peace. The USPI shows the nation has become more peaceful since 1995; peace is significantly correlated with factors related to economic opportunity, education and health; and peace is politically neutral - neither Republican nor Democratic states have an advantage.

Jobs

The **Ploughshares Fund** seeks a [Director of Government Affairs](#).

The **Connect U.S. Fund** seeks two full-time coordinators to manage its [Fissile Materials](#) and [U.S. Climate Leadership](#) Working Groups.

To submit a newsletter story idea or subscribe, email PSFG Director Katherine Magraw at kmagraw@peaceandsecurity.org or Carah Ong at cong@peaceandsecurity.org.

