

**THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY**

HIGHLIGHTS: 2009



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 2009

Our Mission

The National Committee on American Foreign Policy was founded in 1974 by Professor Hans J. Morgenthau and others. It is a nonprofit activist organization dedicated to the resolution of conflicts that threaten U.S. interests. Toward that end, the National Committee identifies, articulates, and helps advance American foreign policy interests from a nonpartisan perspective within the framework of political realism.

American foreign policy interests include

- preserving and strengthening national security;
- supporting countries committed to the values and the practice of political, religious, and cultural pluralism;
- improving U.S. relations with the developed and developing worlds;
- advancing human rights;
- encouraging realistic arms-control agreements;
- curbing the proliferation of nuclear and other unconventional weapons;
- promoting an open and global economy.

Believing that an informed public is vital to a democratic society, the National Committee offers educational programs that address security challenges facing the United States and publishes a variety of publications, including its bimonthly journal, *American Foreign Policy Interests*, that present keen analyses of all aspects of American foreign policy.



December 2009

Dear Reader,

As the year 2009 is about to close I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year. Let us hope that the coming year will bring better political and economic tidings than those of the recent past. The growing turbulence in the world has kept the National Committee on American Foreign Policy (NCAFP) extraordinarily busy. Hence rather than detail the plethora of issues and events in which the NCAFP has been engaged, I will confine my remarks to highlights.

In May at a black tie dinner on the occasion of the NCAFP's 35th anniversary, the organization presented the George F. Kennan Award for Distinguished Public Service to General David H. Petraeus, commander, United States Central Command. Also on that occasion, NCAFP trustee Grace Kennan Warnecke presented the first NCAFP Young Leader Awards to John Delury, Nathaniel Fick, and Joshua Cooper Ramo. Speakers at the event were NCAFP's Chairman William J. Flynn, former NCAFP Honorary Chairman Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, the current Honorary Chairman the Honorable Paul A. Volcker, the Honorable John D. Negroponte, the Honorable Ronald S. Lauder, and the NCAFP president.

Because the NCAFP was privileged to host in recent years Generals Petraeus, Odierno, Schoomaker, and Clark, Admiral Fallon, Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Lt. General Karl W. Eikenberry, Lt. General Peter Chiarelli, and Colonel Jeffrey McCausland and because we have been thoroughly impressed by the intelligence and leadership that they have shown, the NCAFP has decided to institutionalize a military lecture series for our members. I am proud to announce that General Petraeus has agreed to launch the project in early March 2010.

Speaking of new projects, the NCAFP launched one on Africa under the leadership of Professor J. Peter Pham, a leading authority in the field, with the assistance of Ambassador Herman Cohen, former assistant secretary of state for African affairs. The mandate is to study U.S. national security interests in that vast continent and, as is always the case with the NCAFP, share our knowledge and policy recommendations with the foreign policy public and the government. The project was officially launched on November 17th with a panel discussion for our members on "What Are America's

Strategic Interests in Africa?” with Dr. Eric Silla of the Department of State, Commander Mark J. Swayne, USN (Ret.) of the U.S. Africa Command, Terry Dunmire, Esq., of the Corporate Council on Africa, and Dr. Pham.

The NCAFP’s salon evenings in the intimacy of private homes for patron and corporate members are thriving. Whereas in 2008 the National Committee hosted three such events, in 2009 the number rose to six. In addition to Professor Michael Curtis’s book *Orientalism and Islam: European Thinkers on Oriental Despotism in the Middle East*, other works were discussed at salon events by their authors: they include David Phillips’s book titled *From Bullets to Ballots: Violent Muslim Movements in Transition*; Vera and Donald Blinken’s *Vera and the Ambassador: Escape and Return*; Amir Taheri’s *The Persian Night: Iran under the Khomeinist Revolution*; and Nicholas Thompson’s *The Hawk and the Dove: Paul Nitze, George Kennan and the History of the Cold War* (which the author discussed with William J. vanden Heuvel). Professor Efraim Inbar, director of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University, discussed “The Iranian Nuclear Challenge in the Greater Middle East”; and David Phillips focused on “Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation.”

In addition to interacting with authors and others at salon evenings, NCAFP members were addressed by Lt. General Karl Eikenberry on “NATO: Ongoing Operations and Future Challenges” and Ambassador Frank Wisner on “The United States and South Asia: The Challenge Ahead” and participated in the following panel discussions: (on Africa, as mentioned earlier); on “North Korea (DPRK) in the Obama Age: How Will the New Administration Manage the Ongoing Crisis?” with panelists Dr. John Delury, Consul Dukho Moon, Ambassador Donald P. Gregg, Mr. Leon V. Sigal, and Professor Donald S. Zagoria; on “Averting a Nuclear Iran: Obama and the Greater Middle East,” with panelists Dr. Patrick Clawson, Ms. Raghida Dergham, Ms. Jacqueline Shire, and Mr. Amir Taheri; on “What’s Wrong with the UN and How to Fix It” with Professor Thomas G. Weiss, Ambassador Donald Blinken, Mr. Warren Hoge, and Professor Benjamin Rivlin; on “Shaping the Asia-Pacific in the 21st Century: Cooperation Among the Region’s Great Powers,” with Dr. Chu Shulong, the Honorable Winston Lord, Dr. Masashi Nishihara, Dr. Kim Sung-han, and Professor Donald S. Zagoria.

The **Middle East Project** under the guidance of Senior Fellow Amir Taheri continues to be a critical focus of ours. Especially worrisome for regional and global stability are the geostrategic

implications of Iran's aspiration of becoming the region's hegemon and nuclear power and as such a potential nuclear proliferator. Those issues were addressed earlier this year at a roundtable and panel discussion titled "The Greater Middle East: Is Proliferation Inevitable?" Were Iran to remain recalcitrant on the nuclear issue, the NCAFP reaffirmed its policy recommendation for the immediate imposition of harsh sanctions and leaving open the military option. Another choice is that of deterrence. For Iran to abort its present course, NATO countries would need to sign a treaty to defend the region and station nuclear armed troops and missile intercepting equipment at strategic points in the wider Middle East and in Europe. This tripwire tactic is not likely to materialize in the face of the lukewarm public support that NATO countries generate regarding the greater involvement of NATO in the larger Middle East.

After more than 10 years, the Northeast Asia Projects have officially changed their name to the **Forum on Asia-Pacific Security (FAPS)**. The change took effect on Monday, June 1, 2009. The new name better reflects the evolution of the forum's work over the years. Although the name has changed, the work has not; indeed, the present state of the region and the geopolitical realities of today make the project more critical than ever.

Under the leadership of Professor Donald S. Zagoria and with the assistance of Ms. A. Greer Pritchett and Mr. Samuel Hart, FAPS runs four major track I½ and track II dialogues on regional security issues. The "U.S.-China and Cross-Strait Relations Dialogue" has both a specific focus to try to maintain and enhance the peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait and a broader agenda that is based on expanding the areas of cooperation between the United States and China in order to minimize the possibilities for mistrust and potential conflict. The "North Korea Nuclear Dialogue" is twofold. First, we work with our regional partners (China, Japan, South Korea, and, to some extent, Russia), each of which has different interests and views, on how best to approach North Korea in an effort to coordinate our approaches. Without some coordinated message to the North Koreans, no strategy to deal with the present situation will be effective. At the same time we are keeping the door open for dialogue with the DPRK. We are still speaking regularly with the so-called New York Channel (the DPRK ambassador to the UN with whom we are in frequent contact) as well as with the State Department. On October 30, 2009, FAPS convened the seventh U.S.-DPRK meeting since we began our efforts in 2003. Our "Alliances with Japan and South Korea

Dialogue” seeks to strengthen U.S. ties with its historical allies, Japan and South Korea. To this end, trilateral cooperation among the United States, Japan, and South Korea is a necessary component of any multilateral framework designed to manage regional and global threats. Finally, this year FAPS started a new “Quadrilateral Dialogue” and convened its inaugural conference on December 8 and December 9, 2009. We believe the time is ripe for quadrilateral cooperation bringing together the United States, China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) to discuss both regional and global issues and to develop a common strategic vision. Quadrilateral cooperation on some key challenges is essential for peace and prosperity in Asia and the world, but a critical issue is whether the four parties *can* find complementary approaches.

Finally, in addition to our yearly trip to the Asia-Pacific region that included stops in Taipei, Beijing, Shanghai, and Tokyo with a distinguished delegation comprised of the Honorable Winston Lord, Mr. Evans J. R. Revere, Professor Gerald Curtis, Dr. George D. Schwab, Professor Donald S. Zagoria, and Ms. A. Greer Pritchett, FAPS convened more than 20 meetings, roundtables, conferences, and public panels.

The **Transatlantic Project**, under the leadership of Professor Bernard E. Brown, has paid particular attention to the evolution of NATO, which is the major institutional link between the United States and Europe and an arena of diplomatic tensions. A special issue of our journal, *American Foreign Policy Interests* (March-April 2009), with contributions from three Americans and five Europeans, was devoted to NATO. We continued, at the request of the State Department, to brief visiting European leaders on American domestic politics and foreign policies. Europe today is not one of the “hot spots,” compared, for example, to the Middle East, Central and East Asia, and Africa—though there are concerns about the resurgence of Russian nationalism and hegemonic ambitions in areas formerly under Soviet domination. Nonetheless, transatlantic relations remain a critical issue for the National Committee. The United States, together with Canada and the European Union, constitute the hard core of constitutional democracy, market economies, and the rule of law in the world. They also wield formidable military power and account for about half of the global economy. Few global problems today can be resolved by the United States alone. Cooperation between the United States and Europe is an essential condition for meeting the challenges of terrorism, climate change, nuclear proliferation, fiscal crises, and upsurges of violence in the rest of the world. The

National Committee therefore is continuing to follow closely developments in the European Union, particularly the changes introduced by the recently adopted Lisbon Treaty.

The **Central Asia/Caspian Sea Basin Region Project (CAP)** was initiated in 2005 to focus on U.S. national interests in the five former Soviet republics of Central Asia (i.e., Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) and to create a track II framework to facilitate dialogue and advance such interests. The NCAFP has visited Kazakhstan three times as guests of the Kazakhstan government, has hosted track II roundtables with civilian and military officials from the United States and Kazakhstan governments, has met with Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev, and has prepared reports with policy recommendations on such activities. Track I diplomacy in the region has encountered many pitfalls in large part because of a suspicion that a fundamental tenet of U.S. policy in the region has been regime change. There are ample opportunities for track I½ and track II engagement with Kazakhstan's southern neighbors as a precursor to more effective track I diplomacy, and the NCAFP has been encouraged by U.S. officials and the interested governments to pursue such opportunities.

Early in 2009 CAP's leadership—NCAFP trustees Donald S. Rice and Grace Kennan Warnecke, as well as project director Professor Michael Rywkin—met with representatives of Brookings Institution Energy Security Initiative. They determined that events in the Caucasus in 2008 and in Russia, Ukraine, and Central Asia subsequently would present an obvious strategic moment to have a roundtable dialogue among officials and experts from the United States, European Union, and the Central Asia/Caspian Sea Basin Region. The objective of the Strategic Assessment of the Caspian Sea Basin Region roundtable conference was to harness Brookings' convening power and expertise with NCAFP's track I½ and track II expertise to conduct a dialogue among officials and experts from the United States, European Union, and Central Asia/Caspian Sea Basin Region countries—Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Azerbaijan. The focus of the dialogue was geopolitical and geostrategic developments in the region and energy security in particular in light of developments in Georgia, Russia, Ukraine, and elsewhere in the region. The roundtable conference was held at Brookings in Washington, D.C., on May 6-8, 2009, and resulted in a report with policy recommendations. Conference participants also took part in Washington in a joint session with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and

the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy on “Russia and the Caspian in the Global Energy Balance.”

On October 20, 2009, CAP hosted a roundtable in New York with Russian experts from the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR). In addition to NCAFP experts, our side included Dr. Thomas Graham of Kissinger Associates, Ambassador Richard Miles, and Professor Lincoln Mitchell. The conversation focused on United States, Russian, and Chinese interests and involvement in the Central Asia/Caspian Sea Basin Region and relations with and among the nations in the region. CAP believes that dialogue with CICIR should be continued on a regular basis in light of the growing importance of China’s role in the region and its impact on all of the players.

Finally, CAP has been in touch with representatives of Uzbekistan and plans to meet early in the New Year to explore the possibility of track II work of the kind initiated by Kazakhstan five years ago.

The prime event organized by the NCAFP’s **U.S.-UN Relations Project** in 2009 was the panel discussion stimulated by Professor Thomas Weiss’s recent book, *What’s Wrong with the UN and How to Fix It*. Held in October 2009, the panel included Professor Weiss; Ambassador Donald M. Blinken; Mr. Warren Hoge; and Professor Benjamin Rivlin, director of NCAFP’s U.S.-UN Relations Project, as moderator. After an opening presentation by Professor Weiss of the thrust of the analysis contained in the book, the panelists discussed a number of key concepts, that is, the UN geopolitical system; the Westphalian system of national sovereignty and international law; redefining national interests; world government; global governance; multilateralism; collective security; and the problem of leadership. The panel discussion led to a spirited question-and-answer exchange with the audience.

For the coming year, the project plans to focus its attention on the strategic implications for American foreign policy of the consequences of the Copenhagen Accord on Climate Change. Though containing no binding provisions, the accord represents humanity’s latest effort to cope with climate change. Its significance may lay in the fact that it was shaped by five major nations—the United States, China, India, Brazil, and South Africa—dubbed the UN’s G-5 on Climate Change—because it bridges north and south, east and west, developed and developing countries. Those states will be engaged in complex and protracted negotiations in the UN in anticipation of the next world conference on climate change to

be held in Mexico City next year. This development represents a significant shift in the power balance in the UN and in the world and calls for a rethinking of the *modus operandi* of the UN and of U.S. strategic policy regarding issues that have moved to center stage on the UN's agenda.

The NCAFP's project on U.S.-UN Relations, cognizant of the newest developments within the UN, proposes to create opportunities for the NCAFP to examine U.S. foreign policy's responses to the various challenges inherent in the complexity of climate change issues.

In addition to the NCAFP's bimonthly, *American Foreign Policy Interests*, which featured contributions by, among others, Amir Taheri, Alon Ben-Meir, Kinga Göncz, Maris Riekstins, Ralph A. Cossa, Jianwei Wang, Robert Hunter, and Syed Manzar Abbas Zaidi, the NCAFP published and widely distributed three foreign policy booklets with policy recommendations on "The Greater Middle East: Is Proliferation Inevitable?" with the participation of, among others, Dr. Patrick Clawson, Raghida Dergham, Jacqueline Shire, and Amir Taheri; "Strategic Assessment of the Caspian Sea Basin Region" (jointly with the Brookings Institution) with the participation of, among others, Dr. Charles K. Ebinger, Dr. Michael Rywkin, Dr. Hafiz Pashayev (Azerbaijan), Dr. Marat Shaikhutdinov (Kazakhstan), Dr. Thomas Graham, Ambassador John Ordway, Taleh Ziyadov (Azerbaijan and the UK), Kurt-Dieter Grill (Germany), Dovlet Atabayev (Turkmenistan), Robert Ebel, Dr. Martha Brill Olcott, Ambassador Joseph Presel, Sebastien Peyrouse (France), Marlene Laruelle (France), Ambassador Steven Pifer, Fiona Hill, Johannes Linn, Eugene Fishel, Ambassador George Krol, Donald S. Rice, Esq., Richard R. Howe, Esq., Steven Chernys, Grace Kennan Warnecke, Professor Sergio Germani (Italy), Andrew Rampl (Germany), Enzo Viscusi, Lea Rosenbohm, Daniel D. Stein, Evie Zambetakis, Holly Morrow, and Dr. George D. Schwab; General David Petraeus's address on counterinsurgency with comments, as already noted, by Dr. Henry Kissinger and the Honorable Paul Volcker among others; and a report on "Making Peace in the Taiwan Strait," with contributions by, among others, Xu Shiquan, Bi-Khim Hsiao, Richard Bush, and Ambassador Winston Lord.

Obviously, as a policy oriented and security focused non-governmental think tank, we could not have accomplished all of the above-mentioned activities without the solid support of Mutual of America, our devoted members and friends, foundations (including the Carnegie Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the

Henry Luce Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation), and corporations (Millicom International Cellular S.A., Access Industries, ENI, and ExxonMobil). The generous backing that the NCAFP receives enables us to continue to offer exemplary programs on a wide range of foreign policy issues affecting our national security interests; to move closer to bringing the NCAFP's track I½ and track II projects to successful conclusions; and to realize the mission the National Committee on American Foreign Policy undertook to perform 35 years ago.

Testimonials from statesmen, diplomats, and politicians are appended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George W. Schwab". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President

ENCOMIUMS

“Mutual understanding and respect among nations help promote peace, tolerance, and prosperity around the world. Since 1974, your organization has helped advance American foreign policy and resolve conflicts that threaten our national security.... I appreciate members of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy for your commitment to furthering human rights, strengthening our global economy, and extending freedom and democracy to people everywhere.”

President George W. Bush



“The National Committee’s 1994 Conference on Northern Ireland...helped to set the stage for an historic period of U.S. engagement in promoting peace in Northern Ireland. By reaching out to key Irish and British political leaders, you contributed to IRA and loyalist cease-fires. We are grateful for your abiding commitment to the cause of peace and for your extraordinary contributions in advancing that goal.”

President Bill Clinton



“On behalf of...Secretary [of State Condoleezza] Rice thanks for forwarding the report on the [January 2005] visit to Beijing and Taiwan by members of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy...The Perspectives reviewed in your report were very helpful and have been studied carefully by the Department. I appreciate you sharing your observations and welcome other reports from the Committee on foreign policy topics of interest.”

Joseph Donovan
Director, Office of Chinese and Mongolian Affairs
U.S. Department of State



“I commend you for the thoughtfulness and sophistication of the analysis that you generated at the Committee’s Roundtable. Your report makes a valuable and timely contribution, particularly given the recent visit of Chinese Vice Premier, Qian Qichen. The NCAFP continues to be held in high esteem in the international affairs community. We look forward to your continuing efforts to illuminate these difficult and important issues.”

The Honorable Colin L. Powell
Secretary of State



“I just wanted to thank you for your summary of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy’s trip to Beijing and Taipei this

past January [2005]. This is a perfect example of what ‘open source intelligence’ can provide, and I have disseminated your findings through appropriate channels. The cross-strait situation will continue to remain on the forefront of our consciousness for the foreseeable future. Your work on this subject couldn’t be more timely – thank you so much for bringing it to my attention.”

The Honorable John D. Negroponte
Director of National Intelligence



“I received the recent NCAFP reports on various Asian issues. Thank you for sharing them. [The Forum on Asia-Pacific Security] and the Committee continue to be at the cutting edge on key policy issues.”

Major General Karl W. Eikenberry
U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan



“The persistent, well-informed efforts by you and your highly qualified group have built trust in all three capitals [Washington, Beijing, Taipei]. The access and insights that you develop as a result are invaluable as we all pursue peace in the Taiwan Strait.”

James F. Moriarty
Former Special Assistant to the President
Senior Advisor on Asian Affairs, National Security Council



“Let me express once more my admiration for the way the Committee has pursued its chartered task and for the success it has had in that effort.”

The Honorable George F. Kennan
Former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union



“I have been associated with this Committee because Hans Morgenthau was a friend of mine and because of the tremendous work they’re doing.”

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger



“My enthusiasm for the splendid work of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy is reflected in my active participation in its

programs. No other foreign policy organization does a better job of leveraging its resources to stimulate and inform the national debate on America's role in the world."

The Honorable Winston Lord

Former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs
Former U.S. Ambassador to China



"I am delighted to hear that the outstanding work of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy goes on unabated, analyzing and developing your country's role in international affairs."

**The Rt. Hon. The Baroness Margaret Thatcher,
L.G., O.M., F.R.S.**



"We always look forward to receiving your publications. The NCAFP Forum on Northeast Asian Security's publications and reports are highly regarded by [the government of] Taiwan."

His Excellency Ma Ying-jeou,

President of Taiwan (ROC)



"I want to thank you again for inviting me to attend the conference earlier this week [August 2004] on North Korea sponsored by the National Committee on American Foreign Policy. This conference was the rare exception to my experience with so many Track II conferences—the issues were timely, the participants well-informed and representative of all the parties, and the presentations and discussions first-rate."

Mitchell B. Reiss

Director, Policy Planning Staff, U.S. Department of State



"The National Committee on American Foreign Policy's program is the best track two effort that exists in contributing to the stability in the Taiwan Strait."

President Chen Shui-bian

Taiwan (ROC)



"The National Committee on American Foreign Policy is very renowned in Chinese diplomatic circles. It does useful work in promoting U.S.-China

relations. The Chinese side attaches great importance to your visits.”

His Excellency Tang Jiaxuan
State Councilor, People’s Republic of China



“...Thanks to the NCAFP for providing an institutional home for the ideas and ideals of the realist tradition.”

The Honorable James A. Baker III
Former Secretary of State



“I read your summary of the NCAFP’s most recent North Korean Track II dialogue with great interest. Your insights and the work of the NCAFP are invaluable and will shape my actions at PACOM. I look forward to our future discussions.”

Admiral Robert Willard
Commander, U.S. Pacific Command



“It is not every day I praise another foreign affairs organization. But I want to do just that...After thirty years, the National Committee on American Foreign Policy is going strong. This is a very good thing for all of us. The National Committee stands out as an oasis of non-partisanship and serious thought about this country’s purpose in the world.”

The Honorable Richard N. Haass
President of the Council on Foreign Relations



“The NCAFP’s role in fostering peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland is exemplary. It has provided a forum where representatives of the communities can express their points of view and know that they will be heard by an audience willing to share its experience in foreign policy and to offer constructive advice.”

Noel Fahey
Ambassador of Ireland to the United States



“Thank you for sharing the report on the National Committee’s roundtable on the UN Human Rights Council, and a copy of Ambassador Frank Wisner’s address to the Committee on his experience as the US Special Representative to the Kosovo Final Status Talks. Both documents are

testament to the valuable contribution the National Committee makes to the foreign policy debate in this country.”

Sir Nigel Sheinwald KCMG
Ambassador of Britain to the United States



“The United States appreciates the work of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy, and I am pleased that our ties of friendship and cooperation continue.”

Susan Rice
Representative of the United States to the United Nations



“Through its discussions, publications, and direct involvement in crises from Northern Ireland, to China, to North Korea, and the Middle East, the National Committee has made an important contribution to ensuring America’s national interests are advanced from a nonpartisan perspective within the framework of Morgenthau’s political realism.”

The Honorable Nancy Soderberg
Vice President, International Crisis Group
Former Ambassador to the United Nations



“American Foreign Policy Interests is an effective journal in the field of foreign affairs—and little is more vital for the enigmatic future than clearheaded discussions of America’s role in the world.”

Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.
Dean of American Historians



“Since 1974, the National Committee on American Foreign Policy has provided a high standard of analysis and perspective regarding many areas where conflict resolution is critical. From experts in diplomacy to members of academia, the Committee represents some of the most perceptive minds and point[s] of view that have added an important component to sensitive global debates.”

Governor George E. Pataki



“I believe that the NCAFP has performed a very valuable service on the work in cross-strait relations which you ably coordinate. I read carefully all of the trip and roundtable reports.... I find that they provide valuable insights on views in the Mainland and on Taiwan and on possibilities for renewing dialogue between the two sides. Participants from both Taiwan and the Mainland have told me that your roundtable meetings provide them with unique opportunities to interact and informally exchange views. In the absence of any official channel between the two sides, this opportunity for Track Two contact is especially important.”

Raymond F. Burghardt
Former Director, American Institute in Taiwan



“Taiwan is a key and difficult issue in U.S. diplomacy with the PRC, an issue to which I have been devoting considerable attention. I have therefore found especially helpful the opportunities to meet with various NCAFP delegations over the past year.... The NCAFP has produced a series of helpful reports on its cross-strait program, including a recent interim report, ‘Cross-Strait Relations: Breaking the Impasse,’ which has many useful insights. Your inputs and insights are about the most balanced and useful that we see.”

The Honorable Joseph W. Prueher
Former U.S. Ambassador to China



“Since its establishment in 1974, the National Committee on American Foreign Policy has demonstrated a commitment to promoting human rights, supporting our allies, and advancing the interests of the United States.”³

Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of New York



“I cannot sufficiently emphasize the importance of this and similar sessions hosted [on North Korea] by the NCAFP in the past.”

Keith Luse
Senior Professional Staff Member,
U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee



“The rationale and agenda for the NCAFP’s Forum on Asia-Pacific Security are solidly assured for years to come. No organization is better equipped to carry on this assignment. One can point not only to its experience and contacts accumulated over a decade but to its record of proved results. Like some other successful track II operations, the NCAFP projects have spurred candid, unofficial dialogue, floated trial balloons, suggested new avenues, and improved lines of communication. They have also provided an umbrella for informal side conversations and developing personal bonds for participating government officials.

In fact, this is to understate the NCAFP’s achievements substantially. NCAFP dialogues have produced concrete results in national policies. These range from helping to restart negotiations to providing ideas in major speeches to promoting shifts in diplomatic postures.

We might better describe the projects as track 1.5 rather than track II, that is, as semi governmental rather than strictly academic. The participants have included current, past, and future policy officials from the countries involved. While acting informally and unofficially, they have probed their counterparts and reported to their superiors and factored conclusions into their national approaches. The NCAFP, in turn, has been meticulous in staying independent of the U.S. government while securing its unofficial attendance and keeping it fully posted.

At a time when events in the Middle East and elsewhere absorb so much of our governmental, academic, and public attention, this forum is a particularly valuable asset. America must devote sufficient focus and resources to what will be the world’s most important region in this century. This is what the Northeast Asia Projects should continue to do, with policy relevance and impact.”

The Honorable Winston Lord

**Former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs
Former U.S. Ambassador to China**



**NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON
AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY, INC.**
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