

# COUNCIL *on* FOREIGN RELATIONS

## CFR Mission

*CFR 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, CFR carries out its mission by*

- maintaining a diverse membership;*
- convening meetings for government officials, world leaders, and prominent thinkers to come together with members to discuss major international issues;*
- supporting a Studies Program that publishes independent research and analysis;*
- publishing Foreign Affairs, the preeminent journal on international affairs and U.S. foreign policy;*
- sponsoring Independent Task Forces that report on critical foreign policy topics;*
- providing timely information and analysis on its website, CFR.org.*

CFR is headquartered in New York and maintains a national presence. Its Washington office is located just steps from the White House, the World Bank, and the State Department. It serves as a resource for all CFR members, especially those who work or reside in the greater capital area, and as a source of ideas and information on foreign policy issues for decision-makers in Washington.



# CFR in Washington

## The Congress and U.S. Foreign Policy Program

Engaging members of Congress and their staffs on both sides of the aisle in discussion and analysis of critical international issues, the Congress and U.S. Foreign Policy Program's activities bring valuable perspectives to policymakers on issues that matter to them and their constituents.

Some of these efforts include

- *Friday roundtable discussions with senior foreign policy staff*
- *monthly briefings for both House and Senate chiefs of staff*
- *breakfast briefings for new members of Congress on important topics*

## The Studies Program

Composed of over fifty fellows in New York and Washington, the Studies Program engages in research and analysis of all major regions of the world and topics such as energy security and climate change, global health, international institutions and global governance, national security, and geoeconomics.

Studies activities include

- *roundtable discussions connecting fellows with CFR members and other experts and providing opportunities for informal discussion of major issues*
- *Council Special Reports, which are policy briefs designed to address a developing crisis or emerging policy debate with concrete policy recommendations*

## The Meetings Program

The Meetings Program serves CFR members by hosting panel discussions, interviews, roundtables, book club meetings, and film screenings that bring members together with prominent thinkers, world leaders, senior government officials, and global business leaders to discuss the major foreign policy issues of our time.

Recent meetings have featured

- *Russian president Dmitry Medvedev*
- *Federal Reserve chairman Ben S. Bernanke*
- *former British prime minister Tony Blair*

## Diplomatic and Executive Branch Initiatives

Diplomatic and executive branch initiatives provide U.S. policymakers and foreign officials access to CFR publications and public meetings through

- *invitations to government officials and senior diplomats for select on-the-record CFR meetings;*
- *roundtable briefings for ambassadors and deputy chiefs of mission on pressing foreign policy issues;*
- *an Embassy Lunch series that provides opportunity for diplomats and CFR members to exchange views in an intimate setting.*

## The Corporate Program

Serving CFR member companies, the Corporate Program organizes substantive roundtable discussions and facilitates access to CFR resources. In addition to leveraging CFR expertise in New York as well as in Washington, the Corporate Program features speakers from Wall Street and conducts a "Window on Washington" conference call series to highlight the capital's perspective on global issues.

Other opportunities offered to member companies include

- *economic and foreign policy roundtables from the business perspective*
- *access to CFR study groups and meetings with members of Congress and foreign policy officials*
- *briefings by CFR's president on a current policy priority*

## Media Outreach

CFR experts and analysis are brought to journalists and opinion-makers in Washington and audiences around the globe through

- *special on-the-record meetings for Washington-based reporters;*
- *press briefings and conference calls with CFR experts focusing on breaking foreign policy news;*
- *transcripts and audio/video of on-the-record events in Washington made available on CFR.org.*

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