



The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (www.wacmb.org)

February 2019

The Syrian Refugee Crisis **Professor Anne Marie Baylouny** **Department of Naval Security Affairs** **Naval Postgraduate School** **Monday, February 25, 2019**

11:30 am: Registration ~11:50 am: Luncheon ~12:45 pm: Program
**** Palo Corona Park HQ, Carmel Valley Road (formerly Rancho Canada) ****

“Syria is the biggest humanitarian and refugee crisis of our time.”

Fillipo Grandi, UNHCR

Since the beginning of the Syrian civil war in 2011, over 5.6 million people have fled Syria, seeking safety in Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and beyond. Millions more are displaced inside Syria. Most are living in extreme poverty, and humanitarian groups are unable to access many who live in the areas of conflict.

What will become of the Syrian refugees? Professor Anne Marie Baylouny will update us on this humanitarian crisis, how the host countries are faring, the dimensions of international aid, and policy options



for the international community and the United States. She will also address the prospects for an end to the conflict.

Anne Marie Baylouny is Associate Professor of National Security Affairs at the Naval Postgraduate School, where she specializes in Middle East politics, grassroots organizing, and Islam. She received her Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Berkeley.

Professor Baylouny has lived in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan, and has traveled extensively in the Middle East. She speaks Arabic, Italian, French, and Spanish, and has received numerous fellowships and awards for her work.

(See page 3 for reservation information)

Calendar of Events

Mondays, January 28 - February 25

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Great Decisions: MPC and CSUMB/OLLI
(See page 3 for more information and exact dates.)

Thursday, February 7

4:30 pm

Board Meeting: McCone Building Conference Room, MIIS. Open to members.

Monday, February 25

11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Luncheon and Presentation: *The Syrian Refugee Crisis*, by Anne Marie Baylouny

COVER TO COVER

Are you interested in books about world affairs? Would you like to hear what the authors of those books have to say, without waiting (and hoping) for them to come to town? Look no further: *Cover to Cover* is here for you!

Cover to Cover is a free monthly half-hour conference call featuring interviews with some of today's most prominent writers on world affairs. Speakers during the past year have included Richard Haas, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, discussing his book *A World in Disarray: American Foreign Policy and the Crisis of the Old Order*; Ambassador Rick Barton, currently at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, discussing his book *Peace Works: America's Unifying Role in a Turbulent World*; and Ambassador Vicki Huddleston, former head of the US Diplomatic Mission to Cuba, discussing her book *Our Woman in Havana: A Diplomat's Chronicle of America's Long Struggle with Castro's Cuba*.

Cover to Cover is a free benefit offered to World Affairs Council members by the World Affairs Council of America, our umbrella organization. Preregistration for the conference calls is required. To register, go to <https://www.worldaffairscouncils.org>, click the menu icon in the upper right corner (a gray box with three white lines), click on "Programs," and then on "Cover to Cover." Once on the Cover to Cover page, click on the conference call of interest.

Missed an interesting call? Not to worry: previous *Cover to Cover* calls become free podcasts, which you can access from that same page. You'll see Professor Francis Fukuyama and Ambassador Michael McFaul featured there, just in case you might have missed them when they spoke here!

December Program Report: Bill Clifford

The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay was honored to host national president and Japan expert Bill Clifford for our December luncheon. Clifford has helped to revitalize the national organization, and has been visiting many local chapters around the country. While here, Clifford met with our Board to discuss new programming and possibilities for growth.

At the luncheon, Clifford spoke on "Japan, America, and the New Nationalism," touching upon internal Japanese politics, regional issues, and Japan's important relationship with the United States.

Shinzo Abe, recently re-elected, has become a major leader of the international order, even more so given America's retreat and Europe's problems. The perception is widespread in Japan that the US is abdicating its global role, and that "America First" is a significant break with 70 years of history. There is also a disconnect between 50,000 US troops stationed in Japan and new US tariffs that hurt Japanese exports.

The US engagement on the Korean peninsula worries Japan, as Tokyo does not have a seat at the table for the nuclear talks. Despite good personal relations with Trump, Abe is hedging his bets politically, for he has seen this administration treat many old allies poorly.

Perhaps Japan's greatest internal challenge is a "demographic time bomb." Its fertility rate is 1.2, well below the replacement rate of 2.1, and since Japan allows virtually no immigration, its population is shrinking. This will put Japan's social safety net under stress, since there are not enough workers to support its aging population.

by Glenn E. Robinson

RESERVATION FORM

Reservations due February 20 for February 25 presentation

Registration 11:30 am

Luncheon 11:50 am

Program 12:45 pm

Mail form and check or credit information to:

WACMB, PO Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942

or fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846

Members @ \$29 _____

Guests @ \$35 _____

Total \$ _____

THE SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

Name/s _____ Card Holder Name _____

Address _____ Card Number _____

Email _____ Phone _____ Exp Date _____ Visa _____ MC _____

Vegetarian? (Requires 72 hours notice) _____ Signature _____

Questions? Call the office at (831) 643-1855

GREAT DECISIONS

The *Great Decisions* program, America's largest discussion program about world affairs, continues in February. Your World Affairs Council offers the program at two sites: MPC and OLLI /CSUMB. Topics this month will include The Middle East: Regional Disorder; Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?; and The Rise of Populism in Europe.

MPC: Meetings are Mondays from 4:00-5:30 pm in Room 101, Social Sciences Building, beginning January 28. There will NOT be a meeting on February 18. Parking is available for \$3 in Lot D.

OLLI/CSUMB: Meetings are Mondays at 4:00-5:30 at the CSUMB Ryan Ranch location, beginning February 4. There WILL be a meeting on February 18. Parking is free. Note: Preregistration is required for OLLI programs. Register at olli.csumb.edu (do not include a "www" at the beginning of the URL).

LUNCHEON MENU

- Caesar Salad
- Oven Roasted Salmon Filet
with Bearnaise Sauce
- Steamed Rice
- Seasonal Vegetables
- Fresh Rolls and Butter
- Coffee

VEGETARIAN OPTION

- Pasta Primavera tossed with Pesto Olive Oil and topped with Parmesan Cheese

This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). Founded in 1951, the council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion, and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups, and student scholarships.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by:

- *California State University Monterey Bay
- *Defense Language Institute
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Student*.....	\$15

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(Couples, please include both first names)**

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*Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This also includes a special military membership for enlisted personnel, grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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