Issues Around the World in the Age of Covid-19

Check your email on the scheduled days for links to these videos.

October 15, 2020: Bradley J. Strawser, Naval Postgraduate School  
Reflections on the Ethics of Warfare and Changing Technology

Dr. Bradley Strawser discusses the ethics of modern warfare and how technology has impacted the degree of civilian casualties. He explores how radical changes in military technology once drove a massive increase in civilian harm in warfare, but argues that today, advances in military technology are reversing that trend, giving us reason for optimism in the future.

Bradley Strawser teaches philosophy in the Defense Analysis department at the Naval Postgraduate School. He is also a Research Associate at Oxford University’s Institute for Ethics, War, and Armed Conflict, which is located in Oxford, UK. Dr. Strawser received his PhD in Philosophy from the University of Connecticut. He has written extensively and lectured throughout the United States and Europe on the ethics of war and peace, military ethics, bioethics, and development ethics.

October 30, 2020: Anna Grzymala-Busse, Stanford University  
The Erosion of Democracy in Hungary and Poland

After the collapse of communism in 1989, Hungary and Poland were among the leaders in enacting reforms; they were the first to embrace democracy and to pursue free markets. Yet in the last decade, voters in both Hungary and Poland have elected governments that have attacked liberal democracy by stacking the courts, stifling the free media, barring immigration, and pursuing other self-serving policies. What happened? Professor Anna Grzymala-Busse examines the roots and consequences of the erosion of democracy and why both of these nations have taken this path.

Anna Grzymala-Busse is the Michelle and Kevin Douglas Professor of International Studies in the Political Science department, a Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, and the Director of the Europe Center, all at Stanford University. A native of Poland, she has studied post-communist politics in Central and Eastern Europe. She earned her PhD in Government from Harvard University.
**Issues Around the World in the Age of Covid-19**

The following is the tentative schedule and list of topics for upcoming episodes of WACMB’s “quick takes” video program. On the scheduled day, you will receive an email with a link that will take you to the video.

November 15: Michael Auslin, Stanford University, who will speak on his new book, *Asia’s New Geopolitics: Essays on Reshaping the Indo-Pacific*.

November 30: Jonathan Lipman, Mt. Holyoke College, who will speak on “Muslims in China Today, with a Focus on the Uyghurs.”

December 15: J. Morris Hicks, author and engineer, who will speak on “Connecting the Dots to a Sustainable Future.”

**Video Library**

Just a reminder: every past episode of our “quick takes” series, “Issues Around the World in the Age of Covid-19,” is available at no cost in our online video library. In addition, videos of a number of our previous luncheon talks (remember when we’d gather together in one room for lunch and a lecture?) are also available there. Use the QR code on the back page of this Passport or go to https://www.wacmb.org/speakers-topics-videos/ for links to the videos, including these:

- Robert Tomlinson on *National Security Affairs in the Age of Covid-19*
- Emily Meierding on *Oil and Gas Disputes*
- Alex Saragoza on *US-Mexico Relations*
- Anne Marie Baylouny on *The Syrian Refugee Crisis*
- Francis Fukuyama on *The Global Rise of Populist Nationalism*

... and more!

**Discussion Groups**

WACMB offers two discussion groups: one with MPC and one with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at CSUMB. Both are free. If you are interested in participating in a discussion group, please email the WACMB office at wacmb@redshift.com and let us know of your interest.

*The MPC Discussion Group*, moderated by Judith Glickman, is meeting via Zoom. Meetings take place from 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

**Monday, October 5:** “Modi’s Agenda in the Year of the Pandemic,” with introductory remarks by Anshu Chatterjee.

**Monday, October 19:** “Globalization and Governance,” with introductory remarks by Jonathan Czarnecki.

*The OLLI/CSUMB Discussion Group*, moderated by John Hetz, will meet via Zoom on **Monday, October 12** from 4:00 to 5:30 pm, to discuss “Narendra Modi’s Nationalist Agenda in the Era of the Pandemic.”

**Welcome to Our New Members**

The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area extends a warm welcome to our newest members!

Olivia Morgan
Celeste Ventura
Joe Viviano

**Remember to Vote!**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Vote-By-Mail ballots will be sent to all registered voters in California beginning on October 5. Why wait? Fill out your ballot right away and return it either through the mail or in person. **You must return your ballot no later than November 3.** Go to vote.ca.gov to learn more.
CRYPTOGRAMS!
For your shelter-in-place entertainment, The Passport presents WACMB’s second-ever cryptograms. All are quotations that are (at least somewhat) relevant to world affairs. Each quotation is followed by its author’s name. Each cryptogram has its own code. Answers will appear in next month’s Passport.

1. AI LEZI KSX XS YRHIVWXERH XLEX ALEX AI HS MR XLI ASVPH MW RSX SRPC KSSH JSV XLI ASVPH; MX’W KSSH JSV YW. MX’W RSX E JSVQ SJ TLMPERXLVSTC; MX’W E JSVQ SJ REXMSREP WIGYVMXC.
   - VMGLEVH LEEWW

2. GSVIV ZIV ML ULIVRTM OZMWH; RG RH GSV GIZEVOVI LMOB DSL RH ULIVRTM.
   - ILYVIG OLFRH HGVEVMHLM

   - QELGNE X. TFOOVQ

Answer Key
for September’s Passport Crossword Puzzle
(with your editor’s apologies for the nasty cross at 59-Across/43-Down, which was ridiculously difficult.)
This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). WACMB is a nonprofit, 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
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* Student rates are for full-time students at accredited colleges, universities, or graduate schools, as well as for enlisted military personnel in Grades E1 to E4.

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