

## Recent Annual Speakers Programs

### 2021-2022 Annual Speakers Schedule

September	Bill McKibben, Middlebury College Current status of the environment, challenges, and impacts
October	David Kramer, Florida International University The Kremlin's Threat to Democracy
November	Ronak Desai, Paul Hastings LLP Future of the US-India Strategic Partnership
December	Andrew Weber, Council on Strategic Risks Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction
January	Peter Martin, Bloomberg News The Making of Wolf Warrior Diplomacy
February	Marc Grossman, Cohen Group, and Marcie Ries, Belfer Center A U.S. Diplomatic Service for the 21st Century
March	Alex Newhouse, Middlebury Institute of International Studies Online Radicalization of the Vulnerable & the Power of Social Media
April	Adam Weinstein, Research Fellow at the Quincy Institute The US Experience in Afghanistan: What Does It Mean for Future Interventions and Nation-Building?
May	Rushan Abbas, Campaign for Uyghurs Global Implications of the Uyghur Genocide



## **2020-2021 Annual Speakers Schedule**

- September    Lisel Hintz, Johns Hopkins University  
Turkey-U.S. Relationship Status in the Trump Era: It's Complicated
- October        Laura M. Delgado López, NASA Science Mission Directorate  
Space, Exploration, International Cooperation, Security and Policy
- November     Kelly Sims Gallagher, The Fletcher School, Tufts University  
US and China Climate Policy
- December     Angela Stent, Georgetown University  
Putin's World: Russia Against the West and with the Rest
- January        Eitan Peled, UNICEF USA Child Migration & Protection  
Child Migration Policy in the Biden Administration
- February      Paul Fagan, McCain Institute, Arizona State University  
Reset on Africa – Human Rights and other issues
- March         Farah Pandith, Future of Diplomacy Project, Harvard Belfer Center  
Radicalization and Extremism
- April          Mark Leonard, European Council on Foreign Relations  
The Crisis of America Power: How Europe Views the Biden Administration
- May            Trita Parsi, Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft  
How to End Endless Wars in the Middle East
- June            Paul A Berkman, Science Diplomacy Harvard-MIT Public Disputes Program  
Great Powers and the Melting Arctic with Professor



## 2019-2020 Annual Speakers Schedule

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| September  | Peter Dutton, US Naval War College<br>China and South China Seas  |
| October    | Joseph Cirincione, Ploughshares Fund<br>Nuclear Disarmament and North Korea   |
| November   | Torrey Taussig, Harvard Kennedy School<br>Trans-Atlantic Relations in the Age of Trump                                |
| December   | Eric Farnsworth, Council of the Americas<br>US Relations with Latin America: From Where We Are to Where We Want to Go |
| January    | Daniel Maxwell, Tufts University<br>Famine and Conflicts Around the World   |
| February   | Miko Peled, Writer and Activist<br>A New Paradigm - The Keys to Peace in Israel/Palestine                             |
| March      | Michael Butler, Clark University<br>New Decade, New Dilemmas? Contemporary Challenges for U.S. National Security      |
| April-June | Events cancelled due to coronavirus pandemic  |

## **2018-2019 Annual Speakers Schedule**

- September Mary Beth Leonard, Ambassador to the African Union  
The African Union as Partner in Peace and Security
- October Behnam Talebu, Foundation for the Defense of Democracy  
Iran: Challenge or Change?
- November Robert Blake, Jr., McLarty Associates  
How is Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim-majority democracy,  
handling threats of Radical Islam?
- December John Carey, Dartmouth College  
Democracy in the Americas: Adversity and Resilience
- January Célia Belin, Brookings Institute  
French-American Relations in an Age of Trump: Balancing Interests and  
Principles
- February Elizabeth Reynolds, MIT Industrial Performance Center  
Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Work
- March David M. Shribman, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette  
A Short History of Truth
- April Scott Moore, The Penn Water Center  
The Future of Water Conflict
- May Dipayan Ghosh, Shorenstein Center, Harvard University  
A New Digital Social Contract: Regulating Tech to Promote Consumer  
Interests
- June Miryea Solis, Brookings Institute  
Japan and the Geopolitics of Trade

## **2017-2018 Annual Speakers Schedule**

September	Paul R. Pillar, Center Security Studies, Georgetown University Israel and the Palestinians, The Enduring Conflict
October	Evans J. R. Revere, Brookings Institution War or Peace on the Korean Peninsula
November	Constanze Stelzenmüller, Brookings Institute Europe: America's Problem or America's Partner
December	Chas W. Freeman, Jr., Watson Institute, Brown University The Middle East in the New World Disorder
January	Graham Allison, Harvard University Destined for War: Can America and China Escape Thucydides' Trap?
February	Susan Landau, Tufts University Listening In: Cybersecurity in an Insecure Age
March	Amir Idris, Fordham University Rethinking South Sudan's Civil War: History, Identity and Citizenship
April	Phillippe Le Corre, Belfer Center, Harvard University China's Eurasian Geo-economics Plan: Can it Extend the Country's Political Influence?
May	Ronak Desai, Belfer Center, Harvard University Rising India: US Partner or US Ally?
June	William Alan Rensch, Center for Strategic and International Studies Trade: Trans-Pacific Partnership and NAFTA

## **2016-2017 Annual Speakers Schedule**

- September Richard Nephew, Columbia University  
The Iran Deal: What's Next for America?
- October Imam Mohammad Musri, Islamic Society of Central Florida  
Islam in America
- November Steven Radelet, Georgetown University  
Is Globalism a Threat to American Prosperity?
- December Kemal Kirişci, Brookings Institute  
The Future of Turkey, at Home and Abroad
- January Congressman Jim McGovern  
US-Cuban relations: Where we have been and where we are going?
- February Martín Burt, Fundación Paraguaya  
Social Entrepreneurship to Eliminate Poverty
- March Jeremy Haft, SafeSource Trading and Georgetown University  
Trading Places: America, China and the Fight for Middle-Class Jobs
- April Javier Corrales, Amherst College  
How did Venezuela become a populist authoritarian regime and could the same thing happen in the United States?
- May Asima Silva, EnjoinGood.org  
What it means to be an American Muslim
- June Edward Alden, Council on Foreign Relations  
The Struggle over Immigration: Making sense of the backlash in the United States and in Europe

## **2015-2016 Annual Speakers Schedule**

- September     John Esposito, Georgetown University  
                      What Everyone Needs to Know about Islam
- October         Francesca Spidalieri, Salve Regina University  
                      Sony, Target & OPM – Cyber Security at the National and Individual Level
- November       Roselyn Hsueh, Temple University  
                      A Rapidly Rising China in the Age of Globalization
- December       Stephen M. Walt, Harvard University  
                      Does Europe Have a Future?
- January          Ellen B. Laipson, Henry L. Stimson Center
- February         Harold Trinkunas, Brookings Institute  
                      Brazil – Its Rise and Stall
- March            Sung-Yoon Lee, Tufts University  
                      Five Myths about North Korea
- April             Ribal al-Assad, Democracy in Syria Movement  
                      Syria, the Mideast and the New Cold War: How three tiers of conflict  
                      created an Apocalypse
- May              Steven Lee Myers, Moscow Bureau Chief, The New York Times  
                      The New Tsar: Rise and Reign of Vladimir Putin
- June              Bayan Sami Abdul Rahman, Kurdistan Regional Government  
                      Representative to the United States



## **2014-2015 Annual Speakers Schedule**

- September     Ronald E Neumann, American Academy of Diplomacy  
Afghanistan: What Now?
- October        Paula Dobrianski, World Affairs Councils of America  
U.S. Foreign Policy: Where are we headed?
- November     Robert M Hathaway, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars  
Afghanistan, America's Longest War: How Did We Get Here? What's  
Ahead?
- December     Andrew J. Bacevich, Boston University  
Lessons from America's War for the Greater Middle East
- January       Haroon K. Ullah, Policy Planning Staff at U.S. Department of State
- February      Susie Kitchens, British Consul General, Boston
- March         Richard Lobban, Naval War College  
Islamic Extremism from AQIM to ISIS: the Cases of Libya and the  
Levantine-Iraqi Caliphate
- April          Jonathan Howe, Arthur Vining Davis Foundations  
The Future Role of the US in the World
- May            Claudia Fritsche, Ambassador of the Principality of Liechtenstein to U.S.  
Navigating Europe – Perspectives from a non-EU country
- June            Matthew Levitt, Washington Institute for Near East Policy





## **About us**

The mission of the [Worcester World Affairs Council](#) is to educate, inspire, and engage its members in international affairs. The Council's monthly meetings provide a convivial setting for members and invited speakers to discuss the critical global issues of our time.

The Worcester Council is one of more than 90 similar councils across the United States. The Worcester World Affairs Council (WWAC) is a Massachusetts-chartered nonprofit corporation formed in 1958 under the auspices of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, and now affiliated with the [World Affairs Councils of America](#) (WACA). Neither the WWAC nor the WACA have any political affiliation and they do not take positions on matters of policy.