DEAR FRIENDS,

As we navigate a critical juncture in our world’s history, I am writing to share our impact report and express my deep gratitude for your support and engagement with the Center for International Policy (CIP). Our mission to advance a peaceful, just, and sustainable world has never been more urgent. As the first woman to lead CIP in almost half a century, I am honored to share how we translated our bold vision for transformative change in U.S. foreign policy into concrete achievements.

In a global landscape marked by complex challenges, CIP is dedicated to advocating for a human-centered approach to foreign policy based on evidence-based policy solutions to global security challenges, including persistent conflicts, increasing nuclear threats, the climate crisis, corruption, and social inequity.

With a clear vision, we saw that achieving transformational change requires redrawing the stakeholder map, redefining security, reframing geopolitical analysis, restoring accountability, and reviving diplomacy—principles central to our 5R strategy for change. We center diverse voices and foster inclusive research to ensure policies reflect the interests and concerns of all people, not just a privileged few.

Our strong team at CIP has helped translate this vision into action, and we are proud of the strides we have made, as detailed in this report:

- **Elevated the Dialogue:** Through our Security Assistance Monitor (SAM), Climate Conflicts and Arms Mapping Program (CAMP), and Diplomacy to End Nuclear Threat (DENT) program, we have generated cutting-edge research, analysis, and data-driven solutions that challenge prevailing beliefs about militarized foreign policy and advocate for diplomatic alternatives. We introduced new data sets on arms trade to support efforts for advancing transparency.

- **Convened Change-Makers:** Our collaborative efforts have bridged silos between grassroots advocates, policymakers, and academics, both domestically and transnationally. We are actively engaged in working groups, coalitions, and forums, such as the Dismantling Racism and Militarism in U.S. Foreign Policy working group, dedicated to building a movement toward human-centered security.

- **Amplified Diverse Perspectives:** Through our fellowship programs, diverse staffing, and emphasis on inclusive research, we have brought underrepresented voices to the forefront of foreign policy discussions. Our intentional commitment to diversity and inclusion ensures that a wide range informs our work of experiences and expertise.

- **Influenced Policy:** Our outreach to policymakers, legislative tracking, and media engagement has contributed to increased transparency and accountability in U.S. foreign policy. We are proud of our contributions to congressional oversight, involvement in high-level international conferences, and media presence, which has amplified our message to a broad audience.

- **Achieved Media Recognition:** Our work has been mentioned in the media 36 times, including major outlets such as Vox, The Washington Post, The Guardian, Foreign Policy, ABC, Rolling Stone, and War on the Rocks.

- **Expanded Institutional Capacity:** Over the past year, we grew the team from two staff members to a team of 12 and expanded our programs to six, covering arms trade, nuclear threats, climate conflicts, and science and technology for peace and security.

The upcoming U.S. presidential election presents a pivotal opportunity to shape the dialogue on crucial issues relating to U.S. foreign policy. CIP is poised to catalyze change by driving the conversation on progressive foreign policy and advocating for policies prioritizing global cooperation, human rights, equity, and environmental sustainability.

We are deeply grateful for your partnership and support as we forge ahead. Together, we can reimagine the possibilities for a safer, more just world.

In a time of uncertainty and complexity, our shared commitment to peace, justice, and sustainability is a beacon of hope. Thank you for standing with us in our pursuit of a more equitable and peaceful world.

With deepest gratitude and determination,

Nancy Okail  
President and CEO  
Center for International Policy
Our Mission

The Center for International Policy (CIP) aims to advance a peaceful, just, and sustainable world supported by U.S. foreign policy that puts people and the planet first. We work to promote greater transparency, government accountability and advance intersectional and interdisciplinary data-driven solutions to today's global security challenges. Our programs offer sustainable and effective solutions to address the most urgent threats to our planet: war, corruption, inequity, and the climate crisis.

Our Bold Vision

Our vision of a safer, just, and sustainable world is centered on enhancing human security, where the US plays a progressive and effective role in addressing today's shared global threats. This requires a paradigm shift in U.S. foreign policy strategy from a militarized, great-power competition approach to one that emphasizes effective, equitable, and sustainable diplomatic solutions. This vision necessitates a transformational approach to the way foreign policy issues are framed, analyzed, and communicated, which CIP implements through our 5R strategy for change. CIP’s vision entails strategic collaboration with like-minded actors, including policy experts, scholars, advocates, and funders, to challenge the dominant rigid power structures that maintain the status quo.
Our Principles

National security cannot be achieved without global security and addressing the root causes of global conflict. We believe that national security is inextricable from global security and that increasing militarization through great-power competition is insufficient for creating the conditions for peace.

Without accountability, there can be no systemic change. Those who benefit from unjust systems will continue to do so until the cost of injustice becomes too high.

The inclusion of diverse voices and alternative viewpoints is essential for understanding security challenges and creating sustainable outcomes. We believe in diversity in practice, not just in name, and that security and peace are rights of all humans, not just Americans.

Integrity is critical to advancing human-centered security. We believe in security and foreign policy that is informed by evidence, not by popular opinion or political priorities.

Alternative approaches to security based in cooperation, mutual respect, and systemic change are possible and effective. Foreign policy should provide opportunities for cooperation rather than competition.
**RESEARCH**

- **26** Issue Briefs, Fact Sheets, & Reports on issues of nuclear proliferation, arms trade, technology, space diplomacy, and climate conflict
- **22** Op-eds and External Articles
- **19** Countries Covered
- **3** New initiatives in addition to our programs: The Iran Podcast, Legislative Tracker, and the Leahy Fellowship

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**Our Year**

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**CONVENINGS**

- **20** Hill and State Meetings
- **24** Panel Participations
- **23** Event Attendances
- **4** Events Hosted by CIP

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

- **5** Podcast Appearances
- **1,300+** Newsletter Subscribers
- **1M+** Social Media Impressions
- **36** Media Mentions
- **1,220+** New Social Media Followers

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**ADVOCACY**

- **11** Sign-on Letters
- **$0** Of US Government or Industry Money Accepted
One of our biggest successes includes co-convening the Dismantling Racism and Militarism in U.S. Foreign Policy working group and conference with the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) at the Pocantico Center in Terrytown, New York. The working group represents 14 prominent organizations spanning advocacy, grassroots organizing, philanthropy, research, and faith-based social justice work. Participants included prominent scholars and specialists on a wide range of issue areas, including feminist peacebuilding, economic inequality, legal advocacy, congressional lobbying, climate change, and the military-industrial complex.

CIP is proud to have submitted a statement to the congressional record at the request of the House Financial Services Committee on illicit fentanyl.

To bridge the gap between policy and scholarship, CIP regularly engages in academic circles. Policy Analyst, Hanna Homestead, presented at the International Studies Association in Quebec on Algorithms as Weapons: The Potential for Export Control on Psychological Groups. Nancy Okail regularly speaks to university students, most recently presenting on Democracy in the Middle East at Cornell University and Florida International University.
CIP’s Security Assistance Monitor (SAM) is dedicated to increasing transparency, oversight, and accountability over U.S. arms sales and security assistance provided to foreign governments worldwide. Arms sales and security assistance are considered a primary tool of U.S. foreign policy, but little is disclosed about these sales and transfers to the public. SAM seeks to increase awareness about the arms trade through research, data collection, analysis, and writing. **SAM is the first and only public resource to comprehensively collect, organize, and house all available federal data on U.S. weapons sales and transfers in one place,** making it easily searchable by year or country on its website. Most recently, SAM is proud to have integrated a new dataset that gives journalists, policymakers, and civil society a more granular look into U.S. arms sales and provides insights into arms deliveries unaccounted for in any other data sources.

**Diplomacy to End Nuclear Threat (DENT)**

The Diplomacy to End Nuclear Threat (DENT) program engages in research, tracking, convening, and advocacy to address structural problems hindering progress on effective global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation – efforts that are critical to a more secure future and livable planet. We examine the threat of nuclear weapons in the context of the broader militarized approach to foreign policy, which exacerbates the risk of escalating regional conflicts into a catastrophic global nuclear war. **Our program challenges the analytical framework driving this approach, which is marked by great power competition, unilateralism, deterrence-oriented ideology, expansive defense budgets, escalating arms transfers, overreliance on fossil fuels, and the deepening entrenchment of war economies and infrastructure globally.**
Legislative Tracker

Each year, thousands of bills are introduced and debated in the U.S. Congress on various issues. Currently, there is no central location where defense and foreign policy-related legislation is captured and warehoused in a comprehensive, accessible format. Searching government databases to identify bills is a time-consuming task that requires knowledge of government processes, which can be prohibitive. Legislative staff, industry lobbyists, and consultants often have inside access to congress or are able to pay thousands of dollars a year for services that curate and provide this information, giving them a distinct advantage in regard to congressional advocacy. For the average person, grass-roots advocates, and journalists working on shoestring budgets, a lack of understanding of what Congress is doing is a roadblock to accountability.

To help enhance accountability in the arms trade, CIP’s Legislative Tracker identifies and tracks new (118th Congress) legislation generally pertaining to U.S. security assistance, defense cooperation, and arms sales. This list is updated weekly, and all information is publicly available and searchable on the federal Library of Congress website, www.congress.gov. The tracker is a crucial resource for journalists, advocates, researchers, legislators, and the general public, and a tool to increase transparency about congressional debates and improve accountability for legislative actions relating to U.S. foreign policy globally.

Climate Conflicts and Arms Mapping Program (CAMP)

CIP’s Climate and Arms Mapping Program (CAMP) evaluates the intersecting impacts of U.S. energy and climate policies, climate change, and U.S. defense policy on ecosystems and civilian populations worldwide. A key program focus is interrogating the implications of U.S. policy responses to climate-related security challenges, including the environmental impact of security assistance and its contribution to irregular migration and regional conflict. In addition, this program seeks to build awareness and evidence for diplomacy centered on addressing the climate crisis by highlighting how investments in climate resilience are more effective than arms sales, the U.S. government’s primary approach to global peace and security.

CAMP is currently evaluating the U.S. government’s response to the threat of transboundary water conflict globally. We are finding that over the last decade, rather than investing in mechanisms to resolve disputes over shared natural resources, the U.S. has been increasing arms sales to countries experiencing tensions over water rights.

Over the past year, CIP participated in many high-level meetings, even up to presidential levels. Notable meetings include ministers of defense in the U.S., Canada, and Europe; NATO representatives; US assistance security of states; the special envoys to crucial countries in the Middle East; former President of Ukraine; and numerous US Congressmen. CAMP Director, Hanna Homestead, attended COP27 in Sharm-El-Sheikh and connected with on-the-ground advocates working on issues related to climate security.
CIP’s Science and Technology for Peace and Security (STEPS) program seeks to **increase oversight and accountability of private U.S. technology companies** by analyzing their impact on geopolitical relations and civilian harm, particularly within the MENA region and Latin America. This analysis includes the study of cyberwarfare and cyberespionage, artificial intelligence, emerging technologies, and the legal, environmental, and geopolitical ramifications of the ensuing space race. The Social Media Harms Tracker, a special project of this program, explores and exposes the specific role of U.S. communication platforms in violence towards civilian populations worldwide - including how companies obtain, produce, market, oversee, and use technology in the MENA region. **The STEPS program Social Media Harms Tracker sheds light on how new technologies are changing the nature of conflict and global security challenges.** The impact of this is crucial for understanding 21st-century challenges to peace and security.

### Fellowships

CIP views the inclusive production of cross-cutting analysis about U.S. foreign affairs to be equally as critical as the analytical output. In line with our value of promoting diverse perspectives, centering the voices of those who are from the regions impacted by U.S. foreign policy, and supporting early-career professionals, we have structured our research teams in a **Junior-Senior Fellowship** dynamic. In this structure, younger researchers are paired with established scholars and analysts to co-create our interdisciplinary and intersectional research outputs. In addition, **we are thrilled to announce the recent establishment of our new Leahy Fellowship.** CIP’s successful relationship building and reputation with members of Congress led to the establishment of the Leahy Fellowship for Human Rights and Security, named after Senator Patrick Leahy. The fellowship will focus on the knowledge transfer between established experts and emerging voices. In his comment on the fellowship, Senator Patrick Leahy said:

"I am honored that CIP is naming its new fellowship on human rights and security after me. Building the skills of a new generation of policy researchers and experts dedicated to defending human rights and promoting democratic values in U.S. foreign policy is critically important at a time when those rights and values are under assault around the world."

- Patrick Leahy, U.S. Senator

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As a member of the [Arms Sales Accountability Project (ASAP) coalition](https://armssalesaccountabilityproject.com/), CIP took part in briefing State Department officials on countries that continue to receive U.S. arms and security assistance despite ongoing egregious human rights abuses. Visit [https://armssalesaccountabilityproject.com/](https://armssalesaccountabilityproject.com/) for more information on arms sales accountability.
Our Strategic Approach

Along with our core principles, we use these strategic approaches to guide the work in each of our programs. Ultimately, achieving our vision requires engaging new stakeholders, building structures for robust accountability, and challenging analytical frameworks that underpin flawed beliefs about security, which hamper, instead of promote, a secure and livable world.

Our 5R Strategy for Change

All of our work is guided by our 5R strategy for change to address the structural barriers preventing transparency and accountability in U.S. foreign policy. This approach is clearly defined, intentionally anti-racist, intergenerational, collaborative, class-conscious, and rooted in a growth mindset. Through this work, we see ourselves as part of the greater movement for global peace, justice, and respect for universal human rights.

**Redraw the Stakeholder Map** to more accurately reflect the interests and security concerns of average Americans, address racism and discrimination in foreign affairs, and improve how policies are shaped and communicated.

**Redefine Security** to include pressing threats to global human safety and well-being that fall outside of and are often exacerbated by the conventional militarized approach to national security.

**Reframe Geopolitical Analysis** from an antiquated, great-power competition nation-state analysis to include the roles of non-state actors, elite interests, emerging technology, and other factors unique to the power structures of today's world.

**Restore Accountability** by working to improve oversight both at home and abroad, as corruption and authoritarianism anywhere undermine collaborative efforts to address shared global threats.

**Revive Diplomacy** through research, analysis, and convening to identify the structural barriers to peaceful solutions, draw on lessons learned, and explore new opportunities based on cooperation rather than competition, to avoid escalating conflicts and prevent war.
Regan Ralph

Regan Ralph is the founder and former President and CEO of the Fund for Global Human Rights. Prior to launching the Fund, Regan was Vice President for Health and Reproductive Rights at the National Women’s Law Center in Washington, D.C., where she led advocacy, policy, and educational strategies to promote the quality and availability of health care for American women.

Wilmot James

Wilmot James is a Senior Research Scholar at the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy at Columbia University and an Honorary Professor of Public Health at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He researches pandemic response and biosecurity, convenes high-level meetings on planetary threats, leads the Center for Pandemic Research in the College of Arts and Sciences, and is an Associate Director in the Program in Vaccine Education at the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Kate Kizer

Kate Kizer has spent nearly a decade in Washington advancing prevention and peacebuilding alternatives to US security policies, focusing on the confluence of human rights, corruption, conflict, and democratic change. Her expertise centers on U.S. grand strategy; the United States post-9/11 military strategy; US foreign policy in the Middle East, US arms export, security assistance, and nonproliferation policy; and democracy promotion in the post-Cold War period.

Sina Toossi

Sina Toossi has a professional background in producing research and analysis on U.S.-Iran relations, U.S. foreign policy towards the Middle East, and nuclear policy issues. His work experience includes extensive political advocacy efforts to make diplomacy and the promotion of human rights a centerpiece of U.S. foreign policy, including co-leading grassroots campaigns calling for the restoration of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal and highlighting the humanitarian costs of U.S. sanctions.

Joanna Rozpedowski

Joanna Rozpedowski is a political scientist and international law scholar with an extensive international research portfolio and publication record. She specializes in international human rights and humanitarian law, geopolitics, global security, and U.S.-EU. relations, climate and conflict migration, and judicial accountability mechanisms for international crimes. Her most recent publications focused on hybrid wars, laws of armed conflict, disinformation, and international laws guiding exploration in outer space.
Michael W. Chamberlin has been a human rights defender in Mexico for 30 years. He specializes in documenting and analyzing grave human rights violations and crimes against humanity where state and non-state actors have had international responsibility. He has been a consultant on enforced disappearances and the victims’ rights to truth, justice, and reparation. Chamberlin has submitted reports to the ICC on crimes against humanity committed in Mexico in the ongoing war against drugs and represents cases at the UN Human Rights Committee.

Rasha Qandeel

Rasha Qandeel is a journalist and the BBC Arabic Bi-Lingual Lead Presenter of Arabic NewsNight and HardTalk. Having worked for BBC Arabic and English since early 2003, she has contributed to BBC World Service between 2005-2007 and has presented BBC World special seasons such as 100 Women, Arab Revolutions and Gaza War 2008. She also moderated the Anna Lindh Foundation awards nights for the BBC in 2013.

Negar Mortazavi

Negar Mortazavi is an award-winning journalist and political commentator, and editor and host of the Iran Podcast, based in Washington DC. She has been covering Iranian and Middle Eastern affairs as well as US foreign policy towards the Middle East for over a decade. She is a frequent media commentator and has appeared on CNN, NBC, NPR, BBC, France24, Aljazeera, and other global outlets. She has written for Foreign Policy magazine, Politico, The Intercept, The Independent, and other publications.

New Junior Fellows

Hadeel Abu Ktaish

Hadeel Abu Ktaish's areas of focus are arms control, the impact of arms transfers and nuclear weapons on the Middle East, and their analysis in the regional geopolitical context and relation to non-state actors. Hadeel works on tracking legislation on related issues of defense and security on CIP’s legislative tracker. Her lived experience and in-depth understanding of the Middle East, its cultures, and internal dynamics enable her thorough analysis of regional dynamics.

Noor Al Zubair

Noor Al Zubair is a recent graduate from the American University in Washington, D.C., where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and Middle Eastern Studies. Born and raised in Oman, Noor has developed an interest in the world of international relations and history, which has led to internships at the Sultan Qaboos Cultural Center and the Wilson Center throughout her years. As an undergraduate, she concentrated her work on topics surrounding nationalism, human rights, and colonialism. Noor speaks Arabic and English and is conversational in Spanish.
**New Staff Members**

**Nancy Okail**

Nancy Okail is the President and CEO of CIP. Dr. Okail is a leading scholar, policy analyst, and advocate with more than 20 years of experience working on issues of human rights, democracy, and security in the Middle East and North Africa region. In 2020, Okail was appointed as a visiting scholar at the Center for Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law at Stanford University. Prior to joining Stanford, she served as Executive Director of the Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy (TIMEP).

**Hanna Homestead**

Hanna Homestead is a Policy Analyst and leads the Climate Conflicts and Arms Mapping Program (CAMP). In addition, she works with CIP’s leadership on the strategic development and implementation of its new vision and programs promoting progressive U.S. foreign policy. Hanna is an Emerging Expert at the Forum on the Arms Trade, and previously, she worked on police reform efforts in Wisconsin, conducted research for UNICEF, and served as a staffer in the U.S. Senate.

**Nate Marx**

Nate Marx is a Research Fellow at the Center for International Policy, where he leads the Science and Technology for Peace and Security (STEPS) and Security Assistance Monitor (SAM) programs. Previously, he served as a cybersecurity educator, training U.S. military cyber operators in defensive network operations, and as a researcher in the private sector, focusing on network forensics, novel uses of machine learning for cyber defense and cyber threat intelligence.

**Kaylie Rowland**

Kaylie Rowland is the Executive Assistant/Communications Associate at the Center for International Policy, where she guides the strategy for all communications. In addition, she provides administrative assistance to the President and Board of Directors, as well as coordinates the CIP internship program. Previously, Ms. Rowland served as an AmeriCorps volunteer with the Wood County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board in Ohio.

**Connect with Us**

**The Iran Podcast**

*The podcast deep-dives into conversations on Iranian politics, society, and culture, with host Negar Mortazavi.*

We invite you to stay connected with us through our website, social media channels, and newsletters for updates on our latest research, events, and initiatives. Your voice matters, and we are excited to continue working alongside you to create meaningful change. Stay tuned for our newly launched website!
THESE EFFORTS ARE BUILT ON A LONG HISTORY OF SUCCESS

Since 1975

Founded in 1975, CIP’s founders wanted to build on the massive grassroots movements that helped end the Vietnam War and to make sure the lessons of the war were not distorted or forgotten. Today, our programs continue to strive to achieve advances in U.S. foreign policy that fall in line with our mission.

1970s
CIP played a vital role in an impressive number of citizens’ initiatives. Working closely with allies in Congress, including two members who were to become co-chairs of CIP’s board, Tom Harkin and Don Fraser, CIP campaigned to make sure that a government’s human rights record was a factor in allocating foreign aid. CIP’s initial regional focus was on Asia. In the late 1970s, the Indochina program promoted the normalization of relations between the United States and Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

1980’s
In the 1980s, CIP staff turned its focus to Central America. Program staff became the Washington advocates for Costa Rican president Oscar Arias’s peace plan for Central America. Executive director Bill Goodfellow and research director Jim Morrell ran a U.S. campaign to publicize and build public support for first the Contadora and then President Arias’s peace plan, which ultimately silenced the guns in Central America.

1990’s
In the 1990s, CIP attracted a number of senior diplomats to its staff and expanded its agenda to include reform of the nation’s intelligence agencies. We continued to play an important role in Central America’s post-conflict reconciliation, the effort to end the counter-productive isolation of Cuba, and efforts to condition military assistance to the Western Hemisphere on improvements in governance and increased respect for citizens’ human rights.

2000’s
In the first decade of the 2000s, our work expanded to include programs mobilizing opposition to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. CIP also hosted projects aimed at exposing illicit financial flows and the existential threat of climate change. CIP’s monitoring of U.S. military aid and training in Latin America evolved into the country’s leading database on U.S. Security Assistance worldwide, now known as the Security Assistance Monitor.

2010’s
CIP’s work continued to focus on ending what had become the ‘endless wars’ spawned by the global war on terror. We expanded our work on the Pentagon budget and U.S. weapons exports. In 2017, long-time executive director Bill Goodfellow stepped down and was succeeded by Salih Booker as President and CEO. In 2019 CIP released its influential report, produced by CIP’s Sustainable Defense Task Force, which laid out a detailed plan for reducing the Pentagon budget by 10% a year, saving $1.2 trillion over the next 10 years, while providing improved security.

2020’s
Following the pandemic, Nancy Okail became the first woman to lead CIP in its nearly 50-year history. Today, CIP brings diverse voices to bear on key foreign policy decisions and make the evidence-based case for why and how the United States must redefine the concept of national security in the 21st century.
Our Supporters

The Center for International Policy's staff and board are very grateful for the generous support CIP continues to receive to advance its mission, which has remained steadfastly true to its goals since its founding in 1975. Over the years, supporters of CIP's work included:

- Arca Foundation
- Bently Foundation
- Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Colombe Peace Foundation
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- McKnight Foundation
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
- Open Society Foundations
- Pentagon Budget Campaign
- Ploughshares Fund
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Samuel Rubin Foundation
- Stewart R. Mott Foundation
- Tides Foundation
- United Church of Christ

We would like to acknowledge those donors who have bequeathed to CIP through planned giving. These contributions have helped to allow our organization to further its mission and vision to make a peaceful, just, and sustainable world. We are very grateful for their generosity and faith in CIP.

Donations may be given in several ways:
- Through our website by visiting internationalpolicy.org/donate
- Through bequests at internationalpolicy.org/planned-giving