



Interested in world affairs but feel like you don't know enough to discuss them intelligently?

Join us for impartial, thought-provoking analyses on eight issues of concern to U.S. policymakers

GREAT DECISIONS 2012

Foreign Policy Association

Discussion groups co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of La Plata County and the Durango Public Library

Topic	Tuesdays 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.	Thursdays 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.
Middle East realignment	January 17	January 19
Promoting democracy	January 31	February 2
Mexico	February 14	February 16
Cybersecurity	February 28	March 1
Exit from Afghanistan & Iraq	March 13	March 15
State of the oceans	March 27	March 29
Indonesia	April 10	April 12
Energy geopolitics	April 24	April 26

Durango Public Library
1900 East Third Avenue
Program Room 2, Main Floor
Brown bag lunch

The order of topics in the briefing book may be different from the schedule shown above.
 Please follow the schedule.

Checks for \$22 for each briefing book should be made out to "LWVLPC" and mailed with the bottom of this form by December 30 to:

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Questions: Pat Chatfield, 247-1692 or patchwork@gobrainstorm.net
 More information about Great Decisions and the Foreign Policy Association
www.fpa.org or click on our web site www.lwvlaplata.org
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Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

Great Decisions 2012 Topics

Middle East realignment *by Augustus Richard Norton*

The popular revolts and upheaval of the Arab Spring have radically changed the face of the Middle East. What lies ahead for the Middle East's transition to democracy? What are the prospects for the governments that have held out in this new order? With many longtime U.S. allies ousted, how will the U.S. recalibrate its relations with the new regimes?

Promoting democracy *by Larry Diamond*

The U.S. has had a history of advancing and supporting democracy around the world. What place does democracy promotion have in U.S. foreign policy today? With a choice of tools ranging from economic aid to military force, what are the appropriate yet effective methods that the U.S. should use to promote democracy?

Mexico *by George Grayson*

Mexico's border with Central America, as well as the border it shares with the U.S., has been a pathway for people, goods, crime and contraband in both directions. How can Mexico address these transborder challenges? What is the future of Mexico's relations with its northern and southern neighbors? How will Mexico's foreign relations affect its domestic politics?

Cybersecurity *by Ron Deibert*

The securitization of cyberspace has caused a sea change for both governments and the private sector, faced with new threats, new battlegrounds and new opportunities. Faced with challenges such as international cybercrime and authoritarian control of networks, how will the U.S. and its democratic allies approach the cyber frontier? How does this new domain figure in U.S. strategic interests?

Exit from Afghanistan & Iraq *by Michael E. O'Hanlon*

Ten years after September 11, 2001, the U.S. is winding down its military commitment in Iraq and slowly pulling out of Afghanistan. What exit strategy will help Afghanistan and Iraq build stable democratic nations? How can the U.S. continue to achieve its counterterrorism goals? What is the role of the U.S. in the future of the Middle East?

State of the oceans *by Sara Tjossem*

The world's oceans are essential to life on earth, and are tremendously sensitive to global climate change. What are the consequences of climate change on oceanic factors like biodiversity, sea levels and extreme weather systems? How can the U.S. and its international partners address the emerging challenges to this shared resource?

Indonesia *by James Castle*

Having emerged from authoritarianism in the last 15 years, Indonesia has made remarkable strides politically, economically and socially. Yet the new, democratic Indonesia is still a developing country facing considerable challenges. How can Indonesia continue its path of growth, reform and prosperity? What is Indonesia's role in the global community?

Energy geopolitics *by William Sweet*

The energy markets have been shaken by the instability of Middle East oil and the vulnerability of nuclear power. Moreover, developing countries like China are becoming bigger energy consumers, while energy producers like Russia see the opportunity to widen their influence. In this changed landscape, how will the U.S.'s energy needs affect its relations with other nations?