



WACNH SPRING FORUM 2021:

PRESENTED BY:



ENDING ENDLESS WARS:

HOW THE US HAS FOUGHT EXTREMISM  
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

FEATURING:

GEN. STANLEY  
MCCHRYSTALMCLANE  
MIDDLETON

# WACNH Fundraiser - Ending Endless Wars: General Stanley McChrystal

September 11th, 2021 will mark the 20th anniversary of one of the deadliest days in American history. It is also marks the final day for U.S. forces to remain in Afghanistan, bringing an end to America's longest conflict. As the country continues to suffer from war fatigue, the latest mantra has been "Ending Endless Wars". However, how can the U.S. ensure that this is done in a responsible manner that continues to protect U.S. national security, as well as the hard fought freedoms won for the people of Afghanistan. Join us on May 19th at 6:00 pm for a discussion on the path forward with General Stanley McChrystal.

With over 34 years experience in the military, and several prestigious commands in the region, General McChrystal has strong insights into what has and has not worked in this twenty year fight. Drawing on his expert military background, he will provide analysis of what steps need to be taken in order to mitigate the risks of having a return of a safe haven for terrorism in this country.

"If the people are against us, we cannot be successful," McChrystal said. "If the people view us as occupiers and the enemy, we can't be successful and our casualties will go up dramatically."

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## From the Director's Desk

I have been so impressed and grateful to the hundreds of people who have helped to make the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire a strong and vibrant organization. In spite of the pandemic, our community came together to engage in new and exciting ways, learning about vital international issues. From the increase in viewership of our speakers programs, to the many hosts who were willing to hop on Zoom to talk with international visitors, these engagements continue to make New Hampshire a more globally aware place.

Hopefully, you have enjoyed our online programs so far and we look forward to seeing you in person again.

- Tim Horgan  
Executive Director



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# Connecting and Empowering Young People Around the World

## Partnering on the MERGE Exchange Program

Working to empower women and girls is vital to the success of countries, communities, and cultures. It is with this in mind that the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire is proud to partner with Global Ties U.S. and the Stevens Initiative on the MENA-USA Empowering Resilient Girls Exchange (MERGE).

"Opportunities for international exchange are exceedingly rare during this pandemic," stated Tim Horgan, WACNH Executive Director. "That is why it is so important to partner on powerful programs such as MERGE. Participation has the ability to create lasting change for the better."

Working with girls ages 15-19 from the United States and across the Middle East/North Africa, this program will help participants grow skills, build self confidence, and create lasting relationships with others from around the world. Over the course of eight weeks, the young women will engage in synchronous (live) as well as asynchronous programs, culminating in a team project to share with the world.

The first cohort will begin on August 2nd and end on September 24th. Applications for participation are due by June 30th and are being accepted by Global Ties U.S. For more information and to fill out your application visit: [gties.us/merge](https://gties.us/merge)



The MENA-USA Empowering Resilient Girls Exchange is supported by the Stevens Initiative, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. Government, and is administered by the Aspen Institute. The Stevens Initiative is also supported by the Bezos Family Foundation and the governments of Morocco and the United Arab Emirates.



**Apply to the MENA-USA Empowering Resilient Girls Exchange!**

Learn about mental health, community empowerment, and leadership with other young women around the world.

**Apply here:**  
[gties.us/merge](https://gties.us/merge)




**"MENTAL WELLNESS AFFECTS HOW WE THINK, FEEL, AND ACT, AT ALL STAGES OF OUR LIVES. BY FOSTERING PEER NETWORKS BETWEEN YOUNG WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES AND MENA REGION, WE STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, IMPART CRITICAL SKILLS, AND EMPOWER YOUTH TO BECOME ACTIVE CITIZENS."**

**-KATHERINE BROWN  
GLOBAL TIES U.S.**



Audience Members listen to Dr. Ernest Moniz , former Secretary of Energy, at an event in 2020



*"Thank you for arranging the talk tonight. It was thoroughly engaging and enlightening."*

**- Susan von Hemert  
Portsmouth**



Catherine Rielly (Rubia Handwork), Blair Demers (Education for All Children), and Katherine Kolios (Rain for the Sahel and Sahara), join WACNH Board Member, Maura Sullivan, for a discussion on empowering women around the world.

## Fundraiser

During his six years of command in Afghanistan and Iraq he coordinated the U.S. and NATO forces of over 150,000 troops from 45 different nations. He is well known for creating an innovative approach to warfighting, fusing intelligence and operations. These efforts lead to the capture of both Saddam Hussein and Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Iraq, two operations that took a great deal of planning and execution.

"The opportunity to hear from a four-star general on a military conflict he played such a vital role in is rare," said Tim Horgan, WACNH executive director.

"Even more rare is the opportunity to have your questions answered directly by the general to enhance your understanding of America's longest conflict."

The general will be speaking at WACNH's spring forum fundraiser. Proceeds go to helping bring international understanding and awareness to the state. This program will be held in an online format and will be open to the public.

## Visiting in a Virtual Space

As the pandemic grinds into its second year, WACNH continues to connect the world to New Hampshire and New Hampshire to the world. Despite not being able to host in-person exchanges, WACNH has made the virtual space as open and welcoming as possible.

Since March of last year, 85 international visitors have interacted with NH residents on a variety of best practice discussions. From elections to adoptions, it has been an interesting 14 months and there have been many lessons learned.

One big challenge for online programs is getting a sense of place. Therefore, the Council has worked to create welcome videos that help visitors better understand the state. These will continue to be useful in preparing groups for arrival when a return to in-person programming is possible.

Through the IVLP, WACNH has the opportunity to introduce New Hampshire residents to the world.



International Visitors from around the world meet with NH House Members on the Fish and Game Committee in 2019.



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**Thank you for your continued support of the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire. It is through your support that we continue to build our global community.**

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## WACNH Updates Branding

On March 8th, 2021 the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire debuted its new look logo and branding. After extensive conversations with the Board of Directors and a branding specialist, the new logo visually represents that the work of the Council is focused on global issues, but is rooted here in the state. This refreshed and modern look also centers the organization in a forward looking position, prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

The past year has created a number of opportunities for WACNH to re-evaluate processes, programs, and possibilities. From bringing all of our programs to an online format, to sharing those programs with audiences around the world, it is an exciting time for WACNH and its supporters.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped WACNH to navigate this process and become a stronger organization. From Board Members, to donors, members, and staff, it has taken the work of everyone to build this global community. New Hampshire is stronger for these engagement opportunities and the world becomes a little bit better as people continue to learn about other countries and cultures.

