



WACNH Global Forum Fundraiser 2022

N.A.T.O.: An Alliance for the 21st Century

May 17, 2022

DoubleTree Downtown Manchester
with Ambassador Douglas Lute



WACNH Fundraiser - N.A.T.O.: an Alliance for the 21st Century

The importance of N.A.T.O. has dominated conversations about the international role of the U.S. for several years. Member countries have not lived up to their defense spending commitments, while many in the U.S. have questioned if Russia would have invaded Ukraine if not for N.A.T.O. expansion. However, others point to N.A.T.O.'s united response to the invasion, as well as maneuvers to strengthen the eastern flank, as a major reason why Putin has not overrun its smaller neighbor. New calls for N.A.T.O. expansion are coming from Sweden and Finland, while Russia threatens the world with nuclear proliferation and war. There are so many layers to this global issue, it is important to obtain reasoned, rational, and non-partisan information to decide what the best path forward is.

To that end, the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has scheduled an exciting opportunity for its global community to hear from former N.A.T.O. Ambassador, Douglas Lute. On May 17, Amb. Lute, a retired Lt. General, will provide his insights into the future of this trans-Atlantic alliance and share recommendations for action. Victoria Holt, former Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Security at the U.S. Department of State, will join Amb. Lute for a moderated conversation, adding valuable insights to the discussion. You will not find a more insightful pairing on this topic and you will come away with the information necessary to make your voice heard in Washington.

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From the Director's Desk

Over the past two months, we have been shocked and horrified by the unjust invasion of Ukraine and the devastation caused by the Russian army in civilian areas. The World Affairs Council of New Hampshire has worked quickly to provide engaging programming on this vital global topic, allowing our audiences to access reliable information on the ongoing crisis. By staying informed on the situation, members of the Council are better prepared to understand the options and challenges the world has to grapple with at this juncture. It is because of your engagement that we are able to provide these timely and insightful conversations. By attending these programs you affirm your support of global understanding and your role as a global citizen



- Tim Horgan
Executive Director



When High School Students Study Global Affairs

A recent report by the Council on Foreign Relations and National Geographic found that over 80% of Americans agree that it is important to teach foreign relations to high school students. However, what WACNH consistently hears from engaged high school students in the state is that they do not get this opportunity in their regular classwork. However, they do have the chance to study global affairs when they participate in the Academic WorldQuest.

WACNH provides this academic challenge to the students of the state as a part of the World Affairs Councils of America program. There are ten rounds of ten questions, each on a different international topic, and the students are all provided with the necessary materials. They study together in teams of four, preparing for the competition. Studying from October through March, parents and teachers are always impressed with the depth of knowledge their students gain. Over 97% of students indicated they gained a new perspective by participating in the 2022 challenge.

After having to take a two year hiatus from hosting this program in-person, it was wonderful to bring students together again in March of 2022. Students from across the southern part of the state came to Southern New Hampshire University to compete for a chance to travel to Washington, DC for the national challenge. In the end, two teams qualified to compete in nationals, St. Thomas Aquinas and Portsmouth High School. Overall, students enjoyed this program, giving it an average rating of 8.5 out of 10. In addition, over 85% of participants said they were more motivated to study global affairs in the future, because of this academic challenge.

By providing students with this globally focused program, WACNH helps to prepare them for an international future. By encouraging students to understand the world, they are better prepared to succeed in school, work, and life. For this reason, WACNH continues to look at expanding the reach of this rigorous challenge to new schools here in NH.



Amb. David McKean (ret.) joined the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire to talk about the importance of the trans-Atlantic alliance in the 21st century, including its vital role in helping to ensure European security.

"WE APPRECIATED THE AMBASSADOR'S CLEAR AND THOUGHTFUL PRESENTATION. IT WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL PRESENTATION AND THE QUESTIONS THAT TIM SELECTED TO PRESENT TO HIM WERE PERFECT."

**- JOHN ELLER
MANCHESTER**

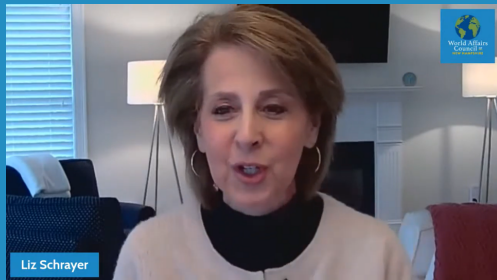


Portsmouth High School's Academic WorldQuest teams join together prior to the competition, held on March 15, 2022. This was the first in-person competition held since March of 2019.



"I just wanted to say that I thought the event with Liz Schroyer was great and that I am perpetually impressed with who is involved with the WACNH - thanks for doing what you do!"

**- Katherine Kolios
Portsmouth**



Liz Schroyer, US Global Leadership Coalition president & CEO, presents to WACNH on the policy recommendations for the United States' role as a global leader. This online conversation was held as a part of the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire's global conversations online programs in 2021.

Fundraiser

"You are going to learn from him a perspective that is much more recent and which brings to bear his extraordinary wealth of knowledge, understanding and his wisdom," said former N.A.T.O Ambassador, Robert Hunter. "I am going to watch it to get the education that my good friend Doug Lute can give you."

Beyond gaining valuable insights into what needs to be done to help prevent another world war, you will support the ongoing work of the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire. As the organization's spring fundraiser, this event helps to ensure a strong future and that WACNH can continue to bring expert speakers to the state.

Doors will open for the in-person reception at 5:00 pm on May 17, with the presentation going live at 6:00 pm. Tickets are required to attend in-person or online and can be found at wacnh.org. Patron sponsors will have the opportunity to join Amb. Lute for a post event dinner to continue conversations. WACNH hopes to see you there.

Global Insights in 30 Minutes or less

Finding the time to understand the world sometimes can be difficult. There are so many demands on your attention and millions of distractions. Engaging in these important discussions simply adds to the growing list of vital things you need to do in a day.

However, by listening to the Global in the Granite State Podcast, you can gather in-depth information on these issues to remain an engaged global citizen. The great thing about the podcast format is that you can listen while driving, doing laundry, or even on your lunch break.

These thirty minute programs give you the information you need to hold informed conversations with friends, helps access different perspectives, and inspire global understanding. You hear from people who know the topics through and through, while having the opportunity to engage on your own schedule. Each month WACNH releases a new globally focused program on all major podcast sites or you can listen at wacnh.org.



WACNH members gather with Elmira Bayrasli, author and professor, after her presentation on the future of diplomacy in the digital age. From left to right: Larry Welch, Jim Muirhead, Kathryn Muirhead, Peter Bowman, Elmira Bayrasli, Susanna Farmer, and Andrew Supplee.



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

www.wacnh.org

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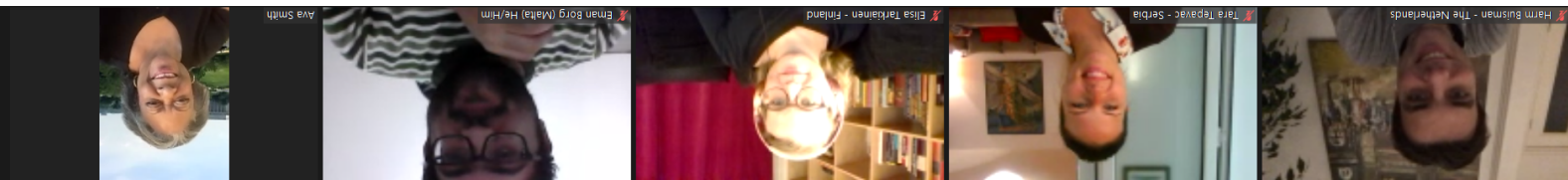
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This publication is funded, in part by the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State under the authority of the Fulbright-Hays act of 1961, as amended.



A group of young European Leaders visited New Hampshire through an online State Department exchange program to learn more about current U.S. political, social and economic issues.



IVLP Returns In-Person to NH

After two years of virtual exchange programs, the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire welcomed its first in-person International Visitor Leadership Program exchange since the start of the pandemic. The five visitors from Spain came for a two day program focused on economic development. In addition, they had the opportunity to spend a couple of days in New Hampshire, over the weekend, to explore the cultural and historical aspects of the state. Many of them loved their experience so much that they said they never wanted to leave.

Through their meetings with the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs, LeBelie Winery, the Women's Rural Entrepreneurs Network, and others, the visitors got an inside look at what drives the New Hampshire economy. They also got to share their own best practices with their counterparts in the state, helping to provide new ideas for development here in New Hampshire.

The absolute highlight for the group came from their invitation to local homes for an informal dinner. This allowed them to share about local culture and everyday life here in the state. One visitor mentioned that this experience was the most unique of their trip!

