

2020
2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Cleveland Council on
WORLD AFFAIRS



A Window to the World.



Community & Connection for Our Globally-Minded Citizens

DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

During the past year, CCWA has offered our community a virtual window to the world. While we have been socially distancing and staying in our homes, CCWA has connected students, educators, emerging leaders, seasoned professionals, curious individuals and globally-minded citizens to the world.

The 2020-2021 program year offered many firsts for CCWA: we hosted our first virtual Model United Nations conferences, convened our first virtual exchanges with partners from across the globe, welcomed our first cohort of Richard W. Pogue Fellows, and launched our new LEADS program for young professionals.

One of our organizational priorities over the past year has been our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. We want to make the organization more accessible

and welcoming to diverse audiences and to offer greater diversity in programming. This continues to be a priority for our work going forward.

We hope to transition back to in-person programming soon. Irrespective of the format, what remains constant in our work is our commitment to being Cleveland's window to the world.

We hope you enjoy this annual report as a window into our ongoing efforts to

cultivate a global community. In this report, we celebrate our mission, accomplishments, and events from the past year, and the people — members, supporters, staff, and program participants — that make it all possible.

- Carina Van Vliet CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
- Heather Hodges PRESIDENT & AMBASSADOR-IN-RESIDENCE, R. HENRY NORWEB CHAIR
- Carter Strang CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT
A WINDOW TO THE WORLD

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**Global Health and Pandemics:
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AMBASSADOR NICHOLAS BURNS

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SUSAN THORNTON

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NICOLAS VÉRON

**The United States and Iran:
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PAUL PILLAR & KELSEY DAVENPORT

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About Climate Change?**
MOLLY WILLIAMSON

**Women and War: The Women
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GAYLE TZEMACH LEMMON

**Why U.S. Humanitarian Work
Should Matter to Americans**
NEILESH SHELAT

**The Future of U.S. Foreign Policy
in the Middle East**
KIM GHATTAS

■ SPEAKERS BY THE NUMBERS

1378 Speaker Forum Attendees

25 Programs Presented

97 Students Participated

GLOBAL DIALOGUE

Virtual Forums Bring the World Stage Home

While the pandemic has placed international travel on hold, our speakers have taken us around the world from the safety of our homes. CCWA's virtual forums created a space where our community could come together and participate in discussions about U.S. leadership globally, specific foreign policy options, and the impact of the pandemic on the world.

During our 2020-2021 season, CCWA engaged 1,378 attendees in our Foreign Policy Forums, Cleveland Committee on Foreign Relations events, and other programs. A special note of gratitude goes to Hitachi Healthcare Americas, the Presenting Sponsor of our Foreign Policy Forum series.

2021 GLOBAL IMPACT AWARD HONORS

ROBERT M. GATES | Our 2021 Global Impact Award event honored Dr. Robert M. Gates, former U.S. Secretary of Defense. Dr. Gates is one of the most knowledgeable practitioners of American leadership on the global stage, with deep firsthand understanding of American power and our role in the world. More than 150 attendees joined to hear his thoughts about America's global leadership

in the current international context. A heartfelt thank you to our presenting sponsor, The Cleveland Foundation, and to all the sponsors and supporters who made this event a success.

THE INAUGURAL RICHARD W. POGUE FELLOWS | The Richard W. Pogue Fellowship cultivates the next generation of globally-minded leaders in Cleveland through participation in the Cleveland Committee on Foreign Relations. CCWA welcomed our first cohort of Pogue Fellows during the 2020-2021 season: Su He, Yao Liu, Maximilian Loeffler, Matondo Ngemba, and Madeline Tobolewski. Thank you to the Kulas Foundation for funding this Fellowship program.

“We heard from highly educated and thought-provoking individuals that brought a fascinating perspective on a range of topics from illicit global money laundering to the potential destabilization of Lebanon. CCWA created something to look forward to during the pandemic.”

Maximilian Loeffler

RICHARD W. POGUE FELLOW

The Geopolitics of Energy: A Look at Russia and Saudi Arabia's Role
RANDOLPH BELL & ANDERS ÅSLUND

Germany and America's Changing Relationship
KAREN DONFRIED

Security Challenges and Prospects for Peace in Colombia
CYNTHIA ARNSON

Emerging Powers in Sub-Saharan Africa
AMBASSADOR REUBEN BRIGETY

Countering Global Terrorist Funding and Illicit Networks
CELINA REALUYO

Nuclear Proliferation Risks and Concerns
THOMAS COUNTRYMAN

Lebanon in Crisis
RANDA SLIM

Grand Strategy in the Asia-Pacific
REAR ADMIRAL PAUL BECKER

CLEVELAND COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS PROGRAMS

Global Competency Workshop Attendees **135**
ACROSS 17 WORKSHOPS

Global Competence Assessments Given **261**

Bridges to the World Educators **15**

Schools Participated **11**

DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES

Global Education Engages & Empowers Local Leaders

Whether we're connecting with community members, educators, or local businesses, our educational and training programs expand participants' horizons on global topics and sharpen their skills around complex and critical cultural issues.

“The difference between a manager and a leader is that a leader is able to adopt a global worldview. Only by becoming more globally-minded and understanding different perspectives are people truly able to lead effectively.”

Paul Clark

CCWA BOARD MEMBER
FORMER REGIONAL PRESIDENT, PNC BANK

“As we transitioned to remote learning, I was integrating the virtual resources shared by CCWA into my classroom. These are incredible to have at my fingertips during this time.”

Kristen Niedzwiecki

BRIDGES TO THE WORLD PARTICIPANT
TEACHER, CHARDON HIGH SCHOOL

GLOBAL COMPETENCY TRAINING OFFERS WORKPLACE STRATEGIES

| Our global competency programs prepare young leaders, seasoned professionals, local students, and globally-interested citizens to interact with people from other cultures and to foster diversity in their own workplaces and communities. During the 2020-2021 program year, we explored strategies for effectively working in a global business environment and delivered 261 Global Competence Aptitude Assessments®. You can now check out our new video showcasing this program on our website!

“Developing global competence is a lifelong mission,” said Robert Stein, Executive-in-Residence at John Carroll University. “You are always learning and developing. This program has opened my eyes to how I can be more globally competent and more open to diversity and inclusion.”

INSPIRING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS TO BECOME GLOBALLY-MINDED LEADERS

| In fall 2020, CCWA launched the LEADS program for young professionals who are interested in developing their global competencies and becoming more internationally-minded leaders. Over the course of ten weeks, 25 LEADS participants explored what it takes to be a leader in an

increasingly globalized world, how topics such as global competency, intercultural understanding, diversity, and global awareness impact what we do every day in Greater Cleveland, and how young professionals can help shape the region of Northeast Ohio through a more global lens.

“I am enjoying the LEADS program a lot,” said participant Pacifique Niyonzima. “CCWA is investing in the participants so much. I cannot wait to apply the knowledge gained through the LEADS program to make a global impact”

STRENGTHENING GLOBAL EDUCATION IN LOCAL CLASSROOMS THROUGH BRIDGES TO THE WORLD

| CCWA is proud to support local educators through our teacher professional development programs. Our goal is to bring complex world affairs to life for local students so that they become informed citizens who understand different global issues and their impact on our communities and the world.

During the 2020-2021 school year, we provided professional development workshops for 15 educators from 11 schools on global protests. This year, we specifically focused on providing materials and curriculum that work in remote or hybrid models of learning.



ABOVE The inaugural class of LEADS program participants joined with other local leaders and educators in advancing their training on international issues and perspectives.



61 Academic WorldQuest Students from 6 Schools
ACROSS 13 TEAMS

877 Model UN Participants

41 Schools Sent MUN Students

23 Workshops for Students & Teachers

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

Educational Programs Support Educators and Students

CCWA's student programming offered familiar faces and enriching opportunities in a year where many school schedules were upended by the pandemic.

LOCAL STUDENTS EXCEL AT ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST | On February 25, CCWA hosted the Northeast Ohio Academic WorldQuest competition, which tests high schools students' knowledge of world affairs and foreign policy. Three local teams qualified for the National Competition in Washington DC, and the team from Hathaway Brown scored sixth place in the National Competition. Congratulations to this team for its national success and to all students for their participation!

JUNIOR WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCILS BRING THE WORLD TO LOCAL CLASSROOMS | This past year, it has been our priority to support educators and students during these challenging pandemic times. Our JWAC program has been uniquely positioned to quickly respond to the changing needs of students and educators: our JWAC resources supported virtual learning and provided students with a window to the world. Through this program, we provided curriculum units that helped students explore topics that were making news around the world, such as racial justice, global health, refugees and global migration, U.S.-China Relations, Turkey and the European Union, and more.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS OFFERS A WINDOW TO THE WORLD | "My kids learned a lot this year and were grateful to have Model UN amongst the madness that was the rest of our school year," reflects Margaret Reed, a Model UN teacher from Archbishop Hoban High School. Her sentiment reflects the feedback from many of our school partners. In the past year, we saw a demand for our Model UN program as students and educators sought opportunities to connect with others, to have virtual international education experiences, and to find ways to explore the current moment and the global impact of the pandemic in the classroom. CCWA hosted its first ever virtual Model UN conferences and we engaged 877 students from 41 high schools and middle schools through the year. Saint Joseph Academy's Model UN teacher, Lisa Lesh, emphasized the importance of the Model UN program: "Through awareness, students become better global citizens. CCWA programs enhance skills necessary for life outside of the classroom. The skills students gain through this program are essential for the next level of their education, the workplace and the world."

"We try to encourage our students to be critical thinkers. CCWA's Model UN encourages this. Students have to look at things from someone else's perspective. This allows students to learn how to be more compassionate toward other views as well as reflect on their own views. MUN helps with our mission of not teaching our students what to think, but how to think."

Lisa Lesh
MODEL UN TEACHER
SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY



273 International
Visitors

77 Countries
Represented

43 Citizen
Diplomats

GLOBAL GUESTS & VIRTUAL VISITORS

International Exchanges Inspire Global Change for Good

CCWA is proud to foster global conversations about topics that help change the world for the better. CCWA's international exchanges convene emerging leaders from around the world and facilitate global conversations about how to improve our communities through action, innovation and collaboration.

This past year, we welcomed 273 visitors from 77 countries through the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program and other exchanges. We hosted a range of virtual dialogues on topics including Trafficking in Persons; Civic Engagement in Elections; Developing Museum Exhibits; Promoting Biomedical Innovation; and more.

"Through this [exchange] program, I learned that I am an important part of my society, and that I am capable of making the change that I so desperately want to see," said a participant in the Andean Young Leaders Program from Ecuador. "I learned that, of all the resources around me, the power within me is an important resource."

SPOTLIGHT: DIVERSITY & INCLUSION | Diversity and inclusion is first and foremost

a matter of representation. When CCWA hosted a virtual program for a group of disability rights advocates from Belarus, many of whom had disabilities themselves, we wanted to make sure that their lived experience was represented by the local experts that we involved in the program.

The Council intentionally recruited a speaker pool in which the majority were people with disabilities themselves. In the spirit of "nothing about us without us," our speakers were able to engage with the group more authentically through the shared perspective of leading, advocating, and living with a disability. Feedback on CCWA's approach to inclusiveness from program participants and from our federal partners was extremely positive.

"Thank you for including us in an important global discussion on antisemitism and Holocaust education. Although we are living in different countries and speaking different languages, we still face similar challenges. Through your facilitation, our local experiences become global learning opportunities and encourage the development of new ideas."

Dahlia Fisher

DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS
MALTZ MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE

FOR MORE ON INTERNATIONAL VISITORS, SEE THE IMPACT SECTION ON THE NEXT PAGE

THE COUNCIL BY NUMBERS

A Year of International Impact in a Changing Environment



- 26% AFRICA
- 26% EUROPE
- 21% MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA
- 15% ASIA
- 8% WESTERN HEMISPHERE
- 4% OCEANIA



- 33% GOV'T & LAW ENFORCEMENT
- 30% CIVIL SOCIETY & DIVERSITY
- 17% HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT
- 13% EDUCATION & TECH
- 5% ARTS & MEDIA
- 2% ENTREPRENEURSHIP/BUSINESS

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR TOPICS

Select topics of CCWA-hosted internal visitor leadership programs included:

Sports for Development and Preventing Substance Abuse

Promoting Freedom of Expression: Visual Arts Management

Countering Holocaust Distortion and Denial

Civic Engagement in Elections

Developing Virtual and In-Person Museum Exhibits

Promoting Biomedical Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Combating Money Laundering

Empowering Young People with Disabilities

2020-2021
KEY FIGURES

1378
FORUM ATTENDEES
contributed to the global conversation

25
PROGRAMS
presented as part of our speaker series

273
GLOBAL VISITORS
from 77 countries took part in exchanges

Strong leadership has helped CCWA adapt, endure, and grow for almost a century. Our staff and board have remained committed to our mission in an unprecedented year.

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877
STUDENTS & EDUCATORS
engaged with the world at
Model UN conferences

41
SCHOOLS
partnered with CCWA
in educational programs

135
PARTICIPANTS
attended 17 global
competency workshops

261
ASSESSMENTS
in global competence
given by CCWA

THE COUNCIL'S CHAMPIONS

With Gratitude to Those Who Make Our Mission Possible

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- | | | | |
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| Nicole Barile | Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine | Cleveland Municipal Court | Cuyahoga County Office of Inspector General |
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| Case Western Reserve University Center for International Affairs | | Cover2 Resources | |
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“We heard from highly educated and thought-provoking individuals that brought a fascinating perspective on a range of topics. The team at CCWA did a tremendous job at maintaining a feeling of community and creating something to look forward to when we were all struggling to make sense of the Covid-19 pandemic.” **SPEAKER PROGRAMS | PG. 5**