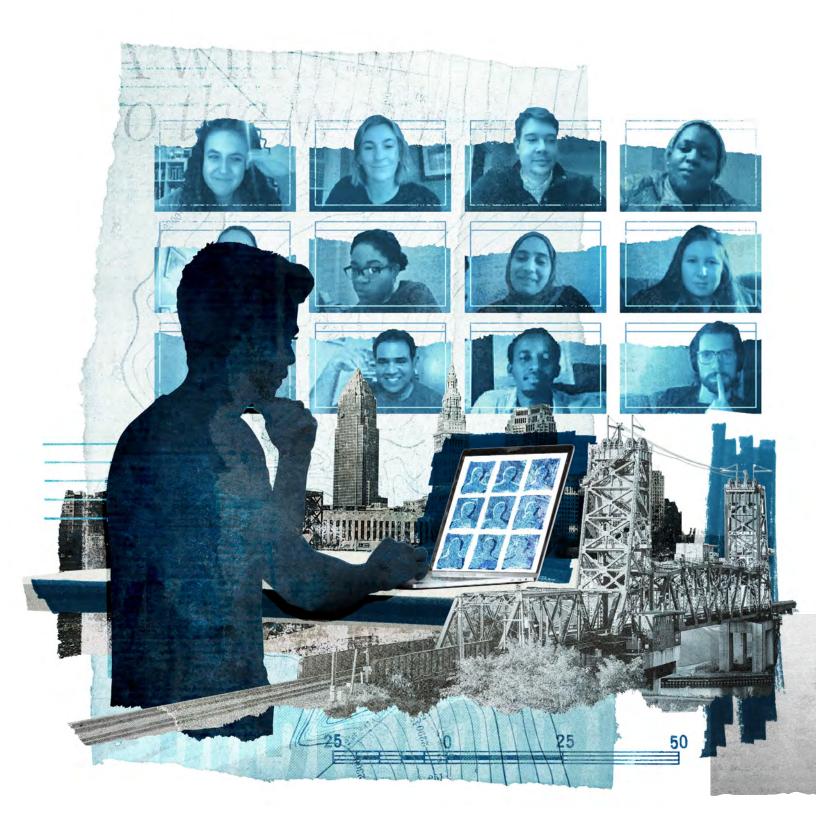
2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Cleveland Council on WORLD AFFAIRS





A Window to the World.



AT TOP The past year has seen strong connections crop up across virtual networks, as communities (including the inaugural LEADS class, shown above) and curious citizens share in global dialogue.

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 inperson 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 Heather Hodges PRESIDENT & AMBASSADOR-IN-RESIDENCE, R. HENRY NORWEB CHAIR Carter Strang CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS





FOREIGN Policy Forums

Global Health and Pandemics: A World Reshaped by COVID-19 THOMAS BOLLYKY

Foreign Policy and the 2020 Election

Crisis in the U.S.-China Relationship: What's Next for the Two Countries? SUSAN THORNTON Global Economic Outlook 2021

The United States and Iran: What Will the Next Four Years Hold?

Why Is It So Hard To Talk About Climate Change? Women and War: The Women Who Took on ISIS – and Won 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

AT TOP Through virtual forums, attendees were able to connect directly with (at top, from left) Rear Admiral Paul Becker, Celina Realuyo, Robert Gates and Karen Donfried, among others.

GLOBAL DIALOGUE

Virtual Forums Bring the World Stage Home

1270 Speaker Forum

SPEAKERS BY THE NUMBERS

5 Programs Presented

Attendees

Students Participated

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 globallyminded 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 thoughtprovoking 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

Germany and America's Changing Relationship

Security Challenges and Prospects for Peace in Colombia Emerging Powers in Sub-Saharan Africa

Countering Global Terrorist Funding and Illicit Networks

Nuclear Proliferation Risks and Concerns THOMAS COUNTRYMAN **Lebanon** in Crisis RANDA SLIM

Grand Strategy in the Asia-Pacific REAR ADMIRAL PAUL BECKI CLEVELAND COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS



Global Competence **26**



Schools Participated

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

6

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.



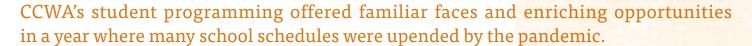
ABOVE The inaugural class of LEADS program participants joined with other local leaders and educators in advancing their training on international issues and perspectives.



ABOVE Virtual learning tools allowed students to participate in Model UN conferences, connect to classrooms across the world, and demonstrate their knowledge at academic trivia events.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

Educational Programs Support Educators and Students



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PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

Model UN Participants

Schools Sent

MUN Students

Workshops for Students & Teachers

Academic WorldQuest Students from 6 Schools

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 CLASROOMS 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



ABOVE Through the efforts of our Citizen Diplomats, international exchanges continued in an unprecedented year through virtual visits and online dialogue.

EXCHANGES BY THE NUMBERS



Countries Represented

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.

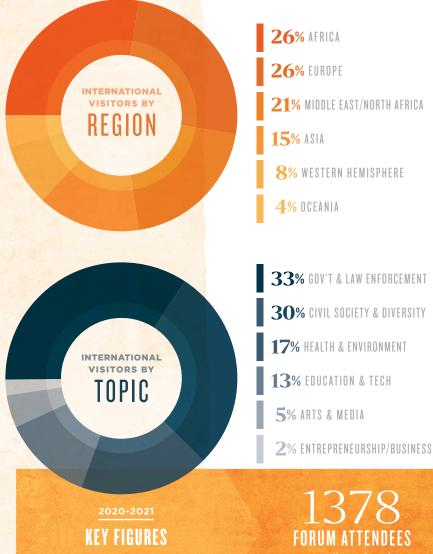
The Council intentionally recruited a speaker pool in which the majority were people with disabilities themselves. In the spirit of "nothing about us without us," our speakers were able to engage with the group more authentically through the shared perspective of leading, advocating, and living with 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



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**

25PROGRAMS **GLOBAL VISITORS**



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Martin C. Schulz

Donald A. Sinko

Monica Verma

Mark Zannoni

Nizar Zein, M.D.

David O. Zimmer

Fareed Siddig

Linda F. Robertson, Ph.D.

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8 / / STUDENTS & EDUCATORS

engaged with the world at



135 PARTICIPANTS

261 ASSESSMENTS THE COUNCIL'S CHAMPIONS

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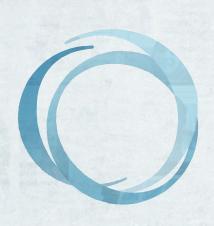
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"We heard from highly educated and thought-provoking individuals that brought a fascinating perspective on a range of topics. The team at CCWA did a tremendous job at maintaining a feeling of community and creating something to look forward to when we were all struggling to make sense of the Covid-19 pandemic." SPEAKER PROGRAMS | PG. 5

2020 ANNUAL REPORT A Window to the World.