

MISSION

Founded in 2003, The George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute (HSPI) is a nonpartisan “think and do” tank whose mission is to build bridges between theory and practice to advance homeland security through an interdisciplinary approach. By convening domestic and international policymakers and practitioners at all levels of government, the private and non-profit sectors, and academia, HSPI creates innovative strategies and solutions to current and future threats to the nation.

WHO WE ARE

STAFF

Led by HSPI Director Frank Cilluffo and Deputy Director Daniel Kaniewski, the staff have significant homeland security backgrounds that includes extensive experience with U.S. and foreign governments, non-profit organizations, think tanks, first responder organizations and academia, providing a broad array of expertise to HSPI.

STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee is a distinguished group of leaders who provide strategic direction to HSPI. The bipartisan group includes leaders who are, or have served as, Secretary of Homeland Security; Attorney General; Secretary of the Army; National Security and Homeland Security Advisors to the President; Directors of the CIA, FBI, and FEMA; Inspectors General of the Departments of State and Homeland Security; Ambassadors; military flag officers; Governors; Members of Congress; CEOs; university officials and faculty; and leaders of state, local, and nongovernmental organizations.

SENIOR FELLOWS

Senior Fellows are homeland security experts drawn from government, the private and non-profit sectors, and academia, with expertise in areas ranging from bioterrorism to critical infrastructure protection to intelligence. Senior Fellows participate in roundtable sessions with policymakers, collaborate to publish policy papers and undertake homeland security research projects.


WHAT WE DO

Through our Steering Committee, corps of Senior Fellows, staff, and international network of experts, HSPI draws upon leaders from numerous disciplines and sectors relevant to national and homeland security – defense, intelligence, counterterrorism, public diplomacy, health care, behavioral sciences, religion and emergency management to name a few. HSPI has garnered a reputation as the forum where complex security issues are debated in confidential sessions that lead to practical strategies and solutions to address the causes and consequences of terrorism. The resulting solutions provide a foundation for reducing threats to the nation and contribute to preventing the expansion of extremist groups. Our core policy work includes:

POLICY & RESEARCH

Situated at the forefront of a variety of security debates, HSPI conducts and spotlights cutting-edge policy solutions and innovative research. HSPI hosts numerous events that complement our ongoing policy work by featuring leading thinkers in a systematic way to better highlight their work and ensure exposure in key communities. Recent events in our Policy & Research Forum Series have featured the Current and Former Secretaries of Homeland Security in a National Conversation

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on the Homeland Security Environment Looking Forward; and an Address by TSA Administrator John Pistole. HSPI has also had the privilege of hosting Charlie Allen, Former DHS Undersecretary for Intelligence & Analysis and CIA Assistant Director, for a discussion on his 50+ year career in intelligence; Phil Mudd, Former Deputy Director of CIA's Counterterrorist Center and Former Deputy Director of FBI's National Security Branch; and Senator Joe Lieberman (I-CT), Representative Mike Rogers (R-MI), and former Senators Bob Graham (D-FL) and Jim Talent (R-MO) - who now serve as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the WMD Center, for a forum entitled "The Threat of Bioterrorism: Improving America's Response Capabilities." HSPI regularly publishes timely analyses of key events including: commentary on the Arab Spring, WikiLeaks, Cyber Strategy, and the Counterterrorism Implications of the Deaths of Usama bin Laden and Anwar al-Awlaki. HSPI has also released a groundbreaking report on Foreign Fighters: Trends, Trajectories & Conflict Zones; an assessment of the Gulf oil disaster, co-authored by a former FEMA Administrator; and a piece on the transition of US forces in Iraq which was followed by expert commentary solicited from key foreign policy and counterterrorism experts.

AMBASSADORS ROUNDTABLE SERIES

This ongoing forum engages ambassadors and cabinet level officials in an ongoing dialogue on international counterterrorism efforts. The series is designed to provide ambassadors to the United States and their key diplomatic staff, as well as U.S. officials and stakeholders outside government, with a forum to discuss current and future counterterrorism efforts on a regional or country-specific basis. To date, the Series has hosted 40 ambassadors from every continent including those from Iraq, China, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Israel, and the United Nations, Indonesia and Australia, as well as the U.S. Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, and the U.S. Coordinator for Counterterrorism. The United Kingdom's Home Secretary Dr. John Reid chose HSPI as the site to give his only major policy speech while visiting the United States. This Series has distinguished HSPI as a critical forum in which to learn from one another's experiences to advance security policies and promote common objectives and goals.

OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS

HSPI's work resonates with the public and across the policy spectrum. We have hosted Secretaries of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, Michael Chertoff, and Tom Ridge on multiple occasions for major policy addresses. We regularly testify before Congressional committees and government commissions on topics such as after-action reforms following Hurricane Katrina. HSPI has also presented reports on extremism and counter-radicalization efforts before the Senate and House Homeland Security Committees. These reports served as Congress' framework for multiple oversight hearings in which government policymakers and international subject matter experts were asked to respond.

HSPI staff engage the policy community and public through various publications, speeches, and conference presentations, as well as through the media. We are a leading source of insight and analysis for a variety of national and international media outlets, including major newspapers and television networks.

OUR IMPACT

HSPI's impact stretches from Washington to far-flung international capitals. By reaching across disciplines and partnering with universities and institutes, and hosting leading national and international leaders and practitioners, we are a central destination for homeland security policy analysis and debate.