

## POLICY & RESEARCH FORUM EVENTS

- On **Thursday, January 5, 2012**, HSPI hosted a Policy and Research Forum featuring **Mitchell D. Silber**, NYPD Director of Intelligence Analysis and author of *The Al Qaeda Factor: Plots Against the West*, a comprehensive look at terrorist attacks by Al Qaeda and its affiliates against Western targets.
- On **Thursday, November 10, 2011**, HSPI hosted a Policy and Research Forum featuring **John S. Pistole**, Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Administrator Pistole discussed risk-based, intelligence-driven counterterrorism efforts, and highlighted the layered security approach and advances of TSA technology over the last decade.
- On Thursday, October 20, 2011, HSPI hosted a Policy and Research Forum event entitled **“The Hybrid Threat: Crime, Terrorism and Insurgency in Mexico”**, featuring two panels of leading subject matter experts and a keynote address by **Gen. Barry McCaffrey, USA (Ret.)**. The first panel addressed two themes: strategy and doctrine to tackle today’s hybrid threat which intermixes crime, terrorism, and insurgency – including the tactics, techniques, procedures, and role of technology for each. The second panel addressed Mexico as a case study for counterinsurgency and counternarcotics efforts.
- On Tuesday, October 11, 2011, HSPI hosted a Policy and Research Forum event, entitled **“A National Conversation on the Homeland Security Environment Looking Forward: The Secretaries’ Perspective.”** The event featured the **Hon. Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security**, the **Hon. Tom Ridge, former Secretary of Homeland Security**, and the **Hon. Michael Chertoff, former Secretary of Homeland Security**. The Secretaries partook in a conversation about the future of homeland security, discussing how the nature of their work has evolved since the creation of the Department, and how to best move forward in this ever-evolving threat environment.

- On **Thursday, September 8, 2011**, the Homeland Security Policy Institute hosted a Policy & Research Forum Event featuring **Fox News National Correspondent, Catherine Herridge**, author of the book "**The Next Wave: On the Hunt for Al Qaeda's American Recruits**," a comprehensive look at the evolving homegrown terrorist threat within our borders.
- On June 14, 2011, the Homeland Security Policy Institute and the Bipartisan WMD Terrorism Research Center (WMD Center) welcomed **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 Policy & Research Forum entitled "**The Threat of Bioterrorism: Improving America's Response Capabilities**." The distinguished panelists discussed the WMD bills before the Senate and the House of Representatives, the role such legislation might play in improving America's resilience to an act of bioterrorism, and the reauthorization of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act.
- On May 24, 2011, the Homeland Security Policy Institute hosted **J.M. Berger** for a Policy and Research Forum Event to discuss his book "**Jihad Joe: Americans Who Go To War In The Name Of Islam**." Berger's book represents the first comprehensive look at the phenomenon of American jihadists.
- On April 8, 2011, the Homeland Security Policy Institute hosted a discussion on **Presidential Policy Directive – 8: National Preparedness**, featuring **Brian Kamoie**, Senior Director for Preparedness Policy on the White House National Security Staff. President Barack Obama signed the new Presidential Policy Directive on National Preparedness the week prior. The new policy outlines the President's vision for strengthening the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for threats to the security of the Nation, including acts of terrorism, pandemics, significant accidents, and catastrophic natural disasters. The Directive follows a comprehensive review of national preparedness policy and replaces Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 (HSPD-8) (2003) and HSPD-8 Annex I (2007).
- On Thursday, January 27, 2011, the Homeland Security Policy Institute hosted a Policy and Research Forum featuring the Hon. **Janet Napolitano**, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Secretary Napolitano announced that the DHS will discontinue the color-coded alerts of the Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) in favor of a new system, the National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) that will more effectively communicate information about terrorist threats by providing timely, detailed

information to the public, government agencies, first responders, airports and other transportation hubs, and the private sector. The Secretary also called upon students to apply their skills in service to their country as the next generation of homeland security leaders.

- On Monday, November 1, 2010, **Tom Ridge**, the first Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) offered key insights regarding the current threat environment, key challenges, and the way ahead during a discussion at The George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute (HSPI). The discussion was moderated by **Frank Cilluffo**, Director of HSPI. Secretary Ridge drew upon his experience at DHS to provide the audience with useful context. He noted that the forces of globalization—vital to American economic prosperity—can also become conduits for terrorism. “It’s a challenge we have to accept as part of our world,” Ridge said. “The US must engage effectively with the world to confront these issues.” At the same time, Ridge cautioned: “We should accept the reality of a post-9/11 world. It’s about managing the risk, reducing the risk. You cannot create a fail-safe system.”
- On Friday, October 1, 2010, The George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute (HSPI) hosted a Policy & Research Forum examining the foreign fighter phenomenon and the threat it poses to Western nations. The event served as the public release of a new HSPI report on *“Foreign Fighters: Trends, Trajectories & Conflict Zones”*; and featured the report’s authors: **Frank J. Cilluffo**, Director of HSPI; **Magnus Ranstorp**, HSPI Senior Fellow and Research Director of the Swedish National Defense College’s Center for Asymmetric Threat Studies; and **Jeffrey B. Cozzens**, President of White Mountain Research. HSPI Steering Committee Member **Bruce Hoffman**, Director, Center for Peace and Security Studies at Georgetown University, offered introductory remarks and moderated the roundtable discussion that followed the authors’ opening remarks.
- On June 23, 2010, Former Surgeon General of Israel, **Dr. Yehuda Danon**, offered one of the first briefings to a US audience on “**Operation Orange Flame 4**”— a recent biopreparedness exercise conducted by the Israeli Defense and Health Ministries and the Defense Forces Home Front Command. HSPI hosted the forum together with the International Security and Biopolicy Institute (ISBI). Top experts joining as panelists were **Barry Kellman**, President of ISBI, and **Dr. Eric Rose**, Member of the National Biodefense Science Board. The roundtable addressed implications for biodefense in the United States and worldwide. The threat of non-state actors acquiring weapons of mass destruction underpinned most of the discussion. “For all of human history, there has been this relationship between concentrated industrial power and the ability to kill lots and lots of people. We are at a moment in history...where the capacity to do mass violence is now something that is devolving to any group of a half dozen people,” said Kellman.

- On June 21, 2010, HSPI welcomed **Philip Mudd**, Former Deputy Director, *National Security Branch*, Federal Bureau of Investigation and Former Deputy Director, *National Counterterrorist Center*, Central Intelligence Agency. Mudd delivered **incisive remarks on al Qaeda and US responses to the threat**. “We do not face a terrorist group,” said Mudd, referring to al Qaeda. “They believe they are expanding a revolution. The end is not terrorism, and terrorism is not a strategy. The end is to foment revolution over decades.” Mudd offered his comments on al Qaeda, its affiliates, and likeminded individuals, as well as reflections on his long career combating these entities.


Mudd approached his topic from two points of view: the US view and the adversary’s view. He identified a three-part typology of the threat: 1) al Qaeda core—still a formidable threat; 2) affiliated organizations—such as Jemaah Islamiyah, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula—that share al Qaeda’s intent and ideology, and look to build their capabilities; and 3) “like-minded”—people who feel wronged and are swept along by the global revolution.

- On June 17, 2010, HSPI hosted Dr. **Paul Stockton**, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs, for a Policy & Research Forum titled “**Strengthening Unity of Effort: Challenges and New Directions**.” Stockton addressed how Defense Department (DoD) resources and personnel could be prepared to respond to gubernatorial requests during a disaster affecting more than one state. Of primary importance, he argued, would be unity of effort in support of civilian authorities – state and local. To achieve this, Stockton stated three things were necessary: increasing the flow of federal capabilities into disaster areas, establishing chains of command and control a priori, and ensuring that federal forces are responsive to guidance from state authorities. To achieve these three goals, Stockton pressed for an increase in the sharing of disaster response plans between federal and state governments.
- On May 25, 2010, HSPI co-hosted a **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Tabletop Exercise**. FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate provided opening remarks. Participants included the region’s chief administrative officers, governors’ staff, and emergency managers.
- On April 27, 2010, HSPI hosted a forum examining Israel’s movement from a concept of homeland security predicated on the threat of terrorism, to an integrated approach designed to respond to a range of hazards and emphasizing resilience. The event featured Brigadier-General (ret.) **Meir Elran**, of **The Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) at Tel Aviv University**. Frank Cilluffo, HSPI’s Director, moderated the event and roundtable discussion which brought together academic, government, and private sector leaders. Elran began his remarks by noting two key points. First, that societal resilience plays a vital role in how democracies respond to crises. Second, that it is only in the last

few years that resiliency has begun to receive serious attention in both Israel and the United States, and to challenge previous views of homeland security based upon civil defense. Elran then discussed how terrorism, potential natural disasters, and the realization that none of Israel's enemies are prepared to engage its defense forces directly, have illuminated the fact that national security is more than physical defense. According to Elran, the primary issue is the defense of society from a mental, social, cultural, and political perspective—a fact recognized by terrorists, who select targets based upon their psychological impact.

- On April 6, 2010, HSPI held a forum on **IEDs: Perceptions and the Domestic Threat**. The forum featured: Corey Gruber, Assistant Deputy Administrator, National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security; Cathy Lanier, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, DC and HSPI Steering Committee Member; Josh Meyer, Director, Education and Outreach, Medill National Security Journalism Initiative, Northwestern University, and former national security reporter for the Los Angeles Times; Mark Mueller, Acting Deputy Chief, Office for Bombing Prevention, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; Darby Miller Steiger, Principal Consultant and Director of Research for the Gallup Panel; and, Adam Thiel, Chief, Alexandria Fire Department, Alexandria, Virginia and HSPI Steering Committee Member. Panelists discussed recent polling data from the Gallup Panel regarding what Americans know about IEDs and to whom they would turn for trusted information in the event of an attack. The speakers emphasized the importance of providing concrete guidance to the public about what actions to take in the aftermath of an attack. Also highlighted was the important role individuals and businesses play as an early detector of potential threats and the need to provide them with instructions regarding how to contact authorities in the event they witness suspicious activity.
- On March 25, 2010, HSPI hosted Jamie Bartlett, Head of the Extremism and Violence programme and Senior Researcher at the British think tank Demos, and Jonathan Birdwell, Demos Researcher, in a discussion on the relationships between violent and non-violent extremists. The event represented the culmination of a two year project by Bartlett and Birdwell titled **“On the Edge of Violence?” in which they sought to differentiate radicalization that leads to violence and that which does not**. Through their research, they found important distinctions between radicals and terrorists, including a generally higher level of education, employment, and religious understanding coming from non-violent radicals. Also, the non-violent radicals that were studied did not support violent “jihad” in the West. Bartlett attempted to explain ways that the allure of groups like al-Qaeda could be countered, suggesting policies like emphasizing the inconsistency in al-Qaeda’s message, supplying mentors in “at-risk” areas with alternative resources, and taking a more liberal approach to dissent.

- On March 24, 2010, HSPI held a forum on **Cloud Computing Risks and National Security**. The forum, sponsored by Booz Allen Hamilton and Cisco Systems, included military, civilian, and private sector experts. The speakers were Tim Grance, Program Manager of Cyber and Network Security Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Dan Kent, Federal Systems Engineering Director, Cisco Systems; Dr. Michael Nelson, Visiting Professor, Georgetown University; Nils Puhmann, Co-founder and Board Member, Cloud Security Alliance; Dr. Ron Ritchey, Principal, Booz Allen Hamilton; and Henry Sienkiewicz, Technical Program Director of Computing Services, Defense Information Systems Agency. Panelists discussed the issue of leadership in the cloud computing domain, and whether the government or market forces should play a more significant role. Also emphasized was the point that the switch to cloud computing does not and should not have to happen instantly; according to Dan Kent, “it can be an evolutionary process.” Challenges such as the need for universal standards, the need for people and companies to follow those standards, and ensuring the cooperation of people and companies must be met before cloud computing can be widely used.
- On October 27, 2009, HSPI welcomed The Honorable **Charles “Charlie” Allen** for a discussion of the events and lessons learned during his half century in the US intelligence community. “I found intelligence rewarding. I’ve lived it, I’ve breathed it, I believe it is the heart of US national security and its objective is to inform – not make policy.” With that statement, Allen—Former Undersecretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence & Analysis and Former Assistant Director of Central Intelligence for Collection—began a review of the experiences and lessons learned during his career at the Central Intelligence Agency (47 years) and Department of Homeland Security (4 years).
- On October 21, 2009, HSPI and the Elliott School of International Affairs hosted former Senators **Bob Graham** and **Jim Talent**, the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission for the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction Proliferation and Terrorism, to present their interim report on government efforts to safeguard against the use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Senator Graham called the interim report “a shot across the bow, a wake-up call for Congress and the Administration.” He stressed that, “in spite of all we have done since 9/11, the U.S. is today more vulnerable to a weapon of mass destruction than we were in 2001.” In turn, Senator Talent reinforced that, “these threats are real...The difficult part is maintaining focus. No one wants to see a WMD event – but you have to keep the issue out there, you have to get these issues built into decision- making processes.”
- On September 8, 2009, HSPI welcomed **Gil Kerlikowske**, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, to discuss the Obama administration’s recently released National Southwest Border Counternarcotics Strategy, and U.S. drug policy writ large.



Frank Cilluffo, HSPI's Director, moderated the roundtable. Kerlikowske stressed the magnitude of the challenge posed by illegal narcotics, observing that the drug trade and its ancillary effects extend beyond law enforcement, and represent the “most difficult, and probably long-term, problem when it comes to everything from foreign relations, to the border, to domestic policy, to what our workforce is going to look like in the future.” The problem demands “our full and complete attention.”