



Scanning the Horizon: An Assessment of Critical Global Trends

The CSIS Global Strategy Institute (GSI) marked its first-year anniversary on April 22, 2005 with a day of strategic insight and long-range considerations. In keeping with the mandate of the Institute, the conference, entitled "Scanning the Horizon: An Assessment of Critical Global Trends," highlighted the importance of long-term thinking on the looming challenges of the decades ahead. It urged leaders to begin engaging these far-reaching issues through planning and preparation in the present. Erik Peterson, director of the CSIS Global Strategy Institute, remarked, "The message we hope to convey is that there is no excuse to allow an unwanted future to materialize."

New York Times columnist, Thomas Friedman. To view segments of Mr. Friedman's remarks, visit the GSI website at <http://www.csis.org/gsiweb/forums/friedman.html>

On the Horizon...

"While you were sleeping, we entered Globalization 3.0, from 2000, to the present. We're just at the beginning of it, and this era is shrinking the world from size 'small' to size 'tiny' and flattening the global playing field at the same time," asserted **Thomas L. Friedman**, columnist for the *New York Times*. Mr. Friedman introduced his latest book, *The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*, in a luncheon address discussing the book's conclusions and how he met them. Excerpts from his address can be viewed on the new GSI web site: <http://gsi.csis.org/>.



Vice Admiral Thad W. Allen, chief of staff of the United States Coast Guard (USCG), in a special distinguished address entitled "Navigating the Future," discussed inter-agency coordination and the role future scenarios-based planning has played in strengthening the capabilities of the USCG, specifically in bolstering maritime security. He compared the complexities of controlling airspace to controlling millions of square miles of open water under a highly complex, varying legal code that cedes a good deal more sovereignty to vessels.

Tim Bolderson and Richard O'Brien, founding partners of UK-based Outsights, reported on their recent study for the British government, "Scenarios for the Poorest." They shared their techniques and logic in creating a snapshot of what the future will look like for the more than 1 billion people living in extreme poverty, "who are disconnected from society and have little to gain

from growth and development processes." Government and multi-lateral agencies, businesses, non-governmental organizations, media outlets and scholars from 10 countries were involved in creating this multi-stakeholder report. Future scenarios examined included the movement of people, the rising economic and political power of the BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China) vis-à-vis the G-7, targeting technologies to address the needs of the poor, and changing attitudes—of greater compassion—toward global poverty.

J. Steven Morrison, director of the CSIS Africa Program, considered "The Global Outlook for HIV/AIDS." Morrison's work is part of the ongoing HIV/AIDS task force at CSIS. He devoted special attention to the potential second wave of the virus—particularly in India and China—and upgrading governance to deal with the pandemic.



Vice Admiral Thad W. Allen, chief of staff of the U.S. Coast Guard, discussing the role of scenarios-based planning in strengthening the capabilities of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Erik Peterson, director of the CSIS Global Strategy Institute, and **Peter Davies**, director of the Geoscience and Environment Center at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), presented the case of



Clark Murdock, CSIS Senior Advisor and director of the Beyond Goldwater-Nichols project, outlining the characteristics of a "future thinker" and how organizations can institutionalize such thinking.



"The Global Challenge of Water." Peterson and Davies lead the ongoing, joint CSIS-SNL Global Water Futures Project. They suggested ways that governments can begin to leverage solutions to coming water scarcity and quality challenges by establishing approaches that utilize policies and new technologies in concert.

Clark Murdock, CSIS senior adviser, engaged the topic of "Redefining Organizational Responses: Giving the Future a Seat at the Table." Murdock has been a leading force behind the CSIS Beyond Goldwater-Nichols project. In his presentation, Murdock considered how organizations can ensure that a future-thinker gets a say in day-to-day decision-making, and how a future-thinker might best assert himself or herself in this same process.

Carmen A. Medina, associate deputy director for intelligence at the Directorate of Intelligence of the Central Intelligence Agency, delivered the final panel presentation on "Astronomy and Analysis." Medina examined means to transform intelligence analysis from retrospective to predictive.

Panel One discussing strategic global trends: (Left to Right) Richard O'Brien, Outsights; Erik Peterson, CSIS; Peter Davies, Sandia National Laboratories; Tim Bolderson, Outsights; J. Steven Morrison, CSIS.



CSIS Global Strategy Institute Debuts Two New Websites

Visit the CSIS Global Strategy Institute Home Page

gsi.csis.org

Visit the Global Water Futures website

www.csis.org/gsiweb/waterweb



AMBASSADOR THOMAS R. PICKERING
BOEING COMPANY SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
CSIS GLOBAL STRATEGY INSTITUTE ADVISOR

Amb. Tom Pickering delivered the dinner keynote address at the CSIS Global Strategy Institute's first-anniversary conference, "Scanning the Horizon: An Assessment of Critical Global Trends." Amb. Pickering's talk, "Global Trends: Planning for the Future", considered key countries, regions and drivers of change that will shape the world out to the year 2025 and beyond. He referenced studies on long-term global trends underway at Boeing, as well as key findings presented in the CSIS Global Strategy Institute's Seven Revolutions Initiative, and through the National Intelligence Council's 2020 Project. Amb. Pickering also drew from his remarkable Foreign Service career, which spanned five decades. Amb. Pickering is former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and, amazingly, served as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, the Russian Federation, India, Israel, El Salvador, Nigeria, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

ON THE BALANCE OF POWERS: "China and India are likely to emerge as key global players. But don't count out Europe in the form of the EU, or even Russia or Brazil from that result as well. Japan will be under greater stress competing with China—as we have seen in recent weeks."

ON THE FUTURE OF THE UNITED STATES: "Persistent regional frictions and high resource stakes—oil and water—together with the limited capacity for self-defense of key allies suggest that the defense of borders will continue to be a central task of U.S. air and space power. New asymmetric threats, however, will force the United States to adapt to new national and war-fighting strategies."

ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN UNION: "The EU is likely to develop as a multi-speed entity with different groupings of countries leading the way on different issues."

"There is a wide range of possible futures for Greater Europe, but even the most positive predicts that Russia will not be robustly democratic and prosperous, and that a unified European Union will present challenges as well as opportunities, particularly once the EU enlarges to include less-developed countries in Eastern and Central Europe."

ON THE FUTURE OF CHINA: "The main threats to China's security will probably be internal rather than external. To secure borders in the new millennium, China will need to enhance not only its military capabilities, but also to focus on its financial, information and ecological security. China must continue developing both its 'hardware'—per capita GNP, infrastructure, living standards and modernization—and also its 'software'—democratic institutions, legal reform and the global awareness of the general population."

ON THE FUTURE OF GLOBALIZATION: "The geopolitical landscape of the world will be constantly changing with the tide of globalization. Globalization and interdependence will create more transnational problems that will require state and non-state actor cooperation. Such problems will include increasing border porosity, transnational crime, energy demand and its impact on global warming, lack of non-state actor transparency, and the concentration of population growth among the global poor."

ON THE FUTURE OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: "Resource management has been among the least-publicized problems in the world, but is perhaps one of the most critical areas of concern, with implications ranging from climate change to the prospect of armed conflict. The challenge of finding alternative energy sources, however, also presents some of the most promising opportunities of the 21st century."

ON THE FUTURE OF CONFLICT: "Over the next few decades, developed states will need to contend with asymmetric threats, in which states and non-state aggressors (such as terrorists) avoid direct engagements with an adversary and instead devise strategies, tactics and weaponry to minimize strengths and expose perceived weaknesses. Developed states will also face strategic Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) threats, as the unconventional delivery capabilities of states and non-state aggressors grow. Regional military threats, in which a few countries maintain large military forces with a variety of concepts and technologies, will also persist."



To read the complete text of Ambassador Pickering's remarks, visit the GSI website at
<http://www.csis.org/gsiweb/forums/pickering.html>