

It is hard to believe that it's been less than half a year since I was given the great honor and responsibility of leading these two esteemed and dynamic organizations. As you'll find in this inaugural newsletter produced by our talented staff, it has been action-packed!

This past year, we have worked in new and creative ways to support the diplomatic talks to prevent a nuclear-armed Iran. As we go to press, it looks likely we have succeeded in preserving funding

for critical non-proliferation programs and increasing transparency in spending on our nuclear weapons forces. We have also exposed Pentagon budget gimmicks and defense strategies that do not serve our national security—such as unworkable missile defense and unaffordable nuclear modernization plans.

This election cycle, we raised more money than ever before for congressional candidates who share our goals of increasing peace and security and reducing the threat of nuclear weapons. While we are proud of this and know it helps us to influence policy, it was, of course, an extremely disappointing election.

The challenging political environment in Washington and the increasing complexity of global security make our work more pressing than ever. Next year, we can expect defense hawks to continue to call for boots on the ground in Iraq, sanctions or military strikes on Iran, and escalating conflict with Russia.

Thus we will be working to prevent a return to politics of the past

by defending progress made on a range of issues, including diplomacy with Iran, Pentagon and nuclear weapons spending, and cooperation with Russia on arms control and nuclear non-proliferation. We will be pushing for non-military solutions in Iraq and Syria. We will be urging President Obama to ensure his legacy includes increasing global nuclear security and reducing the role of nuclear weapons in our national security strategy. We will be maximizing our influence in the 2016 elections through new candidate outreach and voter turnout programs.

If we want a more livable world, it will require innovation and investment. We need to hear from you, our engaged supporters. The Council and Center are ramping up our hard-hitting, fact-based analysis and advocacy, plus looking for creative approaches to persistent problems. As we redouble our efforts, we hope you will too.

Thank you again for your support, and for all that you do. ■

Extending Diplomacy

Iran Talks Given More Time



As we go to press, negotiators with Iran have just announced they will extend nuclear talks to July 2015, with the aim of achieving a framework agreement

by March.

We are encouraged to see the U.S. so committed to diplomacy, instead of racing to war, and to see Iran's compliance with the interim agreement. Iran's nuclear program has been frozen and scaled back, progress which will continue under the additional extension.

In the weeks leading up to the deadline, we called upon our top influencers to urge their Members of Congress to give diplomacy all it needs to succeed. As news of the extension emerged, we quickly warned Congress against imposing new sanctions, and to allow negoti-

ators time and space to press for a comprehensive and verifiable deal that will prevent a nuclear-armed Iran. Our experts Jim Walsh (Council Board) and Ed Levine (Center National Advisory Board) have been published and quoted often in support of a diplomatic deal. Finally, we also invited our members and supporters to a briefing on the extension with our own Laicie Heeley and other experts.

We will continue to keep you informed of progress. A deal is within reach, and we must ensure that this historic moment is not lost. ■

2014 Elections & National Security

Flickr Photo by Stephen Melkisetian

There is no way to sugar-coat it: the 2014 elections have knocked us down and set us back—way back.

Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) is the new Senate Majority Leader. Gridlock, which already paralyzes Washington, is only expected to get worse.

Democrats, who enjoyed a slim 55-45 lead in the Senate heading into Election Day, faced an extremely unfavorable environment and Republicans took the majority 53-46 (at press time). Tradition-

ally, the party controlling the White House loses seats in the second mid-term election, and 2014 was no exception. In addition, only 14 Republican Senate seats were up for grabs, compared to the 21 Democratic seats—seven of which were in states carried by Mitt Romney in 2012.

There were, however, a few bright spots for national security progressives. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) narrowly avoided an upset against former Massachusetts Senator Scott Brown. In Michigan, Gary Peters (D) swept to victory. And candidates such as Sen. Al Franken (D-MN) and Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR), who both faced tight races six years ago, easily won re-election.

Republicans will not have a completely free hand: they lack

the 60 votes required to overcome a filibuster, and they most definitely will not have 67 votes to overcome a presidential veto without support from Democrats. In his first six years, Obama only vetoed two measures. That is sure to change.

In this election cycle, Council for a Livable World raised more than \$2.2 million for candidates who share our goals for increasing peace and security—more than in any previous election cycle. This support means our issues will have the attention of allies in Congress when it matters most.

We must pick ourselves up and redouble our lobbying and political efforts. We are already engaging with our allies and looking for new partners on Capitol Hill. Starting today, we will just have to work a bit harder. ■

Nuclear Weapons & Pentagon Budget

Current U.S. national security spending is not sustainable, nor is it tied to a coherent strategy to meet 21st century threats. The U.S. is slated to spend an estimated \$1 trillion on nuclear weapons over the next 30 years, while our most pressing national concerns get short shrift.

Thanks to the budget caps set by the Budget Control Act, we've managed to keep the Pentagon budget on the chopping block, but loopholes abound. The most egregious example continues to be the use of the Overseas Contingency Operations account as a Pentagon slush fund. We have our work cut out for us, as we expect more bud-

get gimmickry and unnecessary Pentagon spending in the next Congress.

On his way out of Obama's cabinet, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced a \$7.5 billion increase in spending on the nuclear enterprise over the next five years to address a recent rash of safety concerns. Angela Canterbury told the Wall Street Journal, "They are going to throw billions of dollars at this problem, which is like throwing billions of dollars at dial-up Internet." The path to greater security isn't greater spending, but rather scrapping unrealistic modernization plans and reducing the number of weapons.

From the President's budget request to every relevant spending bill brought to the floor, we're providing critical analysis that is valued on the Hill, in the administration,

Relevant	Irrelevant
?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ISIL in Syria & Iraq Syrian Civil War Ebola Outbreaks Somali Militants Libyan Disintegration Gaza War Ukraine Crisis Boko Haram in Nigeria Afghanistan Government Failure
<p>Let's NOT spend \$1,000,000,000,000 on weapons of the past that don't solve the threats of today.</p>	

and by the media. This year, we will be looking for even more innovative ways to highlight the need to re-balance our spending priorities while enhancing national security. ■



White House Photo

Leaving a Legacy

Of Sensible Nuclear Weapons Policies

Every president tries to make the most of the last two of their place in history.

President Obama has already made it clear that he intends to add immigration reform and climate change to his legacy. We will work to ensure that historic progress on nuclear security and reducing the role of nuclear weapons in our national security strategy are prioritized in his agenda.

The president already has made impressive progress, including the New START nuclear reductions treaty of 2010 and securing nuclear material in 13 countries. But more can and must be done.

Fortunately, there are a number of issues on which President Obama can take action without an affirmative vote in Congress, including further reducing the number of nuclear weapons, decreasing the alert level of nuclear forces, and reducing plans to spend on unaffordable nuclear weapons modern-

ization.

In 2015, there are at least three high-profile opportunities for President Obama to show continued leadership: the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference in the spring, a potential trip to Japan in August for the 70th anniversary of the only nuclear weapons attacks in history, and Pope Francis' September visit to the United States. In 2016, the U.S. will host the next Nuclear Security Summit.

Unfortunately, the political climate for more progress on securing loose nuclear materials in Russia has become more challenging, given recent Russian aggression. Now is the time to ensure President Obama is not unduly influenced by the saber rattling of Russian President Putin, but rather that he continues to seek to cooperate with Russia to increase global security and makes good on his promise to "reduce the role of nuclear weapons in our national security strategy, and urge others to do the same." ■

Engaging Russia

For the last 20 years, the United States and Russia have cooperated in efforts to secure the former Soviet Union's nuclear weapons and materials from terrorist groups and rogue states. But tensions between the two countries have brought cooperation on this vital issue to a near halt. Building upon past progress and preventing a backslide is a high priority for us in 2015.

“ Cooperation will require leaders from both countries to transcend geopolitical posturing and prioritize the threat of nuclear terrorism ”

- General Robert Gard & Nick Roth
in *The National Interest*

We are leveraging our influence on the Hill and in the executive branch to create support for continued progress on nuclear security, while thinking creatively about other ways to support cooperation. In addition to creating a political space for diplomacy, we will work to preserve non-proliferation and nuclear security funding. Failure on this issue puts the United States, Russia, and the rest of the world at risk.

There are plenty of examples of continued cooperation on nuclear security, in spite of political tensions, including the historic cooperation between Reagan and Gorbachev. If there was ever an issue that ought to push two rivals to work together, the shared security of preventing nuclear terrorism has to be it. ■

2014 By the Numbers

2117 Tweets by @LivableWorld and @Nukes_of_Hazard

216 Blogs written by staff & Board Members

175 Press Mentions for Center & Council staff, Board Members, and our work

\$2.2 million Dollars raised in this year's elections (a new record!)

Council & Center Events in 2014



The Council and Center were busier than ever this year hosting a number of events honoring our past, thanking our leaders, and looking toward the future. In April, long-time supporters of the Council and Center gathered in Boston to honor the memory of their former leader, Jerome Gross-

man. While ushering in new Executive Director, Angela Canterbury, the Council, Center and PeacePAC bestowed the 2014 Father Robert F. Drinan National Peace and Human Rights Award on House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Senator Carl Levin, and Congressman John Lewis. These leaders have shown a special commitment to a more just and peaceful world. With considerable help from Council Board Member Terry Lierman, the event was a smashing success with each honoree giving a stirring speech to a packed room.

The Council returned to Boston to provide supporters with post-election commentary from Executive Director Angela Canterbury, Senior Fellow John Isaacs, Women's Action for New Directions



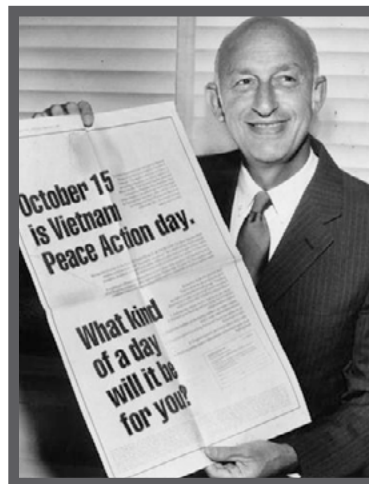
Executive Director Susan Shaer and Win Without War Executive Director Tom Andrews. The attendance at the Election Forum and Reception was a multi-generational mix of board members, supporters, local activists and college students who were highly engaged in the conversation on the future of national security. In 2015, we will continue to look for more ways to reach our supporters, especially young people, with more exciting event opportunities. ■

Remembering Jerry Grossman

Chairman Emeritus

A year ago, we lost Jerome Grossman, chairman emeritus of Council for a Livable World, who served as Council chairman from 1991 to 2006, and executive director and president of both the Council and Center from 1980 to 1991.

Grossman's roots as a peace activist and opponent of nuclear weapons ran deep. He originated the idea for the Oct. 15, 1969, Vietnam Moratorium, which drew an estimated 100,000 antiwar protesters to Boston Common in what was



then the biggest demonstration in Boston history.

The next year, he managed the anti-Vietnam War congressional campaign of Rev. Robert Drinan,

then dean of the Boston College Law School. Drinan won a major upset over a pro-war 14-year Democratic incumbent.

In 1980, he assumed leadership of Council for a Livable World, where he continued to promote progressive candidates and nuclear disarmament. His 26-year leadership spanned many important arms control treaties and successful opposition to new nuclear weapons. This year, Council for a Livable World, the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation and PeacePAC honored him with the Father Robert F. Drinan Peace and Human Rights Awards post-humously at a special event in West Newton, MA. ■

Council for a Livable World is a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to reducing the danger of nuclear weapons and increasing national security. Our mission is to advocate for sensible national security policies and to help elect congressional candidates who support those.

The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation is the sister, non-partisan research organization and is dedicated to enhancing international peace and security in the 21st century.