



# CFR Convenes Global Think Tanks for Annual “Council of Councils”

In early March, the Council convened twenty foreign policy organizations from around the world for the second annual Council of Councils (CoC) Conference. The CoC is an initiative that connects global thought leaders in a discussion of critical governance challenges.

“The Council of Councils was created in order to look at the gap between global challenges and global arrangements,” said CFR President **Richard N. Haass**. “In some cases the idea is to hatch new institutions, in other cases to look at adapting existing ones.”

Roughly tracking the membership of the Group of Twenty, the CoC fosters candid, high-level dialogue among leaders from established and emerging nations through regional conferences held throughout the year. The discussions culminate in an annual meeting that enhances cooperation on common problems, builds support for innovative ideas, and injects remedies into the public debate and policymaking processes of member countries. The CoC also considers long-term structural reforms that are intended to strengthen the governance capacity of international and regional institutions.

Speaking on the global economy, First Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund **David Lipton** cautioned, “There’s no substitute for maintaining good policies, but I think that all of us have realized that the growing linkages coming from globalization and technology make this a much more interdependent world.” Lipton’s meeting was the only session on the record, and the video is available on CFR.org.

At this year’s meeting, the CoC tackled five major themes:

- multilateral approaches to climate change
- new goals and frameworks for international development
- global, regional, and plurilateral approaches to revitalize the trade agenda
- rules for governing outer space
- the status of global Internet governance *cf*



Ambassador Andrés Rozentel, Mexican Council on Foreign Relations



Thierry de Montbrial, French Institute for International Relations; Daniela Schwarzer, German Institute for International and Security Affairs; Thomas Gomart, French Institute for International Relations; and Stewart Patrick, Council on Foreign Relations





At podium, David Lipton of the IMF speaks on the global economy.



Participants at the Council of Councils opening dinner.



Yahushi Kudo of Genron NPO, with translator, converses with Sergey Kulik from the Institute of Contemporary Development.

## Council of Councils Member Organizations

*Australia: Lowy Institute for International Policy*

*Belgium: Center for European Policy Studies*

*Brazil: Getulio Vargas Foundation*

*Canada: Center for International Governance Innovation*

*China: Shanghai Institutes for International Studies*

*Egypt: Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies*

*France: French Institute of International Relations*

*Germany: German Institute for International and Security Affairs*

*India: Center for Policy Research*

*Indonesia: Center for Strategic and International Studies*

*Israel: Institute for National Security Studies*

*Italy: Institute of International Affairs*

*Japan: Genron NPO*

*Mexico: Mexican Council on Foreign Relations*

*Nigeria: Nigerian Institute for International Affairs*

*Poland: Polish Institute of International Affairs*

*Russia: Institute of Contemporary Development*

*Singapore: S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies*

*South Africa: South African Institute of International Affairs*

*South Korea: East Asia Institute*

*Turkey: Global Relations Forum*

*United Kingdom: Chatham House;  
International Institute for Strategic Studies*