



# The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois

April 2022 | Issue No. 198

## COMMUNIQUÉ

### 2021-2022

#### Board of Directors

Bruce Strom  
President

Barbara Lestikow  
VP Membership and  
Financial Development

Adriana Crocker  
VP Program

Rochelle Arjmand  
VP Publicity

Lynn McMenamin  
Registrar

Kathy Hoffmann  
Secretary

Nat Seiz  
Treasurer

Stephen Stone  
Kathy Johnson  
Joyce Nardulli  
Georgia Winson  
Rich Berning  
Jolene Vollmer  
Megan Styles

#### IN THIS ISSUE

- Program Information
- "Sustainable Architecture"
- Membership Form
- "International Human Rights Violations and Russia"

[www.mywacci.org](http://www.mywacci.org) for Zoom log in

**April 18, 2022 at 7 pm via Zoom**

### "Sustainable Architecture"

**Speaker:**

**Asst Professor Aaron Brakke**

---

**April 28, 2022 at noon via Zoom**

### "International Human Rights Violations and Russia"

**Speaker:**

**Ambassador David J. Scheffer**

WACCI has a special month in store for you. We have our long scheduled topic "Sustainable Architecture" in honor of Earth Day on April 18th, and have just recently added another event, April 28 regarding Ukraine. With watching the ever changing events taking place in Eastern Europe, WACCI is fortunate to have Ambassador David J. Sheffer join us via Zoom to discuss Ukraine and the current situation.

The purpose of WACCI is to be able to be a space where we can come together and learn more about global topics while embracing various points of view. To quote our mission statement: "The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois (WACCI) is a civic organization dedicated to educating the public in our region about US foreign policy, global economic and environmental issues, and international politics through in-depth presentations and discussions."

WACCI has been around a long time, and indeed it was a different time in the world when it came into existence. Various topics explored global affairs including the Cold War and post Cold War. This I remember from talking with my father about his interest in WACCI, and he would mention the then Soviet Union and U.S relations quite often. My late parents Dr. Towfig and Beryl Arjmand were members for many years, and I have them to thank for introducing me to WACCI.

WACCI is a gem here in Springfield, and it appears its relevance is needed now more than ever. Having this opportunity to gain knowledge and explore relationships with other countries is invaluable.

As always, we appreciate and thank you for your continued support.

*~Rochelle Arjmand, Vice President Publicity*

## Perspective

WACCI programs are designed to make us think, to view the world from new perspectives and encourage global citizenship. Over the next few months, we will feature the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) (2015-2030) as windows into global challenges and opportunities.

Goal # 5-Gender equality and empowerment of women represents a rich and largely untapped opportunity for human flourishing across the globe. Women continue to be under-represented in political, economic and corporate decision-making. In spite of the fact that 1 in 5 women under the age of 50 will experience violence at the hands of an intimate partner in the next 12 months, 49 countries still have no laws to protect women from violence. The rights, financial capacity and independence of women is limited by discriminatory inheritance laws in 39 countries around the world.

Preliminary data regarding the effects of COVID-19 suggest that women, who are often at the frontline of caregiving, have had more difficulty accessing vaccines and treatment and will likely suffer more economic hardship due to pandemic related breaks in employment and education.

Although gender inequality may be more pronounced in under-resourced countries, we should remember that this directly affects all women (49.6% of the world's population) and those who depend upon them.

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-5-gender-equality>

April 18, 2022 at 7 pm via Zoom

## "Sustainable Architecture"

**Speaker:**  
**Asst Professor Aaron Brakke**

Earth Day is coming up this month and we are pleased to have with us Aaron Brakke to discuss "Sustainable Architecture" on Monday April 18, 2022 at 7 pm via Zoom webinar. He is an Assistant Professor in School of the Arts, Department of Architecture & Interior Design at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

Aaron Brakke, earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Design, a Bachelor of Architecture and a Master of Architecture II from Ball State University. He worked for several architectural firms in New York including Joseph Giovannini Associates and at Archi-tectonics. He is a licensed architect in Colombia and is the founder and director of Whiteknee, a design and architecture studio based in Bogota. Prior to Samford, he held positions at the University of Illinois and Universidad Piloto de Colombia. He founded labs at each of these institutions and led multidisciplinary teams. Professor Brakke's research agenda is focused on the collective construction of imaginaries, participatory design, and co-creation of the built environment. This work has leveraged the capacities of computational tools to



visualize, communicate, design, and fabricate prototypes. The primary sites of his design research are in Latin American zones where there are high levels of social and spatial tension. Professor Brakke has received design awards for this work and has received international recognition through publications and through participation in exhibitions in Europe and the Americas. For this presentation, Dr. Brakke will describe his experiences of urban interventions, participatory design projects, and sustainable architecture.

---

## WACCI Membership Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your membership level:

\_\_\_\_\_ Benefactors - \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ Sustainers - \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ Supporters - \$100

\_\_\_\_\_ Friends - \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ Students - \$10

Send form, checks, and/or requests for information to

WACCI, Box 2233, Springfield, 62705

**April 28, 2022 at noon via Zoom**

**“International Human Rights Violations and Russia”**

**Speaker:**

**Ambassador David J. Scheffer**



David J. Scheffer is senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), with a focus on international law and international criminal justice. Scheffer is Clinical Professor Emeritus and Director Emeritus of the Center for International Human Rights at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in Chicago, International Francqui Professor at KU Leuven (Belgium), Professor of Practice at Arizona State University, and Vice-President of the American Society of International Law.

From 2012 to 2018 he was the U.N. Secretary-General’s Special Expert on U.N. Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials and he was the Tom A. Bernstein Genocide Prevention Fellow working with the Ferencz International Justice Initiative at the Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (2019-2021).

During the second term of the Clinton Administration (1997-2001), Scheffer was the first ever U.S. Ambassador at Large for War Crimes Issues and led the U.S. delegation to the U.N. talks establishing the International Criminal Court (ICC). He signed the Rome Statute of the ICC on behalf of the United States on December 31, 2000. He negotiated the creation of five war crimes tribunals: the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia

and Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, and the ICC. He chaired the Atrocities Prevention Inter-Agency Working Group (1998-2001). During the first term of the Clinton Administration (1993-1997), Scheffer served as senior advisor and counsel to the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Dr. Madeleine Albright, and he served on the Deputies Committee of the National Security Council.

Scheffer worked on the staff of the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs (1987 to 1989) and as an analyst at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (1989 to 1993) and the U.S. Institute of Peace (2001 to 2002). He was a CFR International Affairs Fellow in 1986 to 1987. Scheffer was senior vice president of the United Nations Association of the United States from 2002 to 2003. His past academic positions include visiting professorships at Georgetown University Law Center, George Washington University Law School, and Northwestern University School of Law. He held an endowed professorship at Northwestern Law from 2006 to 2020 and was director of the Center for International Human Rights there from 2006 to 2019. He was an associate attorney with the international law firm of Coudert Brothers from 1979 to 1986.

Scheffer received the Berlin Prize in 2013 and was in residence at the American Academy of Berlin during the fall of 2013. He received the 2020 Dr. Jean Mayer Global Citizenship Award of Tufts University and the Champion of Justice Award of the Center for Justice and Accountability in 2018. Foreign Policy

magazine selected him as a “Top Global Thinker of 2011.” Among his more recent publications are the award-winning *All the Missing Souls: A Personal History of the War Crimes Tribunals* (Princeton, 2012), and *The Sit Room: In the Theater of War and Peace* (Oxford, 2019). For decades he has been publishing widely about international law and politics in law reviews, political journals, and on op-ed pages. He was the CNN International commentator for the Saddam Hussein trial and appears frequently in the media.

Scheffer earned degrees from Harvard College, Oxford University (where he was a Knox Fellow), and Georgetown University Law Center. He is a member of the New York, District of Columbia, and Supreme Court bars. He is a native of Norman, Oklahoma.



P.O. Box 2233  
Springfield, IL 62705

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Springfield, IL  
Permit No. 443

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Your international  
connection begins with  
**[www.mywacci.org](http://www.mywacci.org)**



### Institutional and Corporate Contributors

**Partner:**



**Educational Collaborators:**

University of Illinois, Springfield  
Lincoln Land Community College  
SIU School of Medicine



**HEAR, HERE.**

Listen every morning

morning edition

npr Illinois 91.9 UIS