

ATLAS

ECONOMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

WINTER 2009

HIGHLIGHTS

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NEW LOOK FOR HIGHLIGHTS

2009 has come with a lot of exciting changes at Atlas. You may have noticed that Highlights is no exception. Atlas would like to thank graphic designer Carolyn Crowley (ccgraphicdesign-studio.com) for the new look. We also welcome your feedback about the new design, and your general suggestions about how to continue improving *Highlights*. Send your ideas to **Highlights Editor Luke Seidl** by emailing luke.seidl@atlasnetwork.org.

AT ATLAS

NEW DIVISION AT ATLAS

The cover story of this issue of *Highlights* concerns a friendly transaction with the Cato Institute, which has brought Tom Palmer and his team of multi-lingual freedom champions to Atlas. Tom will join Atlas as Vice President for International Programs and the General Director of the Atlas Global Initiative for Free Trade, Peace, and Prosperity. See pages 3-4 for details.



CHARLES E. ALBERS, NEWEST MEMBER OF THE ATLAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chuck Albers was recently elected to join the Atlas Board of Directors. Chuck has long been an active contributor to the cause for liberty and free markets. He received a B.A. in Economics from Kenyon College (Ohio) and Masters of Business Administration from Columbia University. After over 30 years as a mutual fund manager, Chuck retired in 2003 and serves on a variety of non-profit Boards. (Photo: Jo Kwong, Julie Planck, Chuck Albers)

"If you have never done so, I highly recommend Atlas events to everyone who has an interest in meeting people from across the globe. Everyone I've met through Atlas has an incredible passion to share, teach, and advance freedom. It's completely energizing!"

-CHUCK ALBERS



2000 N. 14TH ST, STE 550
ARLINGTON, VA 22201
TEL 703 934 6969
WWW.ATLASNETWORK.ORG

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 that works with think tanks and individuals around the world to advance a vision of a society of free and responsible individuals, based upon private property rights, limited government under the rule of law and the market order.



ATLAS WELCOMES RAINER HEUFERS AS SENIOR FELLOW

After successfully developing Atlas's inaugural Think Tank MBA program in Summer 2008, Rainer Heufers joined Atlas as its newest Senior Fellow. Rainer is the resident representative of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Liberty in Jakarta, Indonesia.

ATLAS HONORED WITH 4-STAR

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation is proud to announce that it has earned Charity Navigator's coveted 4-star rating for sound fiscal management for the third year in a row. From Charity Navigator:

"Only 11% of the charities [Charity Navigator] rates have received at least 3 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that the Atlas Economic Research Foundation consistently executes its mission in a fiscally responsible way, and outperforms most other charities in America."

BUILDING ON THE WORK OF THE TEMPLETON *Freedom* AWARDS



In 2003, Atlas launched the Templeton Freedom Awards program to recognize some of the non-profit world's most outstanding, innovative contributions to free enterprise education. The prizes and other components of the program celebrate the shared interests of Atlas and its benefactor, the late Sir John Templeton.

Sir John was passionate about improving the understanding of the benefits of free competition, particularly its ability to solve problems of poverty and to encourage more ethical behavior. Just as he had done in his investing career, Sir John geared his philanthropic activities toward the search for innovative strategies and under-appreciated organizations that had the prospects of "high returns." He remarked that he gave to Atlas as a way to assist scores of good organizations all around the world, who share this fundamental appreciation for the ideas of liberty.

Atlas is extremely grateful and honored that the John Templeton Foundation has announced its continued support of Atlas for the Templeton Freedom Awards for the 2009-2012 period. The new, four-year grant of \$3 million is the largest in Atlas's history, and is accompanied by a \$1 million matching challenge.

The TFA's 16 annual prizes will remain the centerpiece of this program (see pages 13-14 for coverage of our November conference celebrating the 2008 winners). But the Templeton Foundation's renewal grant also provides resources that enable Atlas to:

- Issue small "start-up grants" to new organizations that could be promising members of the Atlas network.
- Establish a Templeton Leadership Fellowship, to be awarded to a major public figure who will devote time and effort to highlighting the role of think tanks in advancing the cause of liberty.
- Partner with outstanding existing think tanks to identify and train new intellectual entrepreneurs via "Free Enterprise Centers" to be established at these institutes.

"Throughout his long life Sir John Templeton often spoke of 'people's capitalism'. His vision was that enhancement of personal opportunity and wealth through a free enterprise system bolstered by economic freedom, was the best time-tested approach to creating a culture of ownership in the productivity of one's own country and elsewhere. He saw this enhanced ownership as the surest vehicle to individual freedom, to personal goal setting and to individual dignity. Finally, he saw free enterprise as the surest escape from passive dependency to active personal fulfillment."

- JOHN M. TEMPLETON JR.



INTRODUCING...

THE ATLAS GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR FREE TRADE, PEACE, AND PROSPERITY



In January 1st Atlas launched an aggressive, globe straddling campaign to spread the ideas of liberty in more than fourteen languages. The programs were initially pioneered by the Cato Institute's Center for the Promotion of Human Rights, led by Dr. Tom G. Palmer, and have been entrusted to Atlas to advance and to integrate with Atlas's extensive worldwide network of think tanks.

Dr. Palmer will head up this effort, renamed the Atlas Global Initiative for Free Trade, Peace and Prosperity, and join the Atlas staff as its Vice President for International Programs. Atlas Executive Vice President Brad Lips talked to Palmer in between trips to China and the Middle East.

Brad Lips: *Where did you get the idea for these amazing projects?*

Tom Palmer: In the late 1980s I moved to Austria to smuggle anti-communist and pro-liberty books, photocopiers, and fax machines into the Soviet Bloc countries. I helped establish a number of free-market groups in those countries. So I've always had something of a missionary attitude and, after 9/11, started doing more work in the Middle East. The idea for our strategy of aggressive branding and integration of programs around a website came from two sources: a prominent Norwegian businessman who strongly supports the freedom movement taught me how important branding is, and *Amazon.com*, which uses a website address as a memorable way to access their products and services. That's what we try with our various *LampOfLiberty.org* programs, for example.

BL: *How did you choose which languages to work in?*

TP: We explore regions where we can add value and either start or supplement locally produced efforts. The need for a platform in Arabic was really strong, for example, as there is almost no literature at all on free markets, limited government, and individual rights in that language. For whatever reasons, very little literature has ever been translated into Arabic from other languages. Now we have web-based videos, online libraries, research papers, interactive web content like quizzes and maps of economic freedom, and a regular stream of articles in daily newspapers and books from top publishers bringing the ideas of liberty to Arabic-speakers all over the world. So, regional needs matter. The second thing is having the right team. I insist on a serious business plan that maps out the market demographics,

the available resources, the strategy, the threats, and the opportunities, in addition to the usual budgetary and other items. We don't work in particular countries, per se, but in languages, which may be spoken in many countries. That way we are able to produce materials and provide them to local groups.

BL: *Let's talk about what you've accomplished so far.*

TP: We've published dozens of books in Chinese, Russian, Portuguese, Kurdish, Arabic and other languages, established regular syndication with media around the world, and recently started to pioneer libertarian videos in many languages. It's been possible because we've identified and empowered teams of people who wake up every morning thinking about how to advance individual liberty. They are passionate and intelligent. And they're profoundly entrepreneurial – always looking for better ways to reach more people. They understand that resources are scarce and you need to make sure that they generate the greatest net value. My job is to provide them with those resources to create a world of free trade, respect for property and the rule of law, toleration, limited government, and personal liberty. They are amazing people and it's an honor to be able to work with them. I'm especially proud of how the teams work together. An article originally written in Spanish can be translated into English, and from English into Russian. A video produced in French can be dubbed into Portuguese and then subtitled in Chinese. It's a global team effort that isn't focused on the Anglo-Saxon world and it's made possible by modern technology.

BL: *Tell us a little about yourself.*

TP: Well, it's kind of odd, but I've been working for our values of liberty for a long time, since high school, and I just can't stop. My academic interests, which led me to St. John's College in Annapolis (after a false start at a mega-university), then to The Catholic University of America for philosophy studies, and then to Oxford University for politics, were always oriented toward better understanding

las's programs and over the years I've encouraged people to become donors and to get involved with Atlas-affiliated groups. We're working now to integrate the projects with Atlas's well-established programs assisting think tanks, training intellectual entrepreneurs, and promoting best practices for think tank management.

This is a great partnership and – to use one of those ten-cent words so popular in business schools – we'll see a lot of



Tiandaocn.org, or “Natural Order”, is one of 14 websites developed by the Atlas Global Initiative. To learn how to get involved, visit atlasnetwork.org/globalinitiative

the philosophical grounding and the stabilizing and coordinating institutions of free societies.

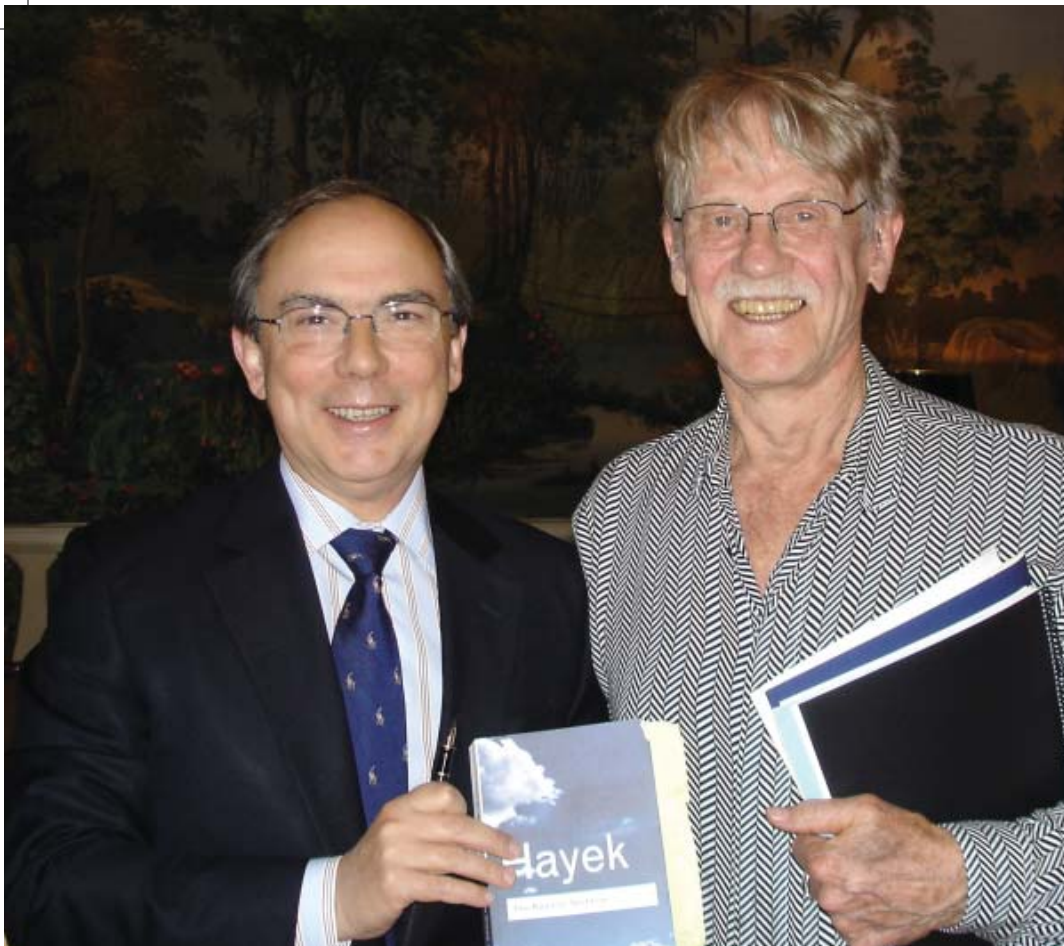
In between, I campaigned against military conscription with the Committee Against Registration and the Draft, and for the Ed Clark for President campaign in 1980. I was an editor for the National Taxpayers Union and a freelance writer for a variety of papers. I was a vice president for the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, and then in 1995, I started with the Cato Institute, where I just left a position as vice president for international programs to move our programs to Atlas. I'm one of those people who wakes up wondering what I can do each day to advance our mission. I love the work I do. It makes me feel truly alive. My retirement plan is never to retire.

BL: *Where does it all go from here?*

TP: It's great working with the Atlas staff. I've long been an admirer of At-

synergy, real working together so our combined effect is greater than the sum of our efforts separately. This magnifies the contributions Atlas's supporters make and I'm sure it's going to change the world for the better.

To highlight a few examples, we're organizing a major event to coordinate the efforts of pro-liberty groups in Brazil. We're going to be doing a lot more work using video, which is a great way to reach younger people. In Africa we're setting up freedom academies in French and English. We're planning summer schools in Russian, Arabic, and Chinese, as well as English. The ability to embrace the ideas of liberty in your own language makes them much more powerful, and allows you to articulate those ideas to others. There is a whole world of people who need freedom and who deserve respect for their rights. We plan on reaching them.



João Carlos Espada (left) and Nobel Laureate, Vernon L. Smith in Lisbon

THINK TANKS FOR A SECURE FREE SOCIETY

By Joseph Humire

Imagine a society in which free markets are vibrant, individual liberty is rampant, and government has limited itself to the protection of life, liberty and property. Yes, quite the ideal nation, but in conjuring up this image you must also realize that this can all be taken away in a heartbeat by those who would not respect these freedoms. Whether it is terrorists attacking the local populace in Mumbai, foreign militaries invading urban centers in Tbilisi, or pirates seizing oil shipments off the coast of Mogadishu, many of our partners around the world face prevailing security concerns that inhibit the advancement of free market ideas in their respective countries. Unfortunately, this is not unfamiliar territory for Atlas, as we have often encountered this challenge while working to advance freedom around the world. The symbiotic relationship between freedom and security is one that was recognized by Atlas's founder, Antony Fisher, as he understood that

for a free society to prevail it must be protected from those who wish to use violence to restrict political and economic freedoms. His recognition of the importance of security can be attributed to his service during World War II as a fighter pilot in Great Britain's Royal Air Force. In fact, Fisher's life and ideology were very much affected by war as he lost his father to a Turkish sniper's bullet when he was only two years old, and then later would lose his younger brother, Basil, while fighting German bombers during the Battle of Britain. Coupled with the post-war collectivism in Britain; these experiences strengthened Antony's conviction towards viewing security and freedom as mutually beneficial.

Since the late 1990's, Atlas President and CEO, Alejandro Chafuen, has been studying the increasing overlap between security and economics. It wasn't until the tragic events of September 11th, however, that Dr. Chafuen envisioned the future of security

research by independent think tanks to be ever more valuable. It was this gap analysis that led to the creation of the *Think Tanks for a Secure Free Society (SFS)* program, which was launched nearly four years ago with the aim of increasing both the quality and quantity of security analysis that is committed to the free society and independent of government control. Few think tanks outside of the United States have developed expertise in the security arena, which has allowed governments to monopolize the research and analysis of security issues throughout most of the world. This is where Atlas's SFS program brings great value to the international freedom movement. We use our independent position to foster research on an issue that is essential for the preservation of a free society but has often been neglected by some of our peers and allies – the issue of security as it relates to freedom. In the program's initial stages, Atlas concentrated on providing small trial grants to help think tanks in our network conduct studies and develop expertise on security topics. Our efforts were geared towards increasing the attention paid to security issues by free market think tanks. As the program grew, we began to identify intellectual entrepreneurs who were experts on security, but also understood the principles of a free society. These intellectual entrepreneurs have proven to be the backbone of this program.

Keeping with the tradition of serving as catalyst and connector, Atlas's SFS program discovers and cultivates relationships with intellectual entrepreneurs around the globe who are interested in both economic and/or security policy. Our support is often leveraged by connecting people with various security experts and events which can create opportunities to help their institutes be more effective. In the past, SFS trial grantees have produced reports for their institutes

that range from country-specific issues, such as "Infrastructure Development toward Security in the Mindanao Region" by Enrico Basilio at the Center for Strategic Studies on Security and Trade (Philippines) to studies like the "Chinese Penetration of Portuguese Speaking African Countries" which was recently finished by Dr. Jaime Nogueira Pinto, who works with long time ally, João Carlos Espada in his graduate program on Defense Studies at Catholic University in Portugal. This past summer Alex Chafuen and Atlas Vice President, Leonard Liggio, participated in security-related conferences conducted by Dr. Espada in Lisbon. In 2008, SFS made it a priority to increase Atlas's presence at major international security events, as well as hold security sessions and panels at Atlas flagship and co-sponsored events around the world. In September, Atlas representative, Tom Dyble attended the annual conference of the Prague Security Studies Institute that dealt with "Asia/Pacific Security Challenges." At the same time, Atlas conducted a program focused on security in South Korea prior to the Mont Pelerin Society meeting in Japan. In October, Atlas held a panel entitled "Defense and Security and the Market" during a Teach Freedom Initiative conference in San Antonio, Texas.

Aside from these events, it is a major goal of the SFS program to conduct a yearly symposium where Atlas can facilitate networking amongst existing leaders and provide direction to new intellectual entrepreneurs who are getting engaged in security issues. With this in mind, our most significant event for the SFS program this past year was in September when Atlas teamed up with the National Center for Policy Analysis (NCPA) to highlight the security risks in the Americas. We brought together renowned security experts and econo-



Sebestyen Gorka is a highly recognized international expert on terrorism and founded the Institute for Transitional Democracy and International Security in Hungary. He is currently an Assistant Professor at the National Defense University in Washington D.C. At our co-sponsored conference on "Risk in a Free Society" in Dallas, Texas, he spoke on the history of al-Qaeda.

mists for a highly productive two-day conference in Dallas, Texas.

These activities have hallmarked some of the work that our partners have participated in through the support of the SFS program; however, we continue to see the need for a greater effort in the field of security. We see it when terrorists attack an urban center, when states sabotage the rule of law, when companies collude with governments to subvert the free trade of goods, capital and labor. Most of all, we see it when our partners bravely subject themselves to dangerous threats and sacrifice much of their own freedom to advance the cause of freedom throughout the world.

Efforts promoting a freer society has traditionally been separate from work securing a free society. However, in our minds, in the mind of Antony Fisher, both fields are complementary. By investing in global efforts with a security impact and engaging the best minds we can find on security issues, we invest in the future of freedom.

ONE-ON-ONE

WITH JO KWONG



Like other free market think tank, Atlas enjoys the opportunity to share stories about its many friends and supporters. However, rather than give you the standard story about how many kids and grandkids they have, or what they do for a living, I've found it far more interesting to share some of the unique and exciting things they are actually pioneering to promote freedom. In this feature, I hope you'll be inspired by a new concept – the Limited Government City, that Atlas donor, Joe Woodford, is championing.

As governments ratchet larger and larger in cities, states, and nations across the globe, one community offers a unique alternative. In this interview Joe Woodford, and his colleague, Sean Paige explain their vision for Limited Government Forum, a non-partisan, tax-exempt educational organization, that is devoted to creating the first freedom-oriented city in Colorado Springs. For readers of Atlas Shrugged, you might wonder....will Colorado Springs become the closest real world example of Galt's Gulch?

Jo Kwong: *What is the vision behind Limited Government Forum [LGF]?*

Sean Paige: What we'd like to test in Colorado Springs is whether you can have a great American city without having a big government running it. We're on the brink of becoming a big city, but we want to consciously avoid the usual pitfalls that come with growth – heavy-handed bureaucracy, failing schools, excessive taxation and so on.

We want to develop an alternative model, aimed at minimizing the role of government and maximizing the role of individuals and non-governmental institutions – what we call the civil society. [Colorado] Springs residents have a strong independent streak. They don't ask a lot of government, generally, except the basics, so they don't want to pay a lot for it. They are protective of their pocketbooks, their property rights and their freedoms. This means the usual command-and-control model isn't a good fit here. We also have relatively high rates of charitable giving, volunteerism and civic involvement, meaning people tend to tackle problems themselves, directly, rather than waiting for government to act. LGF recognizes these traits as strengths, around which a different paradigm can be built, using private and public institutions as incubators for innovation.

JK: *What was the inspiration behind the project, and how did you become involved with it?*

Joe Woodford: I was a "moderate Republican" for a long time, until I read F.A. Hayek's *The Road to Serfdom*. At that same time, The Cato Institute was developing their Cato University course which I worked my way through. Together, they brought me over to a more libertarian, limited-government bent. In 2004, I met Paul Prentice, who delivered the coup de grâce in my progression towards classical liberalism. Jon Stepleton and Sean [Paige] were key people at the Colorado Springs Gazette, and when Sean became available we jumped at

the chance to work with him. We now have three organizations all working together on the same push: Limited Government Forum headed by Sean, *Cheyenne Mountain Civic Solutions* [CMCS] headed by Jon, and *The Center for the Study of Government and the Individual* [CSGI] at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs headed by Professor Jim Null. LGF was started in 2007, CMCS just this year, and CSGI has been in operation since December of 2000.

SP: The project is inspired by the fact that Colorado Springs already proves that you can have a wonderful city, and a very high quality of life, without the need for expensive and intrusive government. We already do a lot of things right in Colorado Springs, for the reasons I explained. We have relatively low taxes; the regulatory climate isn't terrible; the cost of living is low and quality of life is high; and we don't follow the worst municipal fads. We have a wonderful zoo, and a world-class events arena, and an orchestra, for instance, which are all privately funded. Garbage collection is privatized. We have relatively good public schools, with some exceptions. We're much better off than a lot of cities, from a libertarian point of view, but we want to build on those foundations, rather than watch them be washed away. We have the potential here to create a truly freedom-oriented city. But because there's always pressure from a vocal minority to raise taxes, grow government and parrot the bad policies other cities are following, we have our work cut out for us.

LIMITED GOVERNMENT CITY – HOW ONE ATLAS DONOR IS WORKING TO CREATE A REAL WORLD “GALT’S GULCH” – AN INTERVIEW WITH JOE WOODFORD AND SEAN PAIGE.

JK: *It’s fantastic, and rare, to see media, non-profits, and academics working together towards the common goal of limiting government. How do you see the private sector and the citizens stepping in?*

SP: I have great faith that individuals and private entities will step in to fill any void left in the absence of, or limitations on, government. In fact, I think the excessive focus on government inhibits people from taking the initiative and demonstrating their resourcefulness. I just don’t believe that the world will collapse, or we’ll suffer as citizens, if government doesn’t do everything for us.

JK: *I couldn’t agree enough, Sean. What role will government play in the Limited Government City?*

SP: It will stick to the essentials, and be required to do them well at a reasonable cost. It will maintain adequate infrastructure, safeguard public safety and provide good schools to as many kids as possible. But perhaps most important is what it won’t do. Rather than erecting barriers to entrepreneurship and opportunity, it will clear them away. Rather than trying to plan and control everything, it will make room for spontaneity and creativity. Rather than spending taxpayer money to lure jobs and businesses from somewhere else, it will create a tax and regulatory climate that builds a vibrant economy from the ground up. We’ll reexamine some of the things this city does that it probably shouldn’t do. We’ll reexamine some of the things this city does that it probably shouldn’t do. We own

golf courses and downtown parking garages, which could and should be privatized. We’ll be encouraging a city-wide debate about whether we want to continue serving these and other functions, which the private sector can and should provide.



Joe Woodford and Jo Kwong

JK: *Which brings me to my final questions -- what activities or programs is LGF involved in to encourage scaling back government and how would you recommend other cities follow your lead?*

SP: In April 2009 we’ll hold our third annual *Limited Government Week*, a multi-event celebration of America’s founding ideals, where we discuss and debate their continued relevance in a modern context. Last year, ABC’s John Stossel delivered the keynote address, and the ballroom was packed. We’ll be hosting panel discussions about civic innovation and business climate issues in Colorado Springs. Once a month we also host a free lunch, at which interesting local and non-local experts are featured speakers. Our website, *LocalLibertyOnline.org*, will, hopefully, become a major vehicle for stirring debate and getting our message across. The Colorado Springs model is still very much a work in progress -- a dream in which many

details still must be worked out -- so we don’t have a handy-dandy blueprint to give people – at least not yet. What we can do, at least in the short run, is provide an example of a great American city, with a great quality



Atlas’s Jo Kwong with Pam and Sean Paige

of life, that doesn’t need or want a great big government in control of everything. If people understand that not all large cities are condemned to follow the same path, and make the same policy mistakes, they’ll begin to think seriously about creating new and better models. And that’s where a change of attitude, and some innovative thinking, begins.

JK: *Well, you know I thoroughly enjoyed my visit last year to Colorado Springs and I couldn’t agree more – it’s a wonderful American city! If the Limited Government Forum can make it even better, by putting the ideals of freedom to work, it will truly be a dream place to live. Thank you, Sean and Joe for telling us about LGF. I look forward to watching your progress in Colorado and hope that other communities follow suit.*



TRAVELLING WITH ATLAS: MIDDLE EAST

Reaching most corners of the globe, on site visits by Atlas staff, fellows, and think tank partners are essential for interaction with and service to Atlas allies, as well as connecting culturally in those regions. Atlas began supporting efforts in Muslim countries in 1991, and has seen those efforts expanded to over 15 nations. Atlas's Ziba Ayeen recently travelled to the Middle East and reports here on the programs Atlas held in conjunction with older partners such as the Fraser Institute (Canada), Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Hellenic Leadership Institute, and Association of Liberal Thinking (Atlas's first investment in Turkey), as well as newer organizations.



Staff of the Association for Liberal Thinking (Turkey).

11.1.08
ISTANBUL, TURKEY

On November 1st, I travelled to Istanbul for the 2nd Annual Congress of Atlas partner, the Association of Liberal Thinking (Turkey). Over 200 people were in attendance for enthusiastic opening remarks by Professor Atilla Yayla, ALT founder

and president. This year's congress, co-sponsored by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, was designed to explore the idea of "Liberalism and Turkey's Experience in the 21st Century: A Perspective for the Future". Scholars discussed free trade, democracy, the roots of liberalism in Turkish society, and the need for liberal media in Turkey. Bilal Sambur (S. Demirel University) analyzed freedom of religion, while former Atlas fellow, Bekir Berat Ozipek (University of Gaziosmanpasa), spoke about the relationship between liberalism and human rights. Particularly notable was Murat Cokgezen's (Marmara University) discourse on the prevalence of free market practices in Turkish daily life.

HELLENIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Atlas's Ziba Ayeen (center) with Nasr Attia (left) and Beshir Abdel Fattah of Al-Ahram Weekly, the second oldest and one of the most widely circulated Egyptian newspapers.



Fred McMahon (Fraser Institute, Canada), Bugra Kalkan (Association for Liberal Thinking, Turkey), Anthony Livanios (Hellenic Leadership Institute, Greece), Ronald Meinardus (Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Germany), Atlas's Ziba Ayeen, and Amela Karabegovic (Fraser Institute, Canada).

Friedrich Naumann Foundation (Germany), held the 3rd Annual Economic Freedom of the Arab World Conference in Doha, Qatar. Attendees from Egypt, Morocco, Algeria, Jordan, and elsewhere descended on the coastal metropolis to discuss entrepreneurship and free enterprise in Arab and Muslim countries. Experts such as Amr Gohar (Egyptian Junior Business Association), Ashraf Sheta, (Business Environment Committee of the Egyptian Junior Business Association), Alim Fahim (Moroccan Young Entrepreneur Association), and Zakaria Fahim (National Council of the Board of Maroc Entrepreneur, Morocco) spoke on topics regarding access to sound money, free trade, security of property rights, and advancing free enterprise.

Atlas sponsored a session on "Strategies and Best Practices" in promoting economic freedom and building a network in the region. In his discussion, Anthony Livanios (Hellenic Leadership Institute, Greece) focused on HLI's think tank development efforts in Egypt, while Bugra Kalkan (Association for Liberal Thinking, Turkey) spoke on the relationship between Islamic culture and economic freedom. Amela Karabegovic (Centre for Globalization Studies, Fraser Institute, Canada) lectured on the Fraser Institute's emphasis on measurement as applied in the Economic Freedom of the Arab World Report. According to the report, Lebanon and Kuwait were the most economically free Arab nations in 2008, each scoring 7.7 overall. Runners-up were Oman (7.6), Jordan (7.5), and Saudi Arabia (7.4).



Students from Akhbar El Yom Academy join Anthony Livanios (HLI) and Atlas's Ziba Ayeen. Left to right: Mohamed Mohaimen, Anthony Livanios, Aliaa El Mallah, Maha Mkhtar, Ziba Ayeen, and Reem Fawzy Mekheimer.

12.15.08 CAIRO, EGYPT

In December, the Hellenic Leadership Institute, organized a seminar on Leadership Development Skills held in Cairo. I presented Atlas's goals focusing on the Middle East and stressed the importance of building a network in Arab countries in order to discover new intellectual entrepreneurs. Gary Weaver (American University, USA) and Anthony Livanios (HLI), discussed the subtleties of cross-cultural communication and the importance of non-verbal tools like photography and video in advancing the message of liberty. Alexandros Mantikas (HLI) presented a case study on the Hellenic Institute's media relations strategy in Egypt. I had the opportunity to meet and share ideas with several leaders from Arab countries, including: Saad Hagrass, managing editor of the *Al Alam Al Youm* newspaper, one of the most influential private dailies in Egypt; Abdalla Hassan, chairman and editor-in-chief at *Middle East News Agency* (MENA); Reem Fawzy Mekheimer, Vice Chief Editor of the student newspaper at Akhbar El Yom Academy in Cairo; Hanaa Kheir-El-Din, Executive Director at the Egyptian Center for Economic Studies (ECES); and Mohamed Helmy, Executive Director of the Egyptian Junior Business Association.

11.4.08 DOHA, QATAR

On November 4th, three close allies of Atlas, the International Research Foundation (Oman), the Fraser Institute (Canada), and the



1



2

20 FREEDOM

Each November, Atlas celebrates the fall of the Berlin Wall and the victories of the free society over the forces of totalitarianism. Paying tribute to freedom fighters all over the world who stand defiantly for individual liberty, the Freedom Dinner offers an opportunity for think tank leaders, policy experts, and allies to toast freedom and share their experiences battling tyranny. The 2009 Freedom Dinner was held on November 12th at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington DC. Michael Reagan delivered an inspiring keynote address about his father's love of liberty and his courageous leadership in winning the Cold War. It is never too early to mark your calendars for this year's Freedom Dinner (November 9), celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the wall's destruction.



3



DINNER

PHOTOS

1. Michael Reagan
2. CEDICE's Eduardo Massieu Paredes and Rocio Guijarro with Atlas's Alex Chafuen. Atlas awarded CEDICE with the Freda Utley Prize at the 2009 Freedom Dinner.
3. Timothy and Denyse Browne with Juraj Karpis and Richard Durana (right) of the Institute of Economic and Social Studies (Slovakia). Atlas recognized INESS with a Templeton Freedom Award for Innovative Media in 2008.
4. Zhao Xu (Unirule Institute of Economics, China), Beverly Danielson, George Dunlop, and Atlas's Yiqiao Xu
5. Peter Flinch, Richard Kossman, Derwood Chase, and Joanna Chase
6. Andrea Rich engaging in dialogue during the Atlas Club Briefing.
7. Anthony Livanios (Hellenic Leadership Institute) speaking to the Atlas Club about HLI's efforts in Egypt.



SIXTEEN THINK TANKS AWARDED FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN ADVANCING LIBERTY

THE
TEMPLETON
Freedom
AWARDS

On November 13, 2008, Atlas celebrated with the winners of the Templeton Freedom Awards (TFA) and an audience of over 150 people at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington D.C. with a half-day conference on the “Moral Imperative of Economic Freedom” and “Innovation in Promoting Liberty”. The winners came from nine different countries, across four continents to receive this recognition, the largest international prize program that celebrates think tank contributions to the understanding of freedom. They were chosen from over 170 applicants from 58 countries by a panel of independent expert judges.

Named for the late investor and philanthropist, Sir John Templeton, the program was established in 2003 by Atlas with funding from the John Templeton Foundation to help those who are making significant contributions to enhancing opportunity and prosperity.

The TFA conference featured eight winners who shared with the audience the challenges they face in advancing liberty, and their experience in winning the battle of ideas. William Weiant (American Center for Civic Character, USA) spoke on the values and ethics of a free society; Gabriel Calzada (Instituto Juan de Mariana, Spain) spoke on the importance of pushing for economic reforms in Spain; Pablo Arosemena Marriott (Fundación Ecuador Libre, Ecuador) shared his perspective on the current political and economic challenges in Ecuador and how their student outreach program can make a difference for their country.



The winners of the 2008 Templeton Freedom Awards exemplify the innovation and integrity that makes think tanks so important to the world of ideas.

Learn more about the winners, the TFA program, and its distinguished Board of Advisors at AtlasNetwork.org.



Richard Durana of the Institute of Economic and Social Studies in Slovakia gave a detailed description of their effective strategy to promote liberty through their website, *The Price of the State*. This site presents accurate and detailed information on the components of public finance in a manner that is easily comprehensible by a viewer with no economics background. Michael Moynihan (Reason Foundation, USA) spoke about using the internet to get ideas out through video media. John Tomasi (Political Theory Project at Brown University, USA) conveyed the challenges and innovative strategies to promote liberty through an academic center.

Eduardo Massieu Paredes (CEDICE, Venezuela) spoke on the persistent obstacles in Venezuela and the role of the emerging student groups in combating the increasing role of socialism. Timothy Mech (Deep Springs International, USA) introduced DSI's unique program aimed at increasing the availability of safe water in Haiti. The program facilitates the development of locally owned businesses that supply water treatment products at prices that rural Haitians can afford.

The other winners were: Goldwater Institute (USA); Japanese for Tax Reform (Japan); Institut de Formation Politique (France); Institución Futuro (Spain); Mercatus Center at George Mason University (USA); Polish-American Foundation for Economic Research and Education, PAFERE (Poland); Prometheus Institute (USA); Unirule Institute of Economics (China).

The 2008 Templeton Freedom Awards grant a \$10,000 prize to each winner. There are two winners in each of the eight categories: one represents an “established institute” (older than eight years), and one is an “emerging institute” (eight years or younger). The categories are Free Market Solutions to Poverty; Social Entrepreneurship; Ethics & Values; Student Outreach; Initiative in Public Relations; Innovative Media Award; Award for Special Achievement by a University-Based Center; and Special Achievement by a Young Institute. In the Young Institute category, restricted to groups less than five years old, one winner is chosen from a developed country, and another from more difficult parts of the world.

LEVERAGING THE THINK TANK MBA FOR INSTITUTE SUCCESS



COLLEEN DYBLE, MANAGER OF ATLAS'S THINK TANK MBA PROGRAM, SAT DOWN WITH 2008 TT MBA PARTICIPANT, ARPITA NEPAL, TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HER EXPERIENCE IN THE PROGRAM AND HOW SHE HAS APPLIED WHAT SHE LEARNED AT THE PROSPERITY FOUNDATION (NEPAL).

*(Above photo)
Atlas Think Tank MBA Class of 2008*

(Photo Left) Arpita Nepal



Colleen Dyble: *Why did you apply for the Think Tank MBA program and what were your expectations?*

Arpita Nepal: We had started a public policy institute in Nepal about a year ago. However, the momentum simply wasn't there. We tried very hard as volunteers to get our institute going. In the meantime, one of my friends got an invitation to apply for the Atlas MBA program. I thought the idea of a think tank management course was very innovative and applied for the program. I expected to find direction for the organization and a way to establish a start up institute like ours.

CD: *Did the program meet your expectations?*

AN: I would say that the Atlas MBA exceeded my expectations. It provided me with a unique opportunity to combine what I had learned as a management student with the experiences of think tanks from round the world.

CD: *What part of the program was most valuable to you?*

AN: The best part of the program was the strategy-building process. It is very intensive and makes you rethink and reevaluate all the activities that your organization is conducting. I was constantly online chatting with my friends back home to discuss these activities and to try to put our efforts into a larger perspective. I especially liked the individual work time as it gave us an opportunity to apply what we had learned and get instant feedback from our mentors.

CD: *How have you applied what you have learned at the program to your work at the Prosperity Foundation?*

AN: I came back with a very good network of friends and special tools designed specifically for a start-up think tank like ours. I have been able to use the strategic planning process as well as the tips to build a board of directors. When I arrived back to Nepal, I got together with my friends and developed a proper vision, mission and objectives for my institute. It turned out that this was the just the thing that we needed to set our institute in motion and my organization has finally gained a definitive direction. As a result, some of us have started working either full time or part time for the organization because we can finally see where we were going! Although I was very skeptical about finding the fundraiser within myself, as the

MORE ENCOURAGING WORK FROM THINK TANK MBA ALUMNI...

Judith Auma (IREN, Uganda) is applying what she learned during the TT MBA program to teach university students about strategic planning.

Omar Shaban (PalThink, Palestine) organized a conference in early September in Gaza on sustainable national reconciliation to address the consequences of the internal conflict. The conference was attended by 130 people representing a variety of community sectors including intellectuals, political parties and Palestinian Liberation Council members. The TT MBA helped him to learn how to think strategically about all the dimensions of the event including: identifying the objectives of the event, defining and attracting the target audience, crafting the event message, putting together an opening speech and managing the event logistics.

Khalil Ahmad (ASI, Pakistan) used SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis from TT MBA in his recent article rebutting claims that the rule of law movement in Pakistan is dead after a tumultuous year of politics.

Batbold Zagdragchaa (New Policy Institute, Mongolia) recently published an article in one of Mongolia's leading newspapers and is currently writing a new strategic plan for the institute based on what he learned from TT MBA, in an attempt to continue gaining the support of local businesspeople.

David Seymour (Frontier Centre for Public Policy, Canada) used the TT MBA wiki as a model for his new wiki on the Frontier Centre's Rural Education Project.

Biljana Janeva (Ohrid Institute, Macedonia) created a fresh business plan and changed institute policies to improve organizational performance and outreach. She started a new initiative: a free market university curriculum to be taught by international professors. The first of its kind in Macedonia. The Ohrid Institute will become the only NGO in Macedonia to teach at university.

program suggested, with the support of my team, I was able to raise \$40K for our upcoming programs. Fundraising – I realized – is all about relationship building and it can be done! The MBA program helped us put the idea of The Prosperity Foundation into action.

CD: *Is there any special memory from the program that you would like to share?*

AN: Campaigning all day in the Washington summer heat! I will forever treasure the lessons learnt that day and our team even ended up liking the food at McDonalds!! Imagine the pressures we faced talking to Washington residents and convincing them to fill out our survey forms.

CD: *What advice would you give to someone who is considering applying for the 2009 Think Tank MBA program?*

AN: I believe the program is very well structured and gives new think tanks a rundown of issues that need to be dealt with during the establishment phase. For anyone joining the Atlas MBA program, I would suggest plenty of sleep and rest before the program- you may have never experienced something so intensive and productive before!

Applications for the 2009 Think Tank MBA program will be online at www.atlasnetwork.org in early 2009. For additional information about the program, please contact Colleen Dyble at colleen.dyble@atlasnetwork.org.

HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE... ONLINE



By Jason Talley

As part of my Web-Media Fellowship with Atlas, I have the privilege of working with free-market think tanks all over the world to help improve their social media efforts. At Atlas, we believe that it is crucial for think tanks to use social media to efficiently and effectively share their ideas.

If think tanks are “idea factories,” consider social media (or SM) a way to connect those ideas to people who can further share and discuss them. The first decision to make regarding your social media strategy is, why do you want to socially network your organization? “Because all the cool institutes are doing it” isn’t a good answer. If you determine that your audience is: 1) online and 2) eager to communicate, then using social media to connect with them is a prudent move.

But first you’ll need to define and understand your audience. Social media isn’t just posting your great ideas to various websites. It means engaging with your audience, and when done properly, successful social media strategies will be rewarded. After you figure out what you want to accomplish you’ll need to figure out realistic metrics for success.

Consider the following information a snapshot in time of current online communication trends, but not the final word. Because of this, Atlas made this article editable by anyone online as a wiki at <http://bit.ly/sJeP>. Technology is changing at a rapid pace and as it does, so will the best practices contained in this article.

SOCIAL NETWORKS

Social networks like Facebook are a great place to engage millions of interconnected individuals. The following are a few tips on how best to use these services:

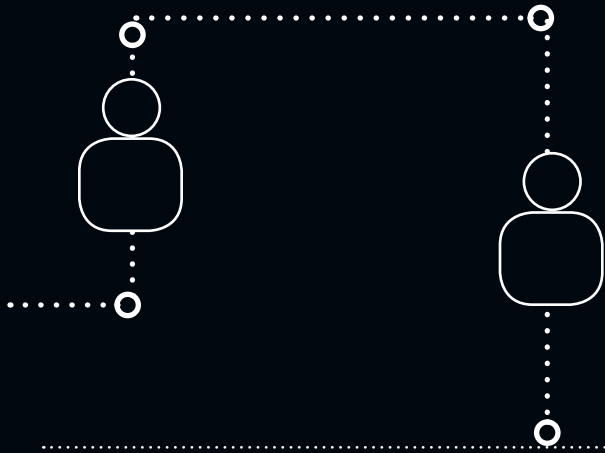
Select social networks that fit your goals: The size of the network is important but also factor in the type of community and where its users are from. Start with one social network at a time.

Put someone in charge: There is likely one colleague, at least, who is already using social networking in their personal lives so it won’t be hard to find someone with expertise in getting started, whether it is a staffer or an intern.

Go viral: Ideas, like viruses, can be transmitted from one person to another. Social networks lower the costs.

Prepare to lose control: There is no way you can vet every word of every person who wants to be your friend or join your social networking group. If you or your lawyers are not comfortable with that fact, social networking may not be for you. You can set up an approval process for ‘comments’ that people post but if you go this route, make sure the approval process is reasonable and fast.

You may already be online: There may be MySpace or Facebook groups for your organization that you did not set up. Your supporters may have set up unofficial profiles for you. If this is the case, reach out to that person and work together.



Make a good first impression: Make your profile attractive. Control what your organization will look like on other people's friend lists--pick a great picture and title that will get noticed. Effective branding is one of the most important things your organization can do to raise its public profile.

Post viral content: Social networks are at their best when people are passing content around and they will only pass yours around if it is creative. If it does not make you think 'Cool!' then it is probably not viral and you need to rethink it.

Find out which of your supporters are already on social networks: Send them an e-mail inviting them to become your friend or to join your group.

Communicate with your social network friends on a regular basis: Update your pages with new content. Use MySpace 'bulletins' and Facebook 'notes' on other users' profiles to get the word out on important issues and drive people to your page.

Dedicate staff time to making your social networking effort a success: Assign a staff person to accept friend requests, post comments on other people's pages, and invite others to become friends.

Activate your social media fans: At some point you should start turning your 'friends' into activists, donors, and volunteers. Make sure your social networking pages always feature lots of opportunities to get involved. Include donation opportunities on your social networking pages. Even if you do not raise much in the short run, it helps to set expectations for the future.

VIDEO

Online video can put multimedia broadcasting into the hands of organizations that could never afford to buy television air time. Amazingly, there's no charge to post an unlimited number of videos on the various video hosting sites. All you need to get started is a camera, computer and an idea.

In 2008 YouTube, the most popular video sharing site, hopes to reach 1 billion playbacks. With 30 million visitors per day playing 100 million videos, their goal is plausible. Video is the perfect medium to share your most compelling stories to the rest of the world. Donors can finally see for themselves the results of your projects.

YouTube offers 501(c)3 charities a nonprofit section which includes enhanced promotion and fundraising options. They also offer tips for creating effective video in an area called Broadcast Your Cause.



TIPS FOR THINK TANK VIDEOS

Think of your video as one-half of a conversation by asking questions to be answered in the comments area or as a video reply. Always tell your viewers the address of your website. There they can find more information about your organization and continue the dialogue.

Keep it relevant and short. Frequent content will keep an audience coming back for more. A series of short videos would work better than one long video.

Embed your video in your blog, on your website, and on social-networking sites like Facebook and MySpace. Include the link in your organization's newsletter, or email it to your members with an invitation to view, comment, and share.

Be genuine: Slick professional video production is much less important in modern media than a sense of honest communication.

Enter your video in the AtlasTV.org Video Contest for a chance to win \$10,000.



ORDERS AND BORDERS

ACADEMICS FROM AROUND THE WORLD RECENTLY CONVENED IN HISTORIC PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE TO DISCUSS THE THEORY OF SPONTANEOUS ORDER AND ITS IMPACT ON DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES.

In early November, *Atlas's Fund for the Study of Spontaneous Orders (FSSO)* returned to the Sise Inn in Portsmouth, New Hampshire for its second conference directed by Dr. Gus diZerega. For this conference the Fund sent out a call for papers on the general topic "Orders and Borders," to discuss some of the overlap between different orders, disciplines, and perspectives and examine the relationship these disciplines have with each other. For example, what are the various relationships between the market and democratic politics, or democracies and science, or science and the market? To what degree are these relationships benign, mutually beneficial, or conflictual? What sorts of organizations straddle the borders of different emergent or spontaneous orders? How do science and democracy influence one another? To what extent can these influences be regarded as beneficial, neutral, or disruptive? How are different emergent processes coordinated by different rules that are biased towards different values? Finally, can we describe a unified theory of spontaneous orders that would serve well such varied disciplines as economics, anthropology, ecology, philosophy, the sociology of science, and develop a paradigm of study that integrates these boundaries?

The Fund received twenty-one paper proposals, of which eleven were accepted. Authors and discussants came from Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and included professionals trained in economics, geography, history, medicine, computer science, political science, and business, providing many different orders and borders to discuss.

The Fund is posting the revised "Orders and Borders" papers online as they become available, along with those from the FSSO conference held in October 2007. These may be found at: "Studies in Emergent Order—An Online Journal" (www.studiesinemergentorder.com).

PAPERS SUBMITTED FOR THE "ORDERS AND BORDERS" PROJECT

Aidan Walsh (Ernst & Young, Dublin, Ireland), "A Mengerian Theory of the Business Firm"

Robert F. Mulligan (Western Carolina University), "The Sensory Order and the Structure of Production"

William N. Butos (Trinity College), "The Adaptive Systems Theory of Social Orders"

Daniel Sutter (University of Texas-Pan American), "On the Comparative Performance of Spontaneous Orders"

Adam Martin (George Mason University), "Emergent Politics and the Power of Ideas"

Troy Camplin (Independent Scholar), "Spontaneous Orders and Emergent Phenomena"

Steven Horwitz (St. Lawrence University), "Gender and the Borders Between Orders: The Doctrine of the Separate Spheres"

Richard Gunderman (Indiana University School of Medicine), "Orders and Borders in Philanthropy"

David Emanuel Andersson (National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan), "The Double-edged Nature of the Hayekian Knowledge Problem: Systemic Tendencies in Markets and Science"

Ilya Bernstein (Independent Scholar), "Toward an Interdisciplinary Paradigm of Spontaneous Order"

Jacky Malett (Sony Technology, Zaventem, Belgium), "Limits on the Communication of Knowledge in Social Organizations"

Lenore T. Ealy of the Program for New Philanthropy Studies served as the conference discussion leader. Other discussants included David Hardwick (Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia), Leslie Marsh (University of Sussex, UK), and John W. Sommer (Political Economy Research Institute). Leonard P. Liggio and William C. Dennis represented Atlas.

Photo at top of page: Adam Martin (George Mason University), David Emanuel Anderson (National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan), Troy Camplin, and Daniel Sutter (University of Texas-Pan American)

LATIN AMERICAN ACADEMIC CENTERS:

SHAPING A CULTURE OF LIBERTY
IN THE AMERICAS

In October, Atlas held the *Teach Freedom Initiative (TFI)* conference in San Antonio, Texas, preceding the regional meeting of the Philadelphia Society. The meeting sought to address the issue of whether university-based efforts could make a difference in Latin America. Panelist Paul Bonicelli, Provost of Houston Baptist University, emphasized that the root cause of problems in Latin America springs from a culture (and the institutions it informs) that is not grounded in a strong tradition of liberty. Dr. Bonicelli argues that because Latin Americans do not think in terms of individual liberty, there is a strong need to promote its principles at universities and academic centers.

Prompted by this culture of collectivism and the inability of Latin American governments to provide security for the free movement of goods and people, think tank leaders from Peru, Mexico, Chile, and Guatemala discussed the obstacles to liberty and the market and recommended corresponding policy prescriptions. José Luís Sardón, Director of Sociedad de Economía y Derecho (Peru), connected the issue of terrorism with societal frustrations rather than with

poverty. Santiago Fernández Ordóñez of Universidad Francisco Marroquín blamed the lack of security in Guatemala on the government's inability to allocate resources for this purpose, prompting the private sector to create its own police forces. Dr. Jaime Garcia Covarrubias of the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies (United States) pointed to the recent experiences of Chile as lessons for other countries in the region to follow in terms of securing both political and economic freedoms.

The TFI conference also focused on U.S.-based academic centers, the challenges and successes that come with center-building, and how U.S. institutions can serve as an example for startups in Latin America. Jane Shaw, President of the Pope Center for Higher Education Policy (United States), gave a brief survey on the state of academic centers in the U.S., while Adam Kissel (Foundation for Individual Rights in Education, United States) offered a list of practical recommendations on how to overcome the challenges of center-building. Ramon Parellada, Treasurer of Universidad Francisco Marroquín, showcased the achievements of Latin



Ramon Parellada (Universidad Francisco Marroquín, Guatemala) and Jane Shaw (Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, U.S.)

José Luís Sardón (Sociedad de Economía y Derecho, Peru), Paul Bonicelli (Houston Baptist University, U.S.), author Chilton Williamson Jr., and Atlas's Alex Chafuen

American academic centers, pointing to the success of UFM, a Latin American university that started as an academic center with 125 students and has grown to over 1700. Arturo Ramírez (Center for Economic Opportunities, U.S.) and Rolando Espinosa (Academia de Investigación Humanística, Mexico) described their successful attempts in introducing the Austrian brand of economics to students in the second largest university in Mexico. Juan Javier del Granado (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de Mexico) argued, however, that much needs to be done in Mexico and appealed to U.S. organizations and partners to continue providing help in terms of sponsoring joint programs, fellowships for faculty, and internships for students. The conference concluded in consensus; groups in all regions must do more to provide a counterbalance to the culture of statism that dominates university campuses.

ATLAS RECOGNIZES CADAL WITH ALBERTO MARTEN AWARD FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Rewarding their diligent work as an outstanding reference for the media in Latin America, Atlas has recognized **Centro para la Apertura y el Desarrollo de América Latina (CADAL)** with the Alberto Marten Award for Social Entrepreneurship. For years CADAL has remained on the frontline of reporting and disseminating free market ideas using news articles, essays, interviews and op-eds. In 2008, the think tank organized the inaugural “Foro Latino Global” forum aimed at analyzing the economic and institutional performance of Argentina and other Latin American countries. This year, CADAL implemented three successful training programs for students, published a new research report titled “Legislative Barometer”, and co-authored a number of books.



NEW INSTITUTE IN CHINA

Atlas is pleased to learn about a new free market think tank in China, the Transition Institute. Founded in March 2007, **The Transition Institute** works in areas of privatization and deregulation, as well as democratization. TI’s mission is “to strive to be the best independent think tank in China, to help China’s transformation into a country characterized by liberal democracy, free markets and civil society.”

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE GUIDE TO REFORM

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation along with several think tanks in Central and Eastern Europe have put together a book entitled, *How To Do It: Lessons from Successful Liberal Reforms in CEE*. This book discusses how many think tanks in CEE countries were able to implement solid free market reforms, such as low flat tax rates, corporate tax reform, voucher privatization and more. Contributing think tanks include, **Lithuanian Free Market Institute**, **F.A. Hayek Foundation (Slovakia)**, **Estonian Free Society Institute**, **Liberalni Institute (Czech Republic)** and the **Institute for Market Economics (Bulgaria)**.



MICHEL KELLY-GAGNON RETURNS TO L'INSTITUT ÉCONOMIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

After three years as the head of Conseil du patronat du Québec, a group representing Quebec’s largest businesses, Michel Kelly-Gagnon will be returning to **L’Institut économique de Montréal (MEI)** in February. “It is with great enthusiasm that I accept the presidency of MEI to strengthen an orientation based on making economic research accessible to the general public and on promoting a free market approach open to various tendencies,” Kelly-Gagnon said. “While I very much enjoyed my work representing Quebec’s businesses, I nevertheless came to miss the freedom of action and speech provided by a think tank.” In his capacity as president, he will be working to extend MEI’s reach beyond Quebec to the rest of Canada. Under the leadership of Kelly-Gagnon (1999-2006), MEI was awarded a Templeton Freedom Award from Atlas in 2004.



Michel Kelly-Gagnon, Atlas’s Jo Kwong, and John Dobson

HAITIAN THINK TANK EXPANDS EFFORTS

Fondation Espoir, based in Haiti, has successfully expanded their efforts, adding three new project centers in Cap-Haitien, Les Cayes and Saint-Marc. With six regional project centers dedicated to training and working with young leaders in their respective locations, Fondation Espoir was able to train more than 200 leaders in the areas of Democracy, the Environment and Entrepreneurship, resulting in the creation of 43 regionally specific projects. In addition, Fondation Espoir has launched a new website (jeuneayiti.net) to showcase their work and promote the efforts of these young leaders.

ZIMBABWEAN THINK TANK EQUIPS FUTURE LEADERS

With inflation reaching 231,000,000%, unemployment soaring toward 80% and power sharing agreements dissolving, it is easy to get discouraged about the future of Zimbabwe. However, there is reason for optimism. Rejoice Ngwenya's **Coalition for Market & Liberal Solutions (COMALISO)** is a policy dialogue think tank that promotes free market ideas. Ngwenya has been active in teaching high school students about freedom and engaging in policy discussions with Zimbabwean leaders about why a free market economy must be a fundamental component of national policy.



ATLAS ECONOMIC MAGAZINE PUBLISHED IN BURKINA FASO

In mid-November, **Le Centre des Affaires Humaines (CEDAH)** published the first volume of the *Atlas Economic Magazine*, a journal on entrepreneurship and economic freedom. The inaugural edition includes commentary about Burkina Faso's ranking in the Fraser Institute's *Economic Freedom of the World Report*, as well as articles by Dr. Emmanuel Martin (unmondelibre.org) and James Shikwati (Inter Region Economic Network, Kenya). CEDAH's Executive Director, Mahamadou Sinte says, "The journal is named Atlas Economic Magazine in recognition of the great contribution of the Atlas Economic Research Foundation to the creation of CEDAH, which is the first libertarian think tank in Burkina Faso."



ECIPE EXPLORES EU-CHINA RELATIONS

The **European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE)** has put together a new framework for EU-China relations, along with a joint study with Groupe d'Economie Mondiale at Sciences Po (France), and a study comparing China and other BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, and China) countries for the OECD. ECIPE presented its findings at the University of Oxford and held a conference in late November on China's accession to the World Trade Organization entitled, "Taming the Dragon: China's Experience in the WTO Dispute Settlement System".

TOWARD DEMOCRACY, PEACE, AND OPEN BORDERS IN SOUTH ASIA

In contrast to the recent tragic news in Mumbai, Atlas's partners in India report successful efforts in building sound institutions for prosperity and justice in the region. D. Dhanuraj, who runs the **Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR)** in India, reported a successful South Asia Youth Summit held in New Delhi in November 2008. This year's event, organized by **Liberal Youth South Asia (India)** focused on the topic: "Toward Democracy, Peace, and Open Borders". The summit was sponsored by CPPR and the **Friedrich Naumann Foundation**, in partnership with another close Atlas ally in India, the **Centre for Civil Society**. Both D. Dhanuraj and Amit Chandra from CCS are 2008 graduates of Atlas's Think Tank MBA program.

WILLIAM HUME RECEIVES SIR ANTONY FISHER FREEDOM AWARD

William J. "Jerry" Hume received the **Pacific Research Institute's (USA)** first Sir Antony Fisher Freedom Award during its annual gala dinner in San Francisco on November 12th. Upon hearing this news, Atlas's Alex Chafuen said, "Jerry Hume's example and generosity will continue to inspire all those who, like Fisher, devote their time to champion the principles of the free society, especially in the area of economics."

Los Angeles

APRIL 24-26

2009 ATLAS Liberty Forum

ECONOMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Sir Antony Fisher
International
Memorial
Awards



Please join the
Atlas Economic
Research

Foundation and its global
network of free market
think tank leaders, policy

experts, and allies for its annual Liberty Forum on April 24-26th, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza in Los Angeles, CA, directly following The Heritage Foundation's Resource Bank. The Liberty Forum will include sessions on think tank management and current policy challenges and solutions. Atlas will announce the winners of the Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards, recognizing institutes that published a book, magazine, report, monograph, or study that, in the opinion of the judges, made the greatest contribution to the public understanding of the free society. Jorge Fernando Quiroga, former President of Bolivia (2001-2002), will deliver the Liberty Forum keynote address.

Location and Reservations

Atlas has established a room block at the Hyatt Regency Century Plaza at the rate of \$230++ single/double. Please call 310.228.1234 or 800.233.1234 and ask for the Atlas room block. To receive this discounted rate, please make your hotel reservation by March 28th.

Please register online at atlasnetwork.org. For more information on the Liberty Forum, please contact Atlas at 703.934.6969 or events@atlasnetwork.org.