



PERRY  
WORLD  
HOUSE  
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



Security



Global Justice and  
Human Rights



Democracy



Climate

# Year in Review

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



# The Year in Photos







1. Wharton School Dean Erika H. James speaks on a PWH Critical Conversations panel for Penn undergraduate students. | 2. Faculty Fellow Erik Wibbels, Non-Resident Senior Advisor Koko Warner, and Rebecca Carter of the Global Resources Institute discuss the new collaboration between the University of Pennsylvania's Development Research Initiative and the International Organization for Migration | 3. (l-r) Former Visiting Fellow Erin Sikorsky and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Hussein "Huss" Banai discuss foreign policy challenges facing the incoming Trump administration | 4. (l-r) Penn President J. Larry Jameson, Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Ezekiel Emanuel, former Chair of Penn's Board of Trustees and former U.S. Ambassador to Canada David L. Cohen, NBC News's Andrea Mitchell, former Penn President and former U.S. Ambassador to Germany Amy Gutmann, PWH Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, PWH Executive Director Marie Harf, and Associate Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Amy Gadsden ahead of a discussion on "Common Sense Diplomacy" | 5. (l-r) Director of Programs Lauren Anderson, Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, and former President of Peru Francisco Sagasti at a PWH workshop | 6. Former First Lady of Ukraine Kateryna Yushchenko speaks at Perry World House to mark the third anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine | 7. World House Student Fellows and Faculty Lead Melissa M. Lee at their year-end banquet and celebration | 8. (l-r) HSBC's Christian Deseglise and PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor Lolita K. Jackson speak on a PWH-Brunswick Group panel about climate finance during New York Climate Week | 9. Penn students celebrate the first day of classes with a sweet treat | 10. Distinguished Visiting Fellow Tulio Andrade speaks at a PWH climate workshop at Penn Washington | 11. Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz sits on a panel discussing AI governance at an event cohosted by PWH, the Wharton AI & Analytics Lab, the Wharton Accountable AI Lab, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Penn Carey Law's Center for Technology, Innovation & Competition

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## To the Penn Community:

Shortly after my appointment as University president, I participated in a Perry World House event with my esteemed predecessor, Ambassador Amy Gutmann. She discussed the importance of diplomacy and U.S. leadership alongside Ambassador David Cohen, former Chair of Penn's Board of Trustees, and Trustee Emerita Andrea Mitchell. It was a powerful reminder of PWH's critical role in convening global experts on campus to discuss the most pressing global topics of our time.

Perry World House also brings Penn expertise to the world. Just this year, PWH representatives participated in the COP29 climate talks in Baku, Azerbaijan; the Munich Security Conference in Germany; on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York; and on the sidelines of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington, DC. PWH hosted its robust network in Philadelphia to discuss the foreign policy priorities of the incoming Trump administration and the importance of Ukraine ahead of the third anniversary of the war between Russia and Ukraine, among many other issues.

Our world is changing more rapidly than ever, and Perry World House remains essential to Penn's leadership in the world, while affording unparalleled opportunities for our students, faculty, alumni, and staff to engage directly with policymakers, academics, journalists, and many others.

Thank you for your help in making this another dynamic year of global excellence at Perry World House.

**J. Larry Jameson, MD, PhD**

President

University of Pennsylvania



## Dear Friends,

We are very proud that Penn's strategic framework, *In Principle and Practice*, spotlights our shared commitment to deepening the university's connections with our neighbors and the world. Perry World House, for almost a decade, has been at the heart of this mission, advancing our global relationships while furthering the goals of *In Principle and Practice* to lead on the great challenges of our time, foster leadership and service, and create an engaged campus that brings together people and ideas across all backgrounds, regions, and perspectives.

The reach and range of Perry World House are more powerful than ever, exemplifying the aspirations of Penn Global to bring the world to Penn and bring Penn to the world: more than 400 campus events this year, representing almost 80 countries, in addition to wide engagement around the world at meetings of such major global venues as the UN General Assembly, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Urban Forum in Cairo, the Munich Security Conference, and the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Baku, Azerbaijan.

These connections are especially valuable at a moment of heightened global conflict and polarization. In this climate of change and uncertainty, Perry World House is helping us to lead Penn forward by focusing on what it defines as the most critical global issues: security, climate, global justice and human rights, and democracy. I look forward to continuing to explore these vital topics at Perry World House in the year ahead, as we also celebrate—and invite all of you to join us for—its landmark tenth year in 2026.

Sincerely,

**John L. Jackson, Jr., PhD**

Provost and Richard Perry University Professor





## Dear Friends,

In the nine years since Perry World House opened its doors on Locust Walk, we have seen a greater need than ever before to understand global events. We have seen a backsliding of democracy across the globe, a global pandemic shut down the world for more than a year, old wars have ended, and new wars have started. And now higher education is facing criticism, funding cuts, and attacks.

This has proven to be another challenging year, not just for Penn and higher education more broadly, but for the world. While global changes are to be expected, the rapid rate of change over the past twelve months has been nothing short of head spinning. During this time of upheaval and uncertainty, I have been proud of the work Perry World House does and the service they provide to our community. The four pillars that Perry World House focuses on — climate, democracy, global justice and human rights, and security, are among the toughest and most critical issues facing the world. From explaining the greatest foreign policy challenges facing the incoming Trump administration to hosting rapid-response events when Israel launched missiles into Iran, Perry World House was there to help the Penn community understand what these changes meant for us and the world. Their focus on also training the next generation of foreign policy leaders through the World House Student Fellows program, the Graduate Fellows program, and the newly-launched World House Student Associates program showcases what makes Perry World House so special — their ability to seamlessly blend research and analysis with mentoring the next generation of global leaders.

As we look ahead to the tenth anniversary of Perry World House in 2026, I hope you will join me in appreciating the value that the institution offers to the Penn community past and present.

Sincerely,

**Ezekiel J. Emanuel, MD, PhD**

Vice Provost for Global Initiatives  
University of Pennsylvania



## Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As Perry World House looks ahead to our upcoming tenth anniversary, we are pleased to share with you the highlights and impact of the most recent academic year. Through our four pillars of research and programming — climate, democracy, global justice and human rights, and security — Perry World House has continued to convene the world's leading experts to better understand the challenges that face today's complicated world.

This year has brought about extraordinary shifts in the global landscape. With rising temperatures and extreme weather; democratic backsliding around the world; conflicts in Ukraine, the Middle East, and Africa; and ongoing security and economic challenges surrounding China and the Indo-Pacific, the need for new ideas and analysis has never been greater. At Perry World House, we responded to these challenges by doing what we do best: bringing together leading scholars and policymakers, fostering insightful research, and mentoring and teaching students as they enter a rapidly-changing world.

This report highlights how we have positioned ourselves to meet this critical moment. We hope you will enjoy looking back on the last year and support Perry World House as our work advances into the future. Our success depends on our dedicated community — both here on campus and around the world.

With appreciation,

**Michael C. Horowitz, PhD**

Faculty Director, Perry World House

**Marie Harf**

Executive Director, Perry World House

**Michael Weisberg, PhD**

Deputy Director, Perry World House



# About Us

Perry World House is a center for scholarly inquiry, teaching, research, international exchange, policy engagement, and public outreach on pressing global issues at the University of Pennsylvania. Our mission is to bring Penn's academic knowledge to bear on some of the world's most pressing global policy challenges, and to foster international policy engagement within and beyond the Penn community.

Located in the heart of campus at 38th Street and Locust Walk, we draw on the expertise of Penn's twelve schools and numerous globally-oriented research centers to educate the Penn community and prepare students to be well-informed, contributing global citizens. At the same time, Perry World House connects Penn with leading policy experts from around the world to develop and advance innovative policy proposals.

Through our rich programming, Perry World House facilitates critical conversations about global policy challenges and fosters interdisciplinary research on these topics. We present workshops and colloquia, welcome distinguished visitors, and produce content for global audiences and policy leaders, so that the knowledge developed at Penn can make an immediate impact around the world.

Perry World House builds on Penn's strengths in teaching, interdisciplinary scholarship, and policy-relevant research. By doing so, we cultivate the broad worldview, critical thinking, and leadership required to address the most urgent issues of global affairs.

## GIVING THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Perry World House is honored and grateful to receive support from several individual and institutional supporters.

Our work is made possible in large part by the generous support of **Richard C. Perry, W'77, and Lisa Perry**. Their incredible support established Perry World House and they continue to play a vital and critical role in our community.

**Hemal N. Mirani, G'97, WG'97, and Paritosh V. Thakore, W'86**, generously provide support for our Global Justice and Human Rights pillar, including visiting fellows in that area. This year, the Thakore family's generosity supported three Thakore visiting fellows — **Irene Khan, Amy Pope, and Tarek Zeidan**.

A gift from **Eric D. Schlager, C'86, and Beth Cherashore Schlager, C'86**, supports an annual visiting fellowship. This year's Schlager Visiting Fellow was **Tamara Wittes**, the president of the National Democratic Institute.

**Howard Wolk, W'86, C'86** provided support that continues to support an annual visiting fellowship. This year's Wolk Visiting Fellow was **Richard Fontaine**, chief executive officer of the Center for a New American Security (CNAS).

**Ted Schlein, C'86, PAR'20**, is supporting the launch of our Emerging Technologies and Global Politics project, an area where we believe we can continue achieving substantial global policy impact.

**Carlos Schonfeld, W'93, and Devy Schonfeld, WG'01**, are supporting our World House Student Fellows program, a transformational opportunity for Penn undergraduates.

**Henry Gosebruch, W'95**, funded the beautiful plaza outside the building that serves as a welcoming entry point to our space.

A grant from **Carnegie Corporation of New York** enables our work to bridge the gap between academia and the policy world in international peace and security. This past year, Carnegie Corporation of New York funding supported conferences and workshops on topics including Indo-Pacific security, maritime security, media and democracy, migration and human rights, and the intersection between climate change and food security.

# Research and Programming

In Summer 2024—in an effort to build on our considerable success and to hone our research agenda—Perry World House both expanded and tailored our programmatic offerings. In the place of its inaugural research themes, “Global Order” and “Global Shifts,” we established four dedicated pillars of inquiry on (1) Security (2) Climate Change (3) Global Justice and Human Rights and (4) Democracy.

Under this new research ambit, PWH fostered more and increasingly impactful policy-relevant connections, discourse, and influence.

For example, on security, we hosted conversations on the new age of nuclearity and maritime security in the fall, as well as various discussions on the war in Ukraine, the future of U.S.-Iran relations, emerging technologies and the usage of AI in national security, and the changing landscape for security risks in the Indo-Pacific theater. PWH also launched a fully-staffed program on democracy, hosting our first-ever conference on “Security at Stake: Media, Democracy, and Repression.” Our global justice and human rights program hosted its annual conference, with support from the Thakore family, on “From Migrant to Mainstay: Safeguarding Human Rights after the Journey.” In addition, ongoing work under the climate pillar resulted in major conferences discussing “The Political Economy of Global Climate Finance” and “Feeding a Climate-Changed World.”

Each of these research pillars are led by prominent faculty members who shape our academic work and outreach across campus to engage their peers in our work. Our human rights pillar is led by Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein, the first Perry World House professor of the practice of law and human rights, and Beth Simmons, a Penn Integrates Knowledge (PIK) professor with joint appointments in law and political science as well as an affiliation with the Wharton School. PWH’s climate work is led by PWH Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, in collaboration with Eugénie Birch, co-director of the Penn Institute for Urban Research. Our security pillar is led by Michael C. Horowitz, PWH’s faculty director. And our democracy work is led by Sarah Banet-Weiser, dean of the Annenberg School for Communication, and Sarah Bush, associate professor of political science. Each pillar is also staffed by a dedicated PWH program manager who oversees its administration and works closely with faculty leads on content.

## Distinguished Visiting Fellows Program

PWH also continued growing our Distinguished Visiting Fellows program. After nearly a decade of operations, the visiting fellows program has become a signature initiative through which PWH bridges the academic-policy divide and hones its policy impacts. This renowned cohort of experts advise, shape, and inform our policy discourse, engaging with faculty and students on campus across a wide array of urgent issues. Visiting fellows pen and promote influential policy perspectives





shaped by their time at Penn, and they often facilitate access to key convenings, like the Munich Security Conference and the UN Climate Conference, helping us to maximize our impact on the global stage. This past year, PWH hosted some twenty fellows across our four research pillars.

The 2024-25 PWH distinguished visiting fellows included former heads of state and senior government officials, sitting multilateral officials, leaders of prominent think tanks, activists, and academics—our full list of the 2024-25 distinguished visiting fellows is on the next page. This dedicated and engaged group of experts remain eager to work with our institution and advance solutions to the most complex of global policy challenges.

Perry World House hosts a security workshop focused on the Indo-Pacific. Participants include Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz and Distinguished Visiting Fellows Antonio Carpio, Richard Fontaine, and Mara Karlin

# Visitors and Advisors



## Tulio Andrade

Head, Climate Negotiations |  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Joseph Asunka

CEO | Afrobarometer

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Sasha Baker

Former Acting Under Secretary  
of Defense for Policy | U.S.  
Department of Defense

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Hussein "Huss" Banai

Associate Professor of International  
Studies | Hamilton Lugar School of  
Global and International Studies,  
Indiana University, Bloomington

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Ruth Ben-Ghiat

Professor of History and Italian  
Studies | New York University

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Susan Biniaz

Former Principal Deputy  
Special Envoy for Climate | U.S.  
Department of State

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Paul Bodnar

Director of Sustainable Finance,  
Industry, and Diplomacy | Bezos  
Earth Fund

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Antonio T. Carpio

Former Supreme Court Justice |  
Supreme Court of the Philippines

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Melissa Flagg

Founder and President | Flagg  
Consulting LLC

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



## Richard Fontaine

CEO | Center for a New  
American Security

**WOLK VISITING FELLOW**



## Des Freedman

Professor of Media and  
Communications | Goldsmiths,  
University of London

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Lolita K. Jackson

Executive Director, Sustainable  
Cities | Sustainable Development  
Capital LLP

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



## Mara Karlin

Professor | School of Advanced  
International Studies, Johns  
Hopkins University

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



## Irene Khan

UN Special Rapporteur for  
Freedom of Opinion and  
Expression | United Nations

**THAKORE VISITING FELLOW**





### Aditi Kumar

Former Principal Deputy Director,  
Defense Innovation Unit | U.S.  
Department of Defense

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



### Eleni (Lenio) Myrivili

Global Chief Heat Officer |  
UN-Habitat and Arsht-Rock  
Resilience Center

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



### Khadeeja Naseem

Former Minister of State for  
Climate Change | Maldives

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



### Radha Plumb

Former Chief Digital and  
Artificial Intelligence Officer |  
U.S. Department of Defense

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



### Amy Pope

Director General | International  
Organization for Migration

**THAKORE VISITING FELLOW**



### Marvin Rees

Former Mayor | Bristol, England

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



### Clay Risen

Reporter | New York Times

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



### Mauricio Rodas

Former Mayor | Quito, Ecuador

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



### Trudy Rubin

Worldview Columnist |  
Philadelphia Inquirer

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



### Francisco Sagasti

Former President | Peru

**DISTINGUISHED GLOBAL LEADER**



### Robert M. Scher

Former Head of International  
Affairs | bp America

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



### Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

National Leader, Head of the  
United Transition Cabinet |  
Belarus

**DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW**



### Alexander Vershbow

Distinguished Fellow,  
Scowcroft Center for Strategy  
and Security and Eurasia Center |  
Atlantic Council

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



### Koko Warner

Former Director, Global Data  
Institute | International  
Organization for Migration

**NON-RESIDENT SENIOR ADVISOR**



### Tamara Wittes

President | National  
Democratic Institute

**SCHLAGER VISITING FELLOW**



### Tarek Zeidan

Fellow, Program on Law and  
Society in the Muslim World |  
Harvard University

**THAKORE VISITING FELLOW**



# Security

The security pillar at Perry World House—our oldest and most established area of work—continued to focus on the major foreign policy and national security issues of the year and their long-term implications. For example, following the return to PWH of Faculty Director and pillar lead Michael C. Horowitz from two years of service leave at the U.S. Department of Defense, the security pillar re-doubled its work on emerging technologies. Perry World House received a \$250,000 gift from Penn alumnus Ted Schlein to support this programming and research, which will ensure our continued leadership in this area.

The pillar also hosted its first-ever side event at the 2025 Munich Security Conference, “Do the Mass: Mapping the Age of Precise Mass in Warfare,” featuring Professor Horowitz and PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Mara Karlin. The two spoke in conversation with *Foreign Affairs* editor Daniel Kurtz-Phelan and gathered a diverse group of participants, including then-Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff C.Q. Brown and other senior military leaders from around the globe.

The security pillar also homed in on the maritime domain, especially including, but not limited to, the Indo-Pacific, as a critical space for analysis during the year, hosting two conferences on different aspects of maritime security. PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Richard Fontaine served as a keynote speaker for one such conference, focusing on the history of U.S. pivots to Asia, and gave his insights on U.S. foreign policy issues to faculty and students during his time on campus. PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow and retired Supreme Court Justice of the Republic of the Philippines Antonio Carpio visited the University of Pennsylvania to give his insights on the U.S.-Philippines alliance, the ongoing South China Sea dispute, and other international law issues to students, faculty, and the large Filipino student community on campus.

1. Perry World House hosts a side event at the Munich Security Conference. The event, titled “Do the Mass: Mapping the Age of Precise Mass in Warfare,” moderated by Foreign Affairs’ Daniel Kurtz-Phelan and featuring remarks from Distinguished Visiting Fellow Mara Karlin and Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz | 2. Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz at a PWH reception at Penn Washington | 3. Executive Director Marie Harf at a workshop on U.S.-Iran relations

# Iran

In February 2025, Perry World House convened a small group of regional experts to discuss short- and medium-term prospects for the U.S.-Iranian relationship. That work led to a [series of briefs](#) from workshop participants—including from co-conveners PWH Executive Director Marie Harf and PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Hussein “Huss” Banai. That work proved essential just months later, when Israel (later joined by the United States) launched missiles into Iran with the stated goal of destroying the Iranian nuclear program. Following that shocking turn of events, Perry World House quickly called upon its network of Middle East experts to [answer a Q&A](#) the next day on the first round of strikes and later organized a series of rapid-response virtual events to help our network understand what was happening in the region. The Middle East—and Iran in particular—will remain a key focus for Perry World House throughout the coming academic year.



## KEY EVENTS IN SECURITY

- August 14:** Michael C. Horowitz returns to [Perry World House](#) as faculty director.
- October 29-30:** PWH hosts conference on [“Maritime Security in an Age of Uncertainty.”](#)
- December 9:** PWH Q&A on [“Developments in Syria and What Lies Ahead”](#) with PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Mara Karlin following the fall of the Bashar al-Assad regime.
- December 10:** PWH rapid-response virtual event on [“Syria: What Happened and What Comes Next.”](#)
- January 15:** PWH welcomes students back to campus with an event focused on the incoming Trump administration, [“Foreign Policy Priorities for the Incoming U.S. Administration.”](#)
- February 14:** PWH hosts its first side event at Munich Security Conference, focused on the future of war.
- April 4:** PWH, the Wharton AI & Analytics Initiative, the Wharton Accountable AI Lab, the School of Engineering & Applied Science, and the Center for Technology, Innovation & Competition at Penn Carey Law School host a [workshop on key issues surrounding AI governance.](#)
- April 9-10:** PWH hosts workshop on [“The Future of Security in the Indo-Pacific.”](#)
- June 13:** PWH Q&A on [“Israel’s Strikes Against Iran”](#) with PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Hussein Banai and PWH Executive Director Marie Harf following early-morning Israeli strikes in Iran which launched Operation Rising Lion.
- June 16:** PWH Q&A on the [AUKUS security agreement](#) with PWH Director Michael C. Horowitz following news that the Trump administration was considering withdrawal from the trilateral agreement.
- June 20:** PWH rapid-response virtual event on [“Israel and Iran at War.”](#)
- June 27:** PWH rapid-response virtual event on [“Israel and Iran at War: Two Weeks On.”](#)





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## Climate

In 2024–25, Perry World House advanced its commitment to global climate policy and solutions, deepening expertise and cultivating vital interdisciplinary collaboration. The program actively leveraged the insights and leadership of twelve fellows and advisors, including former President of Peru, Francisco Sagasti, to drive its initiatives forward. It delivered more than 25 high-impact events at Penn and abroad, including during Penn’s Climate and Energy Weeks.

Key initiatives included a New Student Orientation lecture highlighting PWH’s multidisciplinary approach to policy challenges, and strong support for the Political Economy of Climate and the Environment (PECE) Conference, for which Distinguished Visiting Fellow Zinta Zommers served as keynote. PWH expanded its international reach, notably at the Innovate4Cities Conference in Montreal, Canada, where PWH Director of Programs Lauren Anderson moderated a panel on women and extreme heat with PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Eleni “Lenio” Myrivili and former PWH Visiting Fellow Sheela Patel. During the UN General

Assembly and NYC Climate Week, PWH hosted a “Climate Finance 101” session and a high-level discussion on the Declaration on Future Generations with Thakore Visiting Fellow Amy Pope and Permanent Representatives to the United Nations from the Netherlands and Jamaica.

A significant “Geopolitics of Global Climate Finance Workshop” held in collaboration with The Wharton School brought together 40 participants from sixteen countries. It resulted in the launch of a white paper on innovative finance authored by PWH Non-Resident Senior Advisor Koko Warner and the United Nations University’s Michael Franczak. The paper was subsequently featured on a Wharton Finance hosted webinar and at a roundtable discussion in DC; the ideas were also reflected in the final policy outcome at COP29. Spring 2025 featured intensive fellow engagements, enhanced collaboration across campus and a major conference on food and climate security. The conference keynote drew a packed house to hear local vegan celebrity chefs discuss the nexus of food, climate action, and sustainability. The



program concluded with a discussion on future generations with author Kim Stanley Robinson, emphasizing the long-term strategic aspects of climate action.

## Climate and the Changing Food Landscape

In March, Perry World House convened a high-level conference to develop policy innovations and research solutions to the linkages between climate change and global food security. The conference—titled [“Feeding A Climate-Changed World”](#)—featured policymakers, practitioners and academics from world-renowned institutions and representing a variety of countries and contexts. The discussions explored solutions to critical questions such as: how to produce more food with less environmental impact; whether a diet can be healthy for both planet and people; and how geopolitics might shape food security in a warmer, more urban, and populated world. The conference discourse highlighted how needs might change in the coming decades as well as many innovations—driven by research here at Penn—in plant breeding, livestock management and regenerative farming that will help meet food demand. Participants also took a deep dive into how diets are changing and the national and sub-national policies needed to assure nutritional and food security for all.

PWH continued this important discussion two weeks later on April 1, when chefs and owners of VEDGE restaurant in Philadelphia [Kate Jacoby and Richard Landau joined PWH Deputy Director Michael Weisberg for a conversation on the opportunities and challenges of plant-based fine-dining](#). Their work represents how chefs and even casual foodies can reset their ways of eating in a climate-changed world.

1. (l-r) Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, Distinguished Visiting Fellow Khadeeja Naseem, and former Permanent Representative of the Maldives to the United Nations Thilmeeza Hussain at a PWH event on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly | 2. Former Visiting Fellow Zinta Zommers speaks at a PWH event

## KEY EVENTS IN CLIMATE

**September 24:** PWH and Brunswick Group panel discussion on climate finance, including remarks from [Michael Weisberg, Distinguished Visiting Fellow Paul Bodnar, Non-Resident Senior Advisor Lolita K. Jackson](#), and [former Visiting Fellow Wolfgang Blau](#).

**September 26:** PWH, the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Latvia to the United Nations, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands host a joint discussion on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly to discuss the Declaration on Future Generations.

**September 30:** PWH and the Wharton Initiative on Financial Policy and Regulation host an expert-level workshop on climate finance, leading to a [white paper written by Michael Franczak and Koko Warner](#).

**October 15:** PWH hosts an event on [“The Race to Mobilize International Climate Finance.”](#)

**October 21:** PWH hosts a climate finance discussion in Washington, DC, on the sidelines of the annual World Bank/IMF meetings.

**November 11–22:** Deputy Director [Michael Weisberg](#) attends COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, as an advisor to the Fiji delegation.

**December 11:** PWH, the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, and Penn’s Environmental Innovations Initiative host an [event with outgoing White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi](#).

**February 11:** PWH hosts an event on [“How Can Cities Advance Climate Action?”](#)

**March 18:** PWH hosts its [annual climate conference](#), this year on the topic of food security.

**April 1:** [PWH hosts a keynote event](#) for the annual climate conference with Vedge chefs and co-owners on plant-based fine dining and how climate change is affecting food supplies.

**April 22:** PWH hosts climate finance discussion in Washington, DC, on the sidelines of the spring World Bank/IMF meetings.

**April 25:** PWH and the International Peace Institute (IPI) cohost an event with Kim Stanley Robinson on “Declaration on Future Generations: Moving from Vision to Reality.”





# Global Justice & Human Rights

## Global Justice & Human Rights Program

Perry World Houses's Global Justice and Human Rights program, having completed its third year, explored big questions: How can we resist and reverse the human rights backlash? And how do we build a just and equitable future for generations to come?

Guided over the past year by Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein and Beth Simmons—and funded by a generous donation from Penn alumni Hemal N. Mirani (G'97, WG'97) and Paritosh V. Thakore (W'86)—the program seeks to deepen understanding—both on and off Penn's campus—of human rights issues as well as to inform faculty research in related areas. It analyzes trends in human rights policy

worldwide, hosts thought leaders with experience directing global human rights initiatives and creates forums for multidisciplinary collaboration on global justice concerns.

In the 2024–25 academic year, the Global Justice and Human Rights Program welcomed three Thakore visiting fellows: Amy Pope, director general of the International Organization for Migration; Tarek Zeidan, an LGBTQ+ rights activist from Lebanon; and Irene Khan, the United Nations special rapporteur for freedom of opinion and expression. Additionally, the program hosted monthly academic seminars highlighting new research on human rights topics, including reproductive justice, elections and freedom of expression, and data science for health outcomes.





# Migration and Human Rights

Throughout the year, the Global Justice and Human Rights program at Perry World House focused on the intersection of migration and human rights, culminating in the program's annual conference, [“From Migrant to Mainstay: Safeguarding Human Rights after the Journey.”](#) Director General Pope's keynote launched the conversations and was followed by two days of panel discussions focused on the international landscape of migration. Panelists, including PWH Thakore Visiting Fellow Tarek Zeidan and PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Marvin Rees, discussed shifting borderlands, the relationship between migrants and their host communities, and protecting human rights in cases of both voluntary and involuntary return.

Day two of the conference was organized by Beth Simmons and the Borders and Boundaries project. The conversations on day two continued and deepened the discussions started the previous day, keeping the political aspects of border policy and labor exploitation top of mind. To close out the conference, the University of Pennsylvania's Development Research Initiative (PDRI/DevLab@Penn) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) [launched a new project aimed](#) at leveraging technology and data to better understand the dynamics of migration and inform more effective solutions.

1. Director General of the International Organization for Migration and Thakore Visiting Fellow Amy Pope and Penn's Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein following DG Pope's keynote address at Perry World House | 2. (l-r) Thakore Visiting Fellow Tarek Zeidan, George Washington University's Elizabeth Chacko, and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Marvin Rees participate in a PWH conference panel discussion | 3. Director General of the International Organization for Migration and Thakore Visiting Fellow Amy Pope with this year's World House Student Fellows | 4. Penn's Beth Simmons speaks at a PWH conference

## KEY EVENTS IN GLOBAL JUSTICE & HUMAN RIGHTS

**April 16:** IOM Director General and Thakore Visiting Fellow Amy Pope speaks about “Human Rights and Migration: Solutions for a World on the Move” in a conversation with PWH's Zeid Ra'ad al Hussein.

**April 17-18:** Annual Human Rights & Global Justice Conference, “From Migrant to Mainstay: Safeguarding Human Rights after the Journey,” funded by the Thakore Family.





# Democracy

Perry World House launched its newest pillar of work — democracy — in 2024, a year that saw more people than ever before go to the polls, but also a year that represented great challenges for democracy globally. Focusing on authoritarianism, media repression, information manipulation, and the strength of populist movements, Perry World House investigated critical policy topics key to shaping the future trajectory of democracy globally.

The democracy pillar hosted an important public event with PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, the Belarusian opposition leader in exile, in September 2024. This event, held against the backdrop of democratic backsliding around the world, brought to Penn's campus an inspiring voice for democracy, human rights, and the struggle against authoritarianism.

Throughout the year, PWH hosted academic seminars on topics ranging from gender policies and democratization to disinformation and media. Workshops and roundtables explored ways to bridge the policy-academia divide and to

rethink media structure and purpose to advance democratic principles. PWH paid particular attention to democratic trends in Africa, publishing an [analysis of elections in Ghana](#) by PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Joseph Asunka and engaging journalists and visiting fellows from South Africa and elsewhere on the continent. Distinguished visiting fellows shared expertise with the Penn community on democracy assistance programs overseas, shedding light on how governments, NGOs, and activists can work together to advance democratic reform globally.



1. (l-r) Executive Director Marie Harf, Sarah Banet-Weiser, dean of Penn's Annenberg School for Communication, and Distinguished Visiting Faculty Ruth Ben-Ghiat at a fellow briefing on democracy and authoritarianism | 2. (l-r) National Democratic Institute President and Schlager Visiting Fellow Tamara Cofman Wittes and Sarah Bush, associate professor of political science at Penn speak about democracy in 2025



# Democracy, Autocracy, and the Media

In February 2025, the democracy pillar convened a major conference on media, repression and democracy. This was PWH's inaugural democracy conference. With more than 30 participants from five continents and spanning multiple disciplines—including scholars, journalists, diplomats, and think tank experts—participants discussed and analyzed some of the most important issues affecting global democracy today.

PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Ruth Ben-Ghiat delivered the conference's keynote address to an at-capacity crowd at Perry World House. She spoke with a full audience about the dynamics of authoritarianism and how authoritarian regimes make bargains with elites to keep themselves in power, using the media to spread their propaganda. The event helped to establish PWH as an institution focused on serious thinking about democracy, advancing the academic and political conversation on the impact of information manipulation on democracy, and build networks between Penn faculty and students and practitioners and experts in the field.



3. National Leader of Belarus, Head of the United Transition Cabinet, and PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya speaks about "Standing Up to a Dictator" at Perry World House | 4. (l-r) Sarah Banet-Weiser, dean of Penn's Annenberg School for Communication, Chief Editor of Arms Control Today Carol Giacomo, and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Des Freedman discuss the media's role in democracy and the global elections of 2024

## KEY EVENTS IN DEMOCRACY

**September 25:** PWH hosts "[Standing Up to a Dictator](#)" with [Distinguished Visiting Fellow Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya](#).

**November 19:** PWH hosts "Democratic Media and the Elections of 2024" with Distinguished Visiting Fellow [Des Freeman](#), *Arms Control Today's* Carol Giacomo, and the Annenberg School for Communication Dean Sarah Banet-Weiser.

**December 6:** PWH Q&A with [Distinguished Visiting Fellow Joseph Asunka](#) on "[Ghana's Elections](#)."

**January 21:** PWH Event "[The State of Democracy in 2025](#)" with Schlager Visiting Fellow [Tamara Coffman Wittes](#).

**February 25:** PWH Conference "[Media, Democracy, and Repression](#)."

**February 26:** PWH Event and Conference Keynote "[Autocracy in the World](#)" with Distinguished Visiting Fellow [Ruth Ben-Ghiat](#).





# PWH and Student Engagement

The primary means of engagement between Perry World House and Penn undergraduates remains the [World House Student Fellows](#) (WHSF) program. This year-long program typically includes 30–35 students from Penn’s four undergraduate schools who are chosen from amongst a very competitive pool of applicants. Throughout the year, they meet each Friday for a seminar-style discussion with a PWH visitor or other Penn expert, and travel each year to Washington, DC, New York City, and to an international city for a series of meetings with policymakers and other influential voices on the global stage.

A focal point of the WHSF experience is the year-long policy project. During this process, fellows are paired with real-world organizations in a client-project model to tackle practical global challenges. This experience provides [fellows](#) with the opportunity to engage in deep and sustained research and meaningfully contribute to policy work, while advancing Perry World House’s mission of fostering international policy engagement within and beyond the Penn community.

Fellows learn how to manage and execute a long-term project, gather information from primary and secondary sources, communicate their ideas in a clear and accessible manner, and produce professional reports and other research outputs.

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the cohort worked in groups to complete eight projects. This year’s partner organizations were: The Atlantic Council Global Energy Center, the Banyan, the Center for European Policy Analysis, Fundación En Vía, the International Telecommunications Union, Climate Governance Initiative Greece, and the Bureau of Global

Health Security through the U.S. Department of State Diplomacy Lab. One group worked with [Distinguished Visiting Fellow Eleni Myrivili](#), assisting her work as the global chief heat officer for UN-Habitat. The intellectual diversity of these organizations allowed students to work on issues such as democratic backsliding, sustainability, the future of warfare, and global health in meaningful ways.

The WHSFs also shared their work with Penn faculty and other policy experts at their research conference in February. The students used the feedback received to refine their deliverables before final presentations to client organizations took place in April and May.

## Putting WHSFs on the Global Stage

World House Student Fellows Alexander Schrier, Keanu Nahmi Natan, Zachary McGrath, Leo Solga, and David Garcia-Maldonado worked with the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) on a project focused on artificial intelligence (AI) regulation standards and best practices. They were asked to analyze regulatory frameworks, identify gaps, and propose recommendations to keep up with the rapid advancements of AI. In their paper “From Code to Carbon—Responding to the Environmental Impact of Artificial Intelligence,” the fellows focused on AI’s environmental footprint specifically. The students recommended two initiatives: (1) a voluntary International Scoring Model (ISM) to assess and incentivize energy-efficient AI

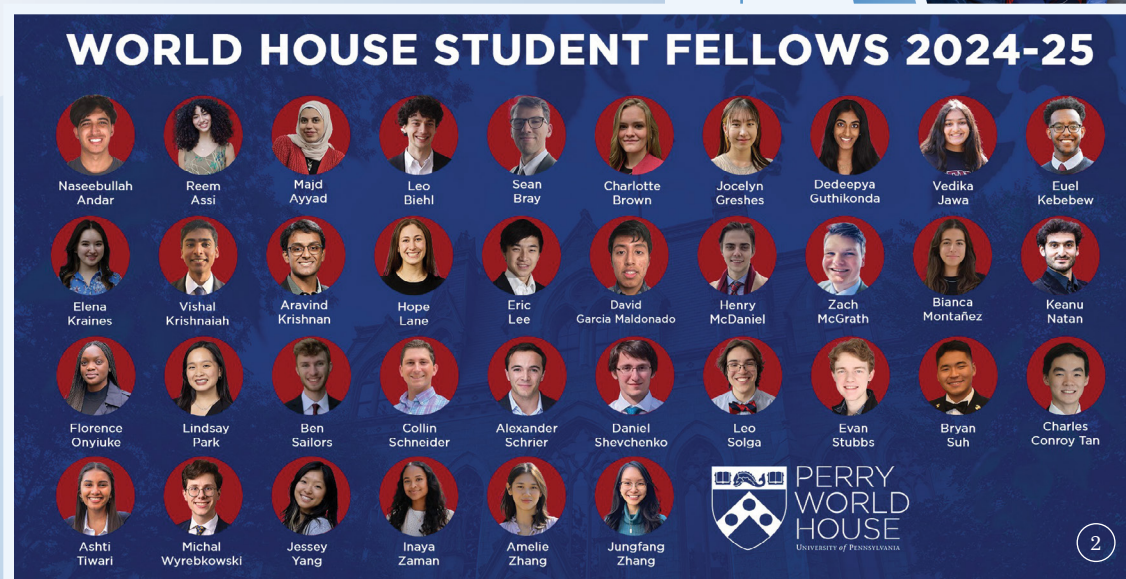
data centers using the Product Parameter (PP) approach, and (2) a global awareness campaign to promote responsible AI development and highlight AI's potential to advance environmental goals.

In April, the group was invited by the ITU to present at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum 2025 in New York City. Alexander Schrier represented his group members at side events as well as participated during the Thursday plenary meeting on a panel entitled “Empowering and Engaging Young People: The Evolving Role of Science and Technology.” Joined on the panel by ECOSOC President Bob Rae and others, Alex spoke to the session about the role of universities in preparing students for a rapidly evolving technological landscape through technical training, ethical reflection, and interdisciplinary inquiry. He used examples from his time at Penn and Perry World House to describe ways in which he had experienced this preparation, and implored other universities to offer opportunities and coursework to ensure young people are “not just passive consumers of technology, but active participants in shaping it for the public good.”

1. World House Student Fellows in Bruges, Belgium, during their spring break travels for policy briefings and meetings in Brussels and the Hague | 2. The 2024-25 World House Student Fellows cohort

## TIMELINE

- August 30:** First WHSF meeting of the 2024-25 academic year.
- October 18:** WHSFs participate in annual crisis simulation exercise at Perry World House.
- October 25:** WHSFs travel to Washington, DC, for meetings and briefings.
- February 28:** WHSF research conference at PWH.
- March 7-16:** WHSF spring break trip and meetings in Brussels and the Hague.
- April 4:** WHSFs travel to NYC for meetings at the United Nations and Fox News.
- April 25:** WHSF year-end banquet.





# Engaging at the Graduate Level

Perry World House was delighted to run our Graduate Associates (GA) Program again, led by [Regina Abrami](#), Chang Sun term professor & faculty director, global program, Lauder Institute of Management & International Studies, and [Marie Harf](#), executive director of Perry World House. This year's highly selective cohort consisted of eighteen masters-and PhD-level students from the Stuart Weitzman School of Design, Carey Law School, Perelman School of Medicine, School of Social Policy and Practice, College, Wharton, Lauder, and the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. The monthly GA seminar provided an opportunity for the cohort to grow close with one another and discuss ways in which their research could become policy impactful.

The Graduate Associates tapped into their varied expertise to individually write op-eds and policy briefs. Under the direction of program leadership, from topic selection to final product. Topics included the use of artificial intelligence in precision medicine, public perception of the scientific community, international law, water rights, and the history of the Farm Bill, among others. At the conclusion of the year, the Graduate Associates presented their briefs to the cohort and received feedback in a truly collaborative process.

[Meet the 2024-25 PWH Graduate Associates](#)





# Engaging the Newest Classes of Academics

Every two years, Perry World House welcomes a cohort of postdoctoral fellows from around the world. Throughout their time at Perry World House they become active and integrated members of our community—participating in academic seminars and conferences, advising student groups on their policy projects, and joining sessions with PWH distinguished visiting fellows.

The research interests of PWH postdoctoral fellows represent PWH programmatic priorities overall, and their expertise ranges from migration and climate change to political psychology to China's political economy.

Applications for the next cohort will open in Fall 2025; more information and a link to apply can be found on Perry World House's website.

Graduate Associates during their visit to Penn Washington to meet with DC policy experts

## Our 2024–25 postdoctoral fellows were:

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[Angela Chesler](#)



[Gavriel Cutipa-Zorn](#)



[Suji Kang](#)



[Manya Oriel Kagan](#)



[Shana Scogin](#)



[Robin Yajie Wang](#)

# Lightning Scholars

Perry World House is proud that one of our core missions is to foster the next generation of global affairs professionals. This includes not only practitioners, but also the academics who will help shape the education of those future policymakers. [The PWH Lightning Scholars Program](#) brings junior tenure-track faculty from universities around the world to Penn for one or two semesters of focused research and writing.

In 2024 and 2025, PWH welcomed two Lightning Scholars during the academic year. [Samantha Bradshaw](#) is the director of the Center for Security, Innovation & New Technology and an assistant professor at American University in Washington, DC. She worked closely with Perry World House

on its inaugural year of democracy-focused programming and research. PWH's second Lightning Scholar for the year was [Lama Mourad \(also a PWH postdoctoral fellow in 2019-2020!\)](#). She is an assistant professor at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada, with research interests in the intersection of migration, governance, and borders with a special regional focus on the Middle East.

For those who may be interested in applying to be a PWH Lightning Scholar, applications will open in October for the 2026-2027 academic year.

1. Lightning Scholar Samantha Bradshaw | 2. Lightning Scholar Lama Mourad



# Faculty Council

The Perry World House faculty council provides strategic guidance to our leadership team throughout the year, and provides insight on increasing PWH's impact.

Penn faculty are key to the work being done at Perry World House. They provide expertise in our fields of study and engage with students and visitors throughout the year, deepening the ties that Perry World House is creating with current and future policy experts. Perry World House is governed by a 17-member faculty council that provides strategic guidance to its leadership team throughout the year and provides insight on increasing Perry World House's impact. In addition, Perry World House works closely with Penn faculty through the Faculty Fellows program and with rising external faculty through the Lightning Scholars program.

Throughout a three-year fellowship, selected faculty fellows participate in Perry World House workshops and events; attend seminars; host visiting fellows; and provide input to the development of our thematic work. They also make substantial policy research contributions to Perry World House's core or emerging policy research areas.



**Regina Abrami, PhD**

Chung Sun Term Professor, Faculty Director of the Lauder Institute's Global Program, and Senior Lecturer in Political Science



**Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, PhD**

Perry World House Professor of Practice of Law and Human Rights



**Sarah Banet-Weiser, PhD**

Dean, Annenberg School for Communication



**Eugénie L. Birch, PhD**

Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research



**Sarah Bush, PhD**

Associate Professor of Political Science



**Ezekiel J. Emanuel, MD, PhD**

Vice Provost for Global Initiatives



**Amy Gadsden, PhD**

Associate Vice Provost for Global Initiatives





**Guy Grossman, PhD**  
Professor of Political Science



**Jennifer Pinto-Martin, PhD, MPH**  
MacInnes Professor of Nursing and Epidemiology



**Michael Hanchard, PhD**  
Gustave C. Kuemmerle Professor of Africana Studies



**Beth Simmons, PhD**  
Andrea Mitchell University Professor in Law, Political Science, and Business Ethics



**Marie Harf**  
Executive Director, Perry World House



**Michael Weisberg, PhD**  
Deputy Director, Perry World House



**Matthew Hartley, EdD**  
Professor of Education, Board of Advisors Chair of Education, Deputy Dean of Graduate School of Education, and Director of Penn AHEA



**Michael C. Horowitz, PhD**  
Faculty Director, Perry World House



**Melissa M. Lee, PhD**  
Klein Family Presidential Associate Professor of Political Science



**Lynn Meskell, PhD**  
PIK Professor in Anthropology and Professor of Historic Preservation

# Faculty Fellows



**Parrish Bergquist, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science



**Matthijs Bouw**

Professor of Practice in Landscape Architecture



**William Burke-White, PhD**

Professor of Law



**Fiona Cunningham, PhD**

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science



**Amalia Daché, PhD**

Associate Professor of Higher Education



**Peter Decherney, PhD**

Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Endowed Term Professor in the Humanities



**Alessandro Dovis, PhD**

Associate Professor of Economics



**Michael E. Mann, PhD**

Presidential Distinguished Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences



**Melissa M. Lee, PhD**

Klein Family Presidential Associate Professor of Political Science



**Lynn Meskell, PhD**

PIK Professor of Anthropology; Professor of Historic Preservation, Weitzman School of Design



**Simon Richter, PhD**

Class of 1965 Endowed Term Professor of German



**Beth Simmons, PhD**

Andrea Mitchell University Professor of Law and Political Science



**Erik Wibbels, PhD**

Presidential Penn Compact Professor of Political Science

# Perry World House on the Road

Throughout 2024 and 2025, Perry World House took to the road to introduce ourselves to new audiences, reengage familiar colleagues, and share our work with a broad swath of policy and academic experts.

In September, the Innovate4Cities Conference (I4C24)—hosted by the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy and UN-Habitat—brought together leaders from academia, government, civil society, and industry in Montreal, Canada, to explore cutting-edge solutions at the intersection of cities, climate science, and innovation. PWH Director of Programs Lauren Anderson moderated a conference session that included PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Eleni “Lenio” Myrivili and former PWH Visiting Fellow Sheela Patel discussing implications for extreme heat on women who are living in informal communities.

As the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) convened its annual high-level session in New York City—timed to coincide with NY Climate Week—PWH orchestrated meetings to discuss the most salient of issues. During a busy and productive week, Perry World House convened and joined sessions on a number of climate-relevant topics. PWH Faculty Council Member Eugénie Birch and Non-Resident Senior Advisor Mauricio Rodas held an SDSN Commission on Urban SDG Finance meeting, joined by an array of current and former mayors from around the world, including Distinguished

Visiting Fellow Marvin Rees. That session continued an ongoing discussion

on establishing mechanisms to enable green finance flows to subnational governments.

In collaboration with former Visiting Fellow Wolfgang Blau and the Brunswick Group, PWH convened a “Climate Finance 101” session that featured

remarks from Deputy Director Michael Weisberg and featured Distinguished Visiting Fellow Paul Bodnar as a panelist, among others. PWH also hosted a breakfast roundtable discussing implementation of the UN’s Declaration on Future Generations, a conversation that featured Thakore Visiting Fellow and International Organization for Migration Director General Amy Pope, along with the permanent representatives of The Netherlands and Jamaica. The meeting resulted in a clear expression of the need for academic institutions like Penn to help think through the further implementation of the adopted text. Perry World House also hosted a reception at the Penn Club of New York for Penn alumni and others in our network who were in the city for UNGA—we were thrilled to see a number of colleagues in attendance, including Penn’s Ezekiel Emanuel, PWH leadership, Lolita K. Jackson, NPR’s Michele Kelemen (C’89), and then-Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell.

After an active October on campus, the World Urban Forum (WUF12) convened in Cairo, Egypt in early November. At this signature event organized by UN-Habitat, Perry World House and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Lenio Myrivili hosted a panel discussion titled “Scorching Cities.” The discussion featured PWH’s Eugénie Birch, Mauricio Rodas, Lenio Myrivili, and Sheela Patel, as well as representatives from the World Resources Institute, Group on Earth Observations (GEO), and the Coalition for Home Repair. PWH’s Lauren Anderson provided the session’s introduction and framing for the conversation that followed.

WUF12 was a precursor to COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Although PWH and Penn had a smaller footprint at COP29 than in previous years, PWH used the on-the-ground opportunity at the world’s preeminent climate gathering to continue moving forward its work on climate finance and the geopolitics of climate change. PWH and the [Penn delegation](#) partnered with the Thai Pavilion, where Penn academics discussed topics as varied







as energy solutions and climate innovation for the private sector. PWH's Michael Weisberg attended the conference as a delegate of Fiji, where he continued to take outcomes from prior work on climate finance forward. An [outcome brief](#) was published on the PWH website following COP29's conclusion.

Perry World House was thrilled to host its first-ever side event at the Munich Security Conference (MSC). Since its inception in 1963, the MSC has brought together world leaders, academics, non-governmental organizations, industry leaders, and more for an annual discussion on some of the greatest international security challenges of the day. At this year's PWH event, titled "Do the Mass: Mapping the Age of Precise Mass in Warfare," PWH Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz and PWH Distinguished Visiting Fellow Mara Karlin discussed how advances in artificial intelligence and autonomous systems, manufacturing, and the spread of precision guidance technologies are shaping how militaries plan to fight, especially in what might be a new era of total war. *Foreign Affairs* Editor Daniel Kurtz-Phelan moderated the conversation, with a roundtable of participants which included then-Chairman of the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff General CQ Brown, as well as the heads of think tanks such as the Brookings Institution, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and the Royal United Services Institute.

Not to be left out, PWH student fellows also traveled throughout the year to meet with policy-makers, policy influencers, and others in the global affairs space. The World House Student Fellows

traveled in the fall to Washington, DC, and met with officials at the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of State, U.S. Institute of Peace, and Google. Over spring break the WHSFs traveled to Brussels, Belgium, and the Hague, Netherlands, meeting with officials from NATO, the European Commission, the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Dutch House of Representatives, and more. Finally, in April the student fellows traveled to New York City—led by PWH Deputy Director Michael Weisberg and Executive Director Marie Harf—for meetings at the United Nations, including with Jamaica's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Brian Wallace, and they then toured Fox News Channel's studios. PWH's Graduate Associates traveled to Washington, DC, in the spring as well for a series of briefings and meetings. During the sessions at Penn Washington, they met with representatives from organizations as varied as FACT Coalition, Semiconductor Industry Association, Cultivate Labs, and the Eisenhower Institute at Gettysburg College.

1. (l-r) Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff C.Q. Brown, and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Mara Karlin following PWH's event at the Munich Security Conference | 2. World House Student Fellows in Bruges, Belgium, during their spring break travels for policy briefings and meetings in Brussels and the Hague | 3. (l-r) Deputy Director Michael Weisberg and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Khadeeja Naseem at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan | 4. (l-r) Former U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell and Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz at a PWH reception in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly



# People

## EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



**Michael C. Horowitz**  
Faculty Director and Richard  
Perry Professor



**Marie Harf**  
Executive Director

## COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH TEAM



**Tara Medeiros**  
Director of Communications and  
Strategic Outreach



**Gabby Szczepanek**  
Assistant Director of  
Communications



**John Macri**  
Student Programs Coordinator

## EVENTS & OPERATIONS TEAM



**Spencer Northcutt**  
Director of Events and  
Operations



**Kenedi Cleveland  
Sprayberry**  
Events and Operations  
Manager



**Thalie Adolphus**  
Visitor and Administrative  
Coordinator



**Michael Weisberg**  
Deputy Director



**Alexandre Lacourtiade**  
Executive Assistant

## PROGRAMS TEAM



**Lauren Anderson**  
Director of Programs



**Thomas J. Shattuck**  
Senior Program Manager



**David Dreilinger**  
Program Manager



**Aparajita (Pari) Rao**  
Program Manager



**Colleen Cronnelly**  
Program Manager



# The Year in Photos







1. (l-r) Penn's Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein and Distinguished Visiting Fellow Paul Bodnar participate in a PWH workshop | 2. (l-r) United Nations University's Michael Franczak, Non-Resident Senior Advisor Koko Warner, Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, and Special Advisor to the President of the Inter-American Development Bank Avinash Persaud at a PWH workshop on climate finance at Penn Washington | 3. Executive Director Marie Harf addresses the audience at a PWH event | 4. TIME's Justin Worland, Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, then-White House National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi, Faculty Director Michael C. Horowitz, and Penn's Environmental Innovations Initiative Director Katherine Unger Baillie | 5. Distinguished Visiting Fellow Radha Plumb gives the keynote address at an event on AI governance cohosted by PWH, the Wharton AI & Analytics Lab, the Wharton Accountable AI Lab, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Penn Carey Law's Center for Technology, Innovation & Competition | 6. (l-r) Princeton University's Deborah Amos moderates a conversation for Penn students with former Israeli Ambassador to the United States Itamar Rabinovich and former Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority Salam Fayyad | 7. Ethan Allen CEO Farooq Kathwari speaks at an event on the role of business leaders in addressing hate and bias at an event cohosted by PWH, Penn Arts & Sciences, Penn's Office of Social Equity and Community, and Penn's Office of Religious and Ethnic Inclusion | 8. Vice Provost for Global Initiatives Ezekiel Emanuel welcomes the audience to a PWH event | 9. World House Student Fellows at the Fox News Channel's studio in New York | 10. (l-r) Vedge co-owners and chefs Richard Landau and Kate Jacoby, and Deputy Director Michael Weisberg, at a PWH event



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