

*"Human history more and more becomes a race between education and catastrophe"—H.G. Wells*

## OUR UPCOMING MEETING

Robert J. Noun directs the government affairs, media relations, communications and community



outreach activities for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) located in Golden, Colorado. He is the chief spokesman for NREL, the nation's principal research center for renewable fuels and electricity. Mr. Noun has been involved with renewable energy for over 30 years. During his career he has made significant contributions to the advancement of renewable energy technologies.

Prior to his current position, Noun managed the NREL Wind Energy Research Program. Many of the technical improvements that appear in today's wind technology were developed during his leadership of the program. He is the author of 24 technical publications on the subjects of renewable energy law and regulation, wind energy development, and renewable energy in developing countries.

Noun has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the 2005 Van Morris Award recognizing his leadership in the growth and development of NREL, the 2002 Pioneer Award for Contributions to the

## A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

**ROBERT J. NOUN**

**Executive Director,  
Communications and External  
Affairs, National Renewable  
Energy Laboratory**

**TIME/PLACE:**

**Tuesday, May 18, 2010,  
7:30 PM, Mount Vernon Country Club**

Development of Renewable Energy from the World Renewable Energy Network in London, and the 1996 Gold Medallion Award for the Advancement of Renewable Energy, presented by His Highness, the Emir of Bahrain. He is an adjunct professor at the University of Denver's Sturm College of Law and has been

a guest lecturer in the Iowa State University Science and Technology Lecture Series. In 1973 he was awarded the Reginald Hebersmith Fellow in Law from Howard University.

Before joining NREL in 1979, Noun served as legislative director for U.S. Representative Thomas Harkin of Iowa and was Representative Harkin's counsel for science and technology policy. He has been a practicing attorney and is a member (inactive) of the Iowa and District of Columbia Bars. He is a member of the Environment, Energy and Resources Law Section and the Renewable Energy Resources Committee of the American Bar Association.

Noun received his bachelor degree from the University of Iowa and his law degree from the University Of Kansas School Of Law. ■

## APRIL MEETING REVIEW

*Political Turmoil in Iran & U.S.-Iran Relations*  
Professor Arya Amirie, Iran Expert & Former Kent State  
Faculty Member

By Deborah Pearce, Secretary,  
Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council



Dr. Arya Abbas Amirie was born in Iran and immigrated to the United States in 1957. He earned his PhD from Southern Illinois University and taught at both Kent State University in Ohio and the University of California, Los Angeles before returning to Iran to advise the Shah on foreign policy. Dr. Amirie also served as an advisor on Middle Eastern affairs to President Ronald Reagan.

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## APRIL MEETING REVIEW

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As the largest supplier to terrorists, including Hezbollah, the Taliban, and Shiite extremists, the prospect of Iran becoming a nuclear power has created immense international anxiety. Iraq was the only nation in the region that prevented Iran from importing its influence westward. The U.S. invasion of Iraq in March 2003 opened the wound between Sunni and Shiite and removed the only obstacle to Iran's political expansion.

While Iran signed the Non-proliferation Treaty, the government has remained secretive about the development of nuclear generators, prohibited the taking of samples and denied access to international inspectors. In October 2009, Iranian diplomats met with the five permanent members of the U.N Security Council and German officials to discuss sending 70% of it enriched uranium outside of Iran to be processed into fuel for a small reactor that produces medical isotopes. The plan was ultimately rejected by Iranian officials who were suspicious of sending the country's uranium abroad.

Iran's refusal to cooperate with officials from the International Atomic Energy Agency has left a cloud of suspicion over the Iranian claim that they are merely developing nuclear power plants. Last year, four countries fearful of Iran's nuclear developments, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates asked the United States to supply them with Patriot Defense systems.

According to Dr. Amirie, Iranians claim to be suspicious of the United States and Western Europe believing that the IAEA inspectors are CIA agents. The Iranian government cites historic examples of U.S. involvement in the overthrow of the democratic administration in 1953 as well as failed U.S. and German negotiations to partner in the development of a steel mill. Iran also blames the United States for its support of Saddam Hussein during the Iran-Iraq War in the 1980's that killed an estimated 200,000 Iranians. Feeling surrounded by U.S. forces in Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar and Afghanistan, Iran believes the United States is trying to force Iran to provide raw materials, such as oil and gas to the world. The use of rhetoric proclaiming Iran to be among the "Axis of Evil" or referring to war in the region as a "Crusade" only makes it worse.

Since the overthrow of the Shah in 1979, Iran has remained a theocracy run by the Ayatollah Khomeini. The title means "God's Rule on Earth" and is similar to the

power afforded to Popes in the Middle Ages. Anyone opposed to the Khomeini is against the rule of God and must be eliminated at all costs. It should have taken three days and nights to tally the 35 million votes cast, yet in just three hours the Khomeini announced the outcome of the election, amounting to the divine assignment of Ahmadinejad over the rival candidates Mohsen Rezaee and Mir-Hossein Mousavi. In the long run, Dr. Amirie predicts the heavy hand of the Ayatollah against the demonstrators will result in a fatal blow to "God's rule on Earth." This medieval regime will not last long in a country where a highly educated populace is hopeful to establish a democracy.

Whoever controls the destiny of oil, controls the destiny of the world. Despite efforts to find alternatives, 90% of the world's industry relies on fossil fuel. In 1928, Sir Arnold Wilson, a British historian, proclaimed, "No arm of the sea is of greater interest than the inland water named the Persian Gulf." Since the establishment of the Carter Doctrine in 1980, the Persian Gulf has officially been of vital interest to the security of the United States. While the Gulf comprises only 3% of the world's population, it controls 60% of the world's oil and contributes to 47% of the world's consumption. The 2009 elections could have brought considerable change to Iran. As prime minister of Iran from 1981 to 1989, Mousavi was a hard-line anti-Westerner. As presidential candidate, he redefined himself as a moderate who promised to pursue dialog with Western nations. The future of Iran is paramount to the United States' standing and influence in the region. ■

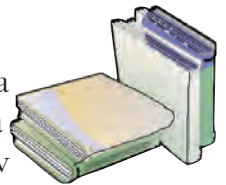


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## NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS

By Fred Nyland, News Editor

On April 8, 2010, President Obama and President Medvedev signed a new arms reduction treaty: New START Treaty. It replaces the old 1991 START Treaty, and supersedes the 2002 Moscow Treaty. The terms of the new treaty reduce the number of strategic carrier vehicles to 800 with 100 of these considered "reserve" carriers. The carriers include intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), sea launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs), and strategic bombers. Each strategic bomber aircraft will be counted as one warhead each, while the missiles will be counted as the number of warheads each carries. The total number of warheads under this counting



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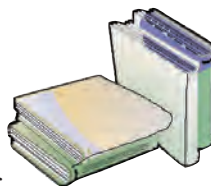
## NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS

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scheme will be limited to 1550, about 74% less than the 1991 START Treaty. The 700 deployed strategic carrier limit is less than half of those allowed under the 1991 START Treaty. The new treaty has a verification regime that combines the appropriate elements of the 1991 START Treaty with new elements tailored to the limitations of the New START Treaty.

Measures under the present treaty include on-site inspections and exhibitions, data exchanges and notifications related to strategic offensive arms and facilities, as well as provisions to facilitate the use of national technical means for treaty monitoring. One new treaty term is the exchange of telemetry data. The New START Treaty's duration will be ten years, unless superseded by a subsequent agreement. The U.S. and Russia may agree to extend this treaty for a period of not more than five years. The 2002 Moscow Treaty (or SORT Treaty) will terminate upon entry into force of the new treaty which the U.S. Senate and the Russian legislature must approve. Some parties in the U.S. were concerned that there might be limits on anti-ballistic missile activities in the new treaty. There are no such limits, nor are there any limits on strategic carriers that might be converted to carry conventional armaments. This reader found the terms of the treaty complicated, but thorough. Members of the Senate, the Duma, and others may not agree. (Sources: White House Office of the Press Secretary, Federation of American Scientists, Council on Foreign Relations.)

Barry C. Lynn, *Cornered: The New Monopoly Capitalism and the Economics of Destruction*, Wiley, 2010. The main thrust of this book is that most of our public debates about globalization, competitiveness, creative



destruction and risky finance are nothing more than a cover story for the widespread consolidation of power in the American economy. According to the book's publisher, *Cornered* strips the camouflage from the secret world of twenty-first century monopolies – neo-feudalist empires whose sheer size, vast resources, and immense political power enable them to control virtually every major industry in America in an increasingly authoritarian manner. The author reveals how these massive organizations, which would have been illegal just thirty years ago, came into being, how they have devoured their competition, and how they collude with one another to maintain their power and create the illusion of open, competitive markets. The Obama administration has promised more aggressive enforcement on antitrust issues, but Barry Lynn argues that they are missing the forest for the trees. For decades, the federal government has encouraged companies to buy one another up, outsource all their production, and make their profits by leveraging their market share. It will take more than a lawsuit or two to overthrow America's corporatist oligarchy and restore a model of capitalism that protects our rights as property holders and citizens. (Sources: Amazon.com, Publisher's notes)

Dominique Moisi, *The Geopolitics of Emotion: How Cultures of Fear, Humiliation, and Hope Are Reshaping the World*, Doubleday, 2009. In his 1993 book, *The Clash of Civilizations*, Samuel Huntington argued that the fundamental source of conflict in the post-Cold War world would not be primarily ideological or economic, but cultural. In this book, the author demonstrates that our post-9/11 world has become divided along more than  
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### Summer is Here

The May presentation concludes our programs for the current season. Once again we have been able to present a terrific slate of speakers.

We hope you enjoyed the presentations and gained insight into the varied topics.

We will be back in September. Enjoy your summer.

## NEWS & SUGGESTED READINGS *(Continued)*

cultural fault lines between nations. Moisi chronicles how the geopolitics of today is characterized by a “clash of emotions,” and how cultures of fear, humiliation, and hope are reshaping the world. The author contends that both the U.S. and Europe have been dominated by fears of “those others”. Instead of being united by their fears, the West has been divided over how best to confront them. For Muslims and Arabs, the combination of historical grievances, exclusion from the economic boon of globalization, and civil and religious conflicts extending from their homelands to the Muslim Diaspora has created a culture of humiliation devolving into a culture of hatred. Meanwhile, Asia has been able to concentrate on building a better future and seizing the economic initiative from the American-dominated West with a new culture of hope. This book may be among the first to shed light on a critical aspect of globalization: its emotional impact. The author argues that one cannot fully understand the world in which we live without trying to integrate and understand its emotions. Dominique Moisi has contributed to many NATO policy discussions with your reviewer in the past, and is currently a visiting professor at Harvard University. (Source: Publisher notes, and the contents of the book.) ■

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### VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

[www.ColoradoFoothillsWAC.org](http://www.ColoradoFoothillsWAC.org)

The Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council is a non-profit organization which meets to provide a forum for those in our community wishing to keep abreast of developments in international relations and to discuss them on a regular basis with those having similar interests.

For more information, call Walter “Joe” Shaw 303-979-5927. ALL COLORADO FOOTHILLS WAC MEETINGS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. RESERVATIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED.

**DIRECTIONS** to Mount Vernon Country Club: Exit I-70 at Genesee Park (Exit #254). Go North on Mount Vernon Country Club Road, Staying on the paved road and curving to the right. The Club entrance will be on your left, 1.1 miles from the I-70 exit.

**DINNER AT 6:00 PM** in the main dining room at Mount Vernon Country Club is optional. Reservations have to be made no later than the Sunday before the event. Call Mt. Vernon Country Club at 303-526-0616 and ask for seating with the Colorado Foothills WAC. Cost of dinner will be collected by the Club. 


**TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP DUES:** Information can be sent to: Bruce Glenn, P.O. Box 1602, Evergreen, CO 80437-1602.



*Newsletter Design: Brenn Lea Pearson*

The Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council (CFWAC) is a non-partisan organization and does not endorse any political affiliations. The views and opinions of speakers, members and guests expressed at the Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council presentations as well as the press releases, summaries and reading list included in this newsletter do not necessarily constitute or imply the endorsement, recommendation or favoring of the Colorado Foothills WAC or any of its officers, or contractors acting on its behalf.

Student memberships: \$5; Individual memberships: \$30; Family memberships: \$45; Supporting memberships: \$75; Contributing memberships: \$100; Patron memberships: \$250; Corporate memberships: \$400.

**HAVE YOU MOVED?** Please let the Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council Treasurer, Bruce Glenn, know about your move so your mailing information can be updated. Send change of address requests to: CFWAC Treasurer, P.O. Box 1602, Evergreen, CO 80437-1602. 

**SEND YOUR IDEAS** and articles for the newsletter to the Editorial Committee: Beatrice Szadokierski, Editor in Chief, 1923 Parfet Estates Drive, Golden, CO 80401, email: szadokierski@comcast.net or call 303-279-2638.