



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF BUSINESS AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Monthly Newsletter

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Diplomacy

Latin American Article

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**Female Founders:
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[Registration Link](#)

Oct. 28th 5:30 pm

**Korea – Still a Global
Hotspot: From the
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Oct. 9th - Nov. 6th

Fridays at
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**Encountering
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Embodying
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Unsettling Borders:
Middle Eastern
Refugees and
Immigrants in the
European Union**

[Registration Link](#)

Letter from the Society

from Co-Presidents, Reo Aono and Hope Hunter

Dear Readers,

Welcome to our first monthly newsletter. The International Society of Business and Foreign Affairs is a student-run organization on campus. We publish monthly newsletters, hold fundraising events, and bring speakers that relate to global issues, foreign affairs, and international business.

Please meet our newsletter team!

Will Rowe is a senior from Greensboro, NC majoring in Global Studies and Peace, War and Defense and minoring in French.

Sophie Hastings is a junior from Cherryville, NC majoring in Global Studies and minoring in Spanish Translation and Interpreting.

Zach Pairman is a sophomore from Greenville, SC majoring in Political Science and Peace, War, and Defense.

Yordy Zeledon is a sophomore from Boca Raton, FL majoring in Global Studies and minoring in Social and Economic Justice and Public Policy.

Dylan James is a Public Health major at UNC focusing on environmental health and safety.

Talia Crowther is a senior from Raleigh, NC majoring in Global Studies with a concentration in Global Health with a minor in Social and Economic Justice and Anthropology.

If you have any questions or inquiries, please send us an email at:

reo1@live.edu, hopeh@live.unc.edu.

Diplomacy in a World of Transnational Crisis

by Zachary Pairman



Panelists pictured above : Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering, Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann, Ambassador Barbara R. Stephenson, Ambassador Kathleen Stephens, Dr. J. Stephen Morrison

On September 14th, the American Academy of Diplomacy, partnered with the Office of the Vice Provost for Global Affairs, hosted the annual Joseph J. Sisco Memorial Forum. This annual forum discussion focuses on diplomacy in the modern world. This year's central theme was, Diplomacy in a World of Transnational Crisis, which examined many critical transnational issues, the most salient of which being COVID-19 and its implications for a globalized world. The forum hosted distinguished guests such as Ambassador Thomas Pickering, an ambassador under 6 presidents, and Ambassador Ronald Neumann, president of the American Academy of Diplomacy and ambassador to Algeria, Bahrain, and Afghanistan.

The event highlighted the extreme importance of diplomacy, especially in a time of crisis like COVID-19. Ambassador Pickering stated, Ahead of us now are more problems than I have seen since I was able to see problems, highlighting the ever growing need for diplomacy to mitigate these problems. The United States of America has increasingly been quite reserved in its diplomacy, evident by the decreasing allocation of funds to diplomatic endeavors and the withdrawal from treaties and organizations.

The forum also talked about the diplomatic power vacuum that has grown with the decreasing diplomatic stance of the U.S. As the country's diplomatic power has weakened, China has filled the vacuum, now holding more embassies and consulates than any other nation. Now, for the first time, America has diplomatic competition. This lack of American diplomacy doesn't go unnoticed. Ambassador Neumann recounted his experience with African diplomats who said they had wanted to work with Americans over the Chinese, but the Americans are harder to find and work with due to their decreasing diplomatic presence. Clearly, there is a foreign desire to get Americans back into diplomacy.

Forum speakers highlighted the importance of diplomacy as the backbone of American foreign policy. "No policy is self executing... good policy is not enough, leaders are necessary to implement it," said Ambassador Pickering. It is essential, especially in times of crisis, to focus on diplomacy and encourage cooperation, because it is the only way a crisis becomes resolved.

Colombians Protest Police Brutality

By Sophie Hastings



Colombia is a country that has unfortunately experienced economic downturn, armed conflict, corruption, and strife in general. While the country has developed over the years and is much safer than it once was, systemic problems still exist. COVID-19, for example, has demonstrated the lack of sufficient infrastructure to deal with a surprise pandemic. More recently, albeit not new, Colombian citizens

have spoken out against police and military brutality in the country. In fact, they have taken to the streets - mirroring Black Lives Matter protests in the United States - despite a pandemic.

In November, Dilan Cruz, a student, was shot by riot police during a protest. On August 11th, 5 Afro-Colombian teenage boys in Cali were murdered in their neighborhood, Llano Verde, and some suspect foul play by officers. Juliana Giraldo Diaz, a transgender woman, was killed by a soldier in the Cauca region (El País). Two weeks ago, Javier Ordóñez, 43, died in police custody after being tased excessively. These are just a few examples of recent murders in Colombia. And, again, while brutality is nothing new, citizens decided to protest in indignation and re-open the debate on the use of excessive force by officers (El País).

In the case of Juliana Giraldo Diaz, the article by El País explains that she and her partner were on the road in a car when a soldier began to shoot at them. Her partner said the soldiers must have received an order to stop the car, but that they weren't doing anything wrong. *Las Fuerzas Armadas* or the Armed Forces, admitted to her death. This time, the President responded and has ordered the Minister of Defense to investigate, figure out who was responsible, and punish them. He also expressed solidarity with the families.

Regarding the most recent and bigger protests, they specifically took place after Javier Ordóñez was murdered. Some have argued that the only reason people were so angry was because Ordóñez was about to become a lawyer and was a mestizo man. There is not always the same type of indignation over Indigenous and Afro-Colombian murders that happen quite often. During the protests, according to BBC, at least 7 people were killed, 5 of whom were shot. The article by El País also explains that the combination of these incidents has made the image of the Armed Forces, who generally had a favorable perception, fall from 85% to 48%. Additionally, the support of police is now under 40%.