



# GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

QUARTERLY

## Connecting Global to Local

As another election fast approaches, we are asked to choose those people who will best represent us in the halls of local and federal government. We'd like to believe the leaders we elect will represent our views on a range of issues. But all too often, after we have cast our vote, we allow our voices to become silent. We step back from the policymaking process and let our elected officials make the difficult decisions for us.

Citizens for Global Solutions' *Connecting Global to Local* seeks to reconnect Americans and their elected officials. More specifically, this initiative will bring global issues to the local level and engage citizens from all backgrounds in creating local solutions for global challenges.

As part of this effort, we are bringing together business leaders, faith-based organizations, retired military personnel, educators, health workers, elected officials and many others. Working together they will voice their opinions, concerns and expectations about the foreign policy Americans want and deserve; one that reflects our values and creates a more peaceful and secure world.

We have already launched *Connecting Global to Local* in five U.S. communities: Des Moines, Indianapolis, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Santa Fe-Albuquerque and Pittsburgh. We have conducted numerous

communications workshops and are planning future events, ranging from town hall forums to film screenings to community discussions, all of which focus on local participation and action. In the coming months, we will expand the initiative further, beginning with the first-ever *Connecting Global to Local* two-day workshop at the 2006 Citizens for Global Solutions Annual Meeting.

In Global to Local communities, and in others across the country, newspaper headlines are filled with stories pertaining to avian flu, climate change and nuclear proliferation. They are not only national or international issues, but they are also profoundly local. Some examples:

- Indiana draws 98 percent of its energy from coal-powered plants. But as state and federal governments try to come up with cleaner prospects for energy production, Indiana may see nuclear power plants pop up around the state. Yet nuclear power has not demonstrated its capacity to be cleaner or safer for the people who live near the plants or the environment. As state officials begin to look for energy alternatives, they should look towards safe, secure, renewable energy sources in lieu of nuclear power.
- Climate change is beginning to adversely affect the 10,000 lakes,

streams and waterways of Minnesota, an important part of Minnesotans' heritage and economy. As lake temperatures rise and stay warm longer, ice formation decreases in the winter. This affects trout, whitefish and other cold water species. These environmental changes will also have significant consequences for Minnesota's \$10 billion tourism and recreation industry.

- In 1983, an avian flu outbreak occurred in the U.S. that resulted in the loss of 17 million chickens, which cost \$65 million and caused egg prices to skyrocket by 30 percent. An outbreak of avian flu in Iowa could damage its \$250 million poultry industry. Iowa ranks first in egg production and tenth in turkey production in the United States. Although Iowa has tough rules and regulations to prevent contamination on its farms, consumer fright could have a negative impact on poultry industries. In countries already affected by avian flu the poultry industry is suffering great losses.

To find out more about how global issues such as nuclear power, climate change and avian flu can impact your community, visit [www.globaltolocal.org](http://www.globaltolocal.org).

Contributing Writer: Rich Stazinski

# H.E. Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

## President, United Nations General Assembly

**H**.E. Sheikha Haya Rashed Al Khalifa is the President of the Sixty-first Session of the United Nations General Assembly. Prior to being elected President, she served as Legal Adviser to the Royal Court in the Kingdom of Bahrain. One of the first two women to practice law in her country, she has held many senior positions with leading legal organizations. Her pioneering role in the legal sphere has been coupled more recently with prestigious diplomatic assignments as her country's Ambassador to France, from 2000 to 2004, and as non-resident Ambassador to Belgium, Switzerland and Spain. Over the same period she was the Kingdom's permanent representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Recently, she sat down with Citizens for Global Solutions' Press Secretary Michael Shank for this interview.

### **The role of the President of the United Nations General Assembly has become increasingly more important. How do you see the role of the General Assembly President evolving?**

The role of the General Assembly is clearly set out in the Charter of the United Nations. It is the first organ mentioned in the Charter and it consists of all the Member States. In fact, it is the "chief deliberative, policy making and representative organ of the United Nations" which the 2005 World Summit reaffirmed.

The world is constantly changing and it is imperative that the United Nations not only adapts but responds effectively to the new requirements and the new responsibilities that are expected of it. This is why reform is of the essence and revitalizing the General Assembly, as an essential component of this reform process, will ensure a stronger, more effective United Nations.

Now as this revitalization is underway, the role of the President must also be enhanced to ensure greater continuity of the work of the General Assembly. The President of the General Assembly plays an important role in moving forward the agenda and forging consensus, this is what we have seen in previous sessions and what I plan to continue.

I intend to work closely with all Member States to continue enhancing the role and authority of the General Assembly. An important aspect of this objective is to ensure that Member States work in a constructive manner so that the General Assembly could achieve tangible results. After all, we need to guarantee that our work has a direct and positive impact on the lives of the nations and people we represent.

### **What do you believe should be the General Assembly's priorities during this session?**

The General Assembly will continue moving ahead with the reform process and recommendations outlined in the 2005 World Summit such as Security Council reform, the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council, management reform, the issue of disarmament and non proliferation, Mandate review and System-wide Coherence.

We will also be holding two high level events at the beginning of the Sixty-first Session, one on migration and development and the other on least developed countries and both will require follow up.

We will also work to consolidate the achievements of the Sixtieth Session. In particular we will have to ensure that the bodies established during the Sixtieth Session—the Peacebuilding Commission, the Human Rights Council and the Central Emergency Response Fund—function well and live up to expectations.

Furthermore, the theme of this session's General Debate is implementing a global partnership for development. I look forward to hearing many suggestions and recommendations from Member States, as we develop a way forward on many of the issues that still remain.

### **What is preventing us from moving more quickly on issues like poverty and climate change?**

Fighting abject poverty is a responsibility of all nation states. In order to fight this successfully, it requires a genuine partner-

ship between the countries afflicted with poverty and the international community. As I mentioned earlier, we have dedicated this year's General Debate to implementing a global partnership for development which aims at forging a closer partnership between donor countries and recipient countries.

Fighting abject poverty requires sufficient and predictable resources coupled with good governance. It is encouraging to note that donors have committed 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI) on Official Development Assistance (ODA) but more needs to be done.

As far as climate change is concerned, the discussion of the environment is on the agenda of the Sixty-first Session. There are a world set of agreed instruments to regulate the gas emissions that affect climate change. This issue is of global concern and we shall continue to strive to make sustainable development a reality.

I am certain this issue will gain momentum during this session and I anticipate that the Report on System Wide Coherence that we shall be receiving in the coming months will address these issues.

### **We have thousands of members throughout the United States. What would you like to say to them about the U.N.?**

I just have a very short message: I urge you to all read the preamble of the Charter of the United Nations. This organization was established after two world wars in order to prevent other major wars from occurring and give children a brighter future. It is an organization of hope. For it to work effectively it needs the full support of all Member States and influential states such as the United States have a key role to play in this process. It is indeed vital that the people of the United States offer more support to the United Nations which will in turn promote the United States' own interest in maintaining peace and security. 🌐

*To view the entire interview, please visit: [www.globalsolutions.org/press\\_room/news/interview\\_khalifa.html](http://www.globalsolutions.org/press_room/news/interview_khalifa.html)*

## A Nation of 435 One-Party States?

Recently on primary election day, I struck up a conversation with the barista in my local coffee shop. When I asked him whether he had voted, he said that he had just turned 18 and wasn't sure whether it was worth his time. I urged him to do so, pointing out that since he would have to live with the results anyway, he should make sure that he had a say.

Sadly, my young friend is not alone in his distrust of our current crop of elected officials. There are a lot of reasons for this, too many to list here. But one that is high on many folks' list is political gerrymandering.

This is not a new problem. The Constitution instructs the states to redraw Congressional districts after each census.

And the effort to sculpt Congressional districts to favor a particular party or candidate is almost as old as the republic. The term gerrymandering comes from Elbridge Gerry, an early 19th Century American politician who created a salamander-shaped district in Massachusetts to maximize the number of his supporters in his district.

Recent advances in statistical modeling have for the first time given our politicians the ability to go house to house to carve out districts with absolute partisan precision. They literally can pick and choose who they want in their district.

As a result, incumbents know that the best way to stay in power is to keep their base happy. They also know that these are the people who don't want them to compromise or work with those who have different viewpoints.

Today, the House is neither representative nor very democratic. As Cokie Roberts recently put it, we have become a nation of 435 one-party states. Not only are third parties frozen out, but so is *any* opposition in most districts. And the vast majority of Americans – those who choose not to par-

ticipate in primaries, much less elections – have no voice.

Recently the Supreme Court passed on a chance to declare political gerrymandering unconstitutional. Last year, measures in California and Ohio, which sought to remove the Congressional redistricting process from state legislatures and put it in the hands of judges, were defeated at the polls. They lost in large part because the dominant parties (Democrats in California, Republicans in Ohio) mobilized their base to oppose any change in the status quo.

But isn't political gerrymandering a domestic issue? What does it have to do with Citizens for Global Solutions' agenda? A lot, actually. One of our goals is to build a globalist majority in Congress. That means electing courageous leaders from parties who have the vision and drive to promote global solutions. If we want real change in the world, we need to fix the system.

That doesn't mean you should give up on the system – or fail to support those candidates dedicated to global solutions. In fact, 2006 represents the best chance in a decade to change the direction of Congress. Whereas there are usually no more than 20 of 435 seats in the House that are competitive in a given election year, nearly 60 are this year. In fact, to date Global Solutions PAC has endorsed 170 candidates. You can find out more about them (and our efforts on their behalf), by turning the page.

So next time you talk to your elected officials – and this applies not just to Members of Congress but also state senators and representatives (the people who vote every ten years to realign Congressional districts), ask them why they support political gerrymandering. Ask them what they will do to fix the problem. And tell them that you want them to fix what's wrong with our system so we can do right by the world. It will take local efforts to right the U.S. electoral system but the solution will have a global impact. ☺

—Charles J. Brown

# The 2006 Annual Meeting

## BUILDING A BIPARTISAN UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Monday, November 13th &  
Tuesday, November 14th  
Hotel Palomar • Washington, D.C.

Gone are the days when people sit in stuffy rooms for more than an hour trying not to fall asleep and listen to monotonous lecturers. In the past, seminars and annual meetings of some organizations provided little excitement for participants and attendees.

A new model is needed to engage attendees in a way that promotes intellectual debate and encourages participation. With our upcoming Annual Meeting, Citizens for Global Solutions is the leading example of this much needed change.

On November 13–14, 2006, we will bring together 250 people at the new Hotel Palomar in Washington, D.C. to discuss the creation and implementation of a sound, bipartisan U.S. foreign policy for the 21st Century. It will feature lively keynote addresses, tell-it-like-it-is panel discussions, intimate salon conversations and rare networking opportunities.

This two-day event will focus on exciting, intellectual dialogue among speakers, panelists and attendees. It will run counter to the one-way talk-and-listen format of events normally held in Washington. This event will also be one of the first to be held after the November 2006 elections.

For the most up-to-date information and to register, please visit our web site, [www.globalsolutions.org](http://www.globalsolutions.org).

See the Annual Meeting "Save-the-Date" ad located on the back of this newsletter for more information about how to take advantage of our special room rates at the Hotel Palomar. See you in November! ☺

Contributing Writer: Christopher Belisle

# PAC Works Toward a Global Major

**E**lection Day, November 7, is right around the corner. Midterm Congressional elections often lack excitement and intrigue. Not in 2006; not by a long shot.

For several months, political analysts have noted there are more competitive U.S. House and Senate races than at any time since 1994. What is even more exciting is the genuine chance to elect men and women that believe in the United Nations, support the International Criminal Court, condemn new nuclear weapons development and aim to address climate change. New, visionary candidates want to return the U.S. to its leadership role in resolving global problems. They have an opportunity to rid Congress of some of its most outspoken critics of cooperative U.S. engagement with our allies.

For more than a year Citizens for Global Solutions' Political Action Committee (Global Solutions PAC) has engaged in this election cycle. The volunteers on the PAC, and countless members in states and districts across the country, devoted time to select the following great candidates. Without our members' help, we would not have such a fine list of candidates to endorse.

These candidates universally believe a cooperative U.S. foreign policy needs to be implemented. Candidates across the political spectrum are committed toward this goal - from Democrats in Montana, South Carolina and Arizona to Republicans in southern California, New York and Indiana and Independents in Vermont and Minnesota. Working with friends and allies around the world is not a partisan issue, at least not according to these men and women.

When Election Day is over and all the ballots have been counted, Global Solutions PAC believes there will be an invigorated, globally-minded voting bloc in both chambers of Congress. With this team in place, the 110th Congress will be on its way to a globalist majority.

For more information, visit  
[www.globalsolutions.org/elections](http://www.globalsolutions.org/elections)

*Contributing Writer: Drew J. Asson*

**Representative Don Payne**, (D-NJ District 10), has consistently scored high on our Congressional Report Card. He has been a leader on the crisis in Darfur and introduced a resolution in the House that labeled it genocide. Subsequently, he sponsored the Darfur Genocide Accountability Act that directed the Bush administration to implement actions to help halt the violence. As a senior member of the House International Relations Committee, Rep. Payne pursued every opportunity to advocate for more intense U.S. involvement in Sudan, and push administration officials on the next steps for action.



**Senator Richard Lugar**, (R-IN), is a true statesman and frequently steps above the partisan fray to provide leadership on the U.S.'s role in the world. As Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Lugar has been a long-time advocate for internationalism. He has worked across the partisan divide on nonproliferation issues with former Senator Sam Nunn, (D-GA), and current Senator Barack Obama, (D-IL). He recently cosponsored climate change legislation with Senator Joe Biden, (D-DE). Citizens for Global Solutions has also worked closely with Senator Lugar to ratify the Law of the Sea treaty.



**Representative Frank Wolf**, (R-VA District 10), represents Citizens for Global Solutions' values on global democracy and U.N. reform. Rep. Wolf has introduced legislation to advance and strengthen democracy globally through peaceful means. He received special recognition from Citizens for Global Solutions for his outspoken advocacy on the genocide in Darfur. He chairs the appropriations subcommittee in charge of the State Department budget and co-chairs the Congressional Human Rights Caucus with Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA District 12).



**Claire McCaskill**, (D-MO), is Missouri's State Auditor. She is challenging Senator Jim Talent (R) who has consistently performed poorly on our issues in the Senate. McCaskill strongly believes in addressing climate change and promoting alternate energy sources. She backs a cooperative U.S. foreign policy and plans to focus on global health issues.



**Jon Tester**, (D-MT), is the President of the Montana State Senate and an organic farmer. He is running against Senator Conrad Burns, (R-MT). Tester has an excellent shot in this race. He is a powerful advocate on health, climate change and energy issues. He also understands the importance of the U.S. returning to its leadership role in world affairs and believes we need to engage cooperatively with allies and work with international institutions.



**Betty Sutton**, (D-OH District 13), is running for Democratic Representative Sherrod Brown's open seat in Ohio. After eight years in the state legislature and serving on county and city councils, she continues her social justice advocacy in the private sector by practicing labor law. She believes that U.S. foreign policy should not operate outside the world, but that it should work with the international community. If elected, Sutton will tackle global health concerns, address climate change and work with the U.N. on peacekeeping and other matters.



**John Sarbanes**, (D-MD District 3), a lawyer and strong social justice advocate, is running for this open seat in central Maryland. Throughout his campaign, Sarbanes has been outspoken on the need for the U.S. to return to its leadership role on the environment, international justice, global health and cooperation with friends and allies around the globe.



# Security in November



## Candidates Endorsed by Citizens for Global Solutions

### Senate

State	Name
CA	Dianne Feinstein* (D)
DE	Thomas R. Carper* (D)
HI	Daniel K. Akaka* (D)
IN	Richard G. Lugar* (R)
MA	Edward M. Kennedy* (D)
MD	Ben Cardin (D)
MN	Amy Klobuchar (D)
MO	Claire McCaskill (D)
MT	Jon Tester (D)
ND	Kent Conrad* (D)
NM	Jeff Bingaman* (D)
OH	Sherrod Brown (D)
PA	Bob Casey (D)
RI	Lincoln Chafee (R)
VT	Bernie Sanders (I)
WA	Maria Cantwell* (D)
WI	Herbert H. Kohl* (D)
WV	Robert C. Byrd* (D)

### House

State	Name
AL-07	Artur Genestire Davis* (D)
AR-01	Marion Berry* (D)
AR-02	Vic Snyder* (D)
AZ-04	Ed Pastor* (D)
AZ-07	Raul M. Grijalva* (D)
AZ-08	Gabrielle Giffords (D)
CA-01	Mike Thompson* (D)
CA-05	Doris Okada Matsui* (D)
CA-07	George Miller* (D)
CA-08	Nancy Pelosi* (D)
CA-09	Barbara Lee* (D)
CA-10	Ellen O. Tauscher* (D)
CA-11	Jerry McNerney (D)
CA-12	Tom Lantos* (D)
CA-14	Anna G. Eshoo* (D)
CA-15	Michael M. Honda* (D)
CA-16	Zoe Lofgren* (D)
CA-17	Sam Farr* (D)
CA-18	Dennis A. Cardoza* (D)
CA-23	Lois Capps* (D)
CA-27	Brad Sherman* (D)
CA-28	Howard L. Berman* (D)
CA-29	Adam Schiff* (D)
CA-30	Henry A. Waxman* (D)
CA-32	Hilda L. Solis* (D)
CA-33	Diane E. Watson* (D)
CA-38	Grace F. Napolitano* (D)
CA-39	Linda T. Sanchez* (D)
CA-43	Joe Baca* (D)
CA-47	Loretta Sanchez* (D)
CA-50	Francine Busby (D)
CA-51	Bob Filner* (D)
CA-53	Susan A. Davis* (D)
CO-01	Diana DeGette* (D)
CO-02	Mark Udall* (D)
CO-03	John Salazar* (D)
CT-01	John B. Larson* (D)

State	Name
CT-03	Rosa L. DeLauro* (D)
FL-19	Robert Wexler* (D)
FL-20	Debbie Wasserman Schultz* (D)
GA-05	John Lewis* (D)
GA-13	David A. Scott* (D)
HI-01	Neil Abercrombie* (D)
IA-01	Bruce Braley (D)
IA-02	Jim Leach* (R)
IL-01	Bobby L. Rush* (D)
IL-02	Jesse L. Jackson* (D)
IL-04	Luis V. Gutierrez* (D)
IL-05	Rahm I. Emanuel* (D)
IL-07	Danny K. Davis* (D)
IL-09	Janice D. Schakowsky* (D)
IL-15	David Gill (D)
IN-01	Peter J. Visclosky* (D)
IN-02	Joe Donnelly (D)
LA-03	Charlie Melancon* (D)
MA-01	John W. Olver* (D)
MA-02	Richard E. Neal* (D)
MA-03	Jim McGovern* (D)
MA-04	Barney Frank* (D)
MA-06	John F. Tierney* (D)
MA-07	Edward J. Markey* (D)
MA-08	Michael E. Capuano* (D)
MA-10	Bill Delahunt* (D)
MD-02	C.A. Ruppersberger* (D)
MD-03	John Sarbanes (D)
MD-04	Al Wynn* (D)
MD-05	Steny H. Hoyer* (D)
MD-07	Elijah E. Cummings* (D)
MD-08	Christopher Van Hollen* (D)
ME-01	Tom Allen* (D)
ME-02	Mike Michaud* (D)
MI-01	Bart Stupak* (D)
MI-05	Dale E. Kildee* (D)
MI-12	Sander M. Levin* (D)
MI-13	Carolyn C. Kilpatrick* (D)
MI-14	John Conyers* (D)
MI-15	John D. Dingell* (D)
MN-02	Coleen Rowley (D)
MN-04	Betty McCollum* (D)
MN-05	Keith Ellison (D)
MN-06	Patty Wetterling (D)
MO-01	Wm. Lacy Clay* (D)
MO-03	Russ Carnahan* (D)
MO-05	Emanuel Cleaver* (D)
MO-09	Duane Burghard (D)
MS-02	Bennie G. Thompson* (D)
NC-01	G.K. Butterfield* (D)
NC-02	Bob Etheridge* (D)
NC-04	David E. Price* (D)
NC-12	Melvin L. Watt* (D)
NC-13	Brad Miller* (D)
NH-02	Paul Hodes (D)
NJ-06	Frank Pallone* (D)
NJ-09	Steven R. Rothman* (D)
NJ-10	Don Payne* (D)

State	Name
NJ-12	Rush D. Holt* (D)
NM-01	Patricia Madrid (D)
NM-03	Tom Udall* (D)
NY-01	Tim Bishop* (D)
NY-06	Gregory W. Meeks* (D)
NY-08	Jerrold Nadler* (D)
NY-09	Anthony D. Weiner* (D)
NY-10	Edolphus Towns* (D)
NY-12	Nydia M. Velazquez* (D)
NY-14	Carolyn B. Maloney* (D)
NY-15	Charles B. Rangel* (D)
NY-16	Jose Serrano* (D)
NY-17	Eliot L. Engel* (D)
NY-18	Nita Lowey* (D)
NY-25	James Walsh* (R)
NY-27	Brian Higgins* (D)
NY-29	Eric Massa (D)
OH-06	Charlie Wilson (D)
OH-10	Dennis J. Kucinich* (D)
OH-13	Betty Sutton (D)
OH-15	Mary Jo Kilroy (D)
OH-17	Timothy J. Ryan* (D)
OK-02	Dan Boren* (D)
OR-03	Earl Blumenauer* (D)
PA-01	Robert A. Brady* (D)
PA-02	Chaka Fattah* (D)
PA-06	Lois Murphy (D)
PA-07	Joseph Sestak (D)
PA-08	Patrick Murphy (D)
PA-13	Allyson Schwartz* (D)
PA-14	Michael F. Doyle* (D)
SC-05	John Spratt* (D)
SC-06	James E. Clyburn* (D)
TN-05	James Cooper* (D)
TN-06	Bart Gordon* (D)
TX-09	Al Green* (D)
TX-15	Ruben Hinojosa* (D)
TX-18	Sheila Jackson-Lee* (D)
TX-20	Charles A. Gonzalez* (D)
VA-03	Robert C. Scott* (D)
VA-05	Al Weed (D)
VA-08	James P. Moran* (D)
VA-09	Rick Boucher* (D)
VA-10	Frank Wolf* (R)
VA-11	Andy Hurst (D)
WA-01	Jay Inslee* (D)
WA-02	Rick Larsen* (D)
WA-06	Norman D. Dicks* (D)
WA-08	Dave Reichert* (R)
WA-09	Adam Smith* (D)
WI-02	Tammy Baldwin* (D)
WI-03	Ron Kind* (D)
WI-04	Gwen Moore* (D)
WI-05	Bryan Kennedy (D)
WI-07	David Obey* (D)
WV-01	Alan Mollohan* (D)
WV-03	Nick J. Rahall* (D)

\* Incumbent

# Citizens for Global Solutions Tech

The last two years have marked a period of dramatic change for Citizens for Global Solutions. With a number of new initiatives and campaigns, the organization is moving into exciting new territory in grassroots outreach.

This period of transition began with the implementation of experimental, cutting edge advocacy strategies, such as the highly acclaimed Flash Movie Contest. The runaway success of this competition pioneered new outreach tactics in the field of grassroots advocacy aimed at targeting diverse audiences.

Our organization's growth has been the catalyst for the development of a next generation website. The new site, which will be launched this fall, will be structured in a way in which all audiences can interact with. It will reach out to both grassroots and policymakers and incorporate a 21st Century design and dynamic graphics.

As a solutions-based organization that combines substantive policy analysis on global issues with unusual, cutting edge outreach strategies, we have become aware of the importance of targeting multiple audiences while not detracting from the substance of our message. The new

website will be more user-friendly and make it simple to navigate and search for information. The original website has served the organization well, but through recent modifications we are discovering new ways to engage our members and activists online.

Over the last couple of years, the implementation of progressive outreach strategies has mirrored the progress of the organization as a whole.

By incorporating Flash movies into the web pages of our specific programs, and effectively linking the movies to current and proposed legislation, we are offering a multi-layered resource that will appeal to grassroots activists as well as policymakers. Furthermore, the individuals that enter our contests can learn more about how their entries tie in with the global issues we advocate. This also helps to facilitate their continued support of our mission. This is one of the most challenging aspects of youth outreach and the new website will play a critical role in making this a reality.

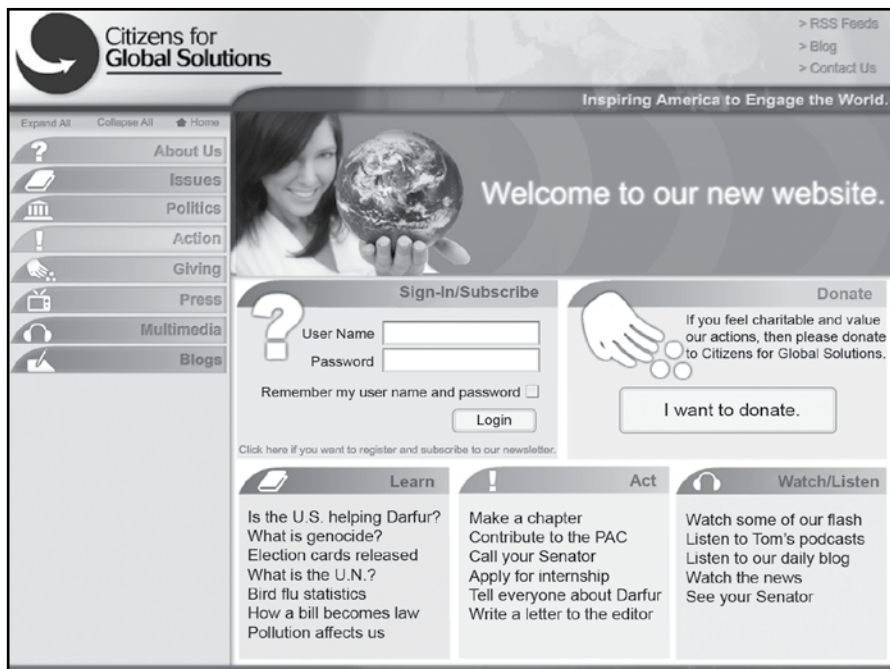
Aside from the website development, we have also developed an even edgier youth outreach initiative. Encouraged by the success of the 2006 Flash Movie Contest, we launched a smaller and highly experimental competition this fall: The Citizens for Global Solutions Virtual Poetry Slam 2006. The Poetry Slam theme is focused on the environment.

In the Poetry Slam we are challenging people to creatively explore the links between the environment and social justice – specifically the issue of environmental justice – and record their poems on digital video. A poetry slam features performance poetry and traditionally involves audience interaction. Poets harness the energy of their audience and use this to enhance their performance. To ensure that our contest is as close to a live poetry slam as possible we will stream the videos on the poetry slam website [www.virtualpoetryslam.net](http://www.virtualpoetryslam.net). The top 20 submissions will be judged by a panel of five experts. The panel is comprised of grassroots representatives, environmental experts and individuals actively involved in the spoken word community. One of the judges is Buddy Wakefield, the two-time poetry slam champion of the world. Submissions will be judged on content, performance and adherence to the theme.

With a strong sense of social justice activism, the spoken word community is an engaged and politically savvy demographic. The issue of social justice is closely linked to environmental justice as lower income communities suffer disproportionately from both social segregation and environmental hazards.

These new outreach initiatives reflect the evolution and expansion of Citizens for Global Solutions. As the organization continues to grow, we must not only continue to engage new demographics on global issues, but critically link each new initiative directly to the organization's initiatives and campaigns.

The Virtual Poetry Slam 2006 achieves this through its focus on the environment. It



# nology 2.0

will engage and inspire social justice activists, but also those people involved in the more traditional environmental movement. Second, this contest links effectively to the *Connecting Global to Local* initiative, as environmental justice is an issue that must be addressed at both the local level and globally.

The Virtual Poetry Slam website features an interactive blog and a specialized upload function. Entrants will be asked to upload their poems directly to the website. Poems will then be reviewed for content and posted. Through the blog, the public will be able to post comments on the entries. This facilitates a sense of community within the contest itself, providing a channel through which artists and activists can exchange information and inspire one another.

These innovative methods are increasing our citizen outreach capacity. The Flash Contest tapped into new territory by reaching out to the animation community. The positive results challenge the arguments of those critics who believe that American youth are tuned out to the world around them.



[www.virtualpoetryslam.net](http://www.virtualpoetryslam.net)

REGISTER HERE

New polling, funded by the Hewlett Foundation, examined the American public's responsiveness to and engagement on issues of global development. It was discovered that the best age to target new activists is youth in middle school and high school. Targeting social justice campaigns to young people presents a unique opportunity to instill and affirm positive social values and raise social consciousness. Placing global issues on their radar screens can create a generation of socially aware and active adults.

With the annual Flash Contest and Poetry Slam, we are tapping into demographics

that are well versed on issues that directly impact their lives and communities.

Over the last couple of years, the implementation of progressive outreach strategies has mirrored the progress of the organization as a whole. These dynamic advocacy initiatives are proving their worth in complementing complex policy analysis and campaigns in fun and ground breaking ways, ensuring that we maintain a fresh approach that is appealing to a variety of diverse audiences. 🌐

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*Contributing Writer: Tom Moran*  
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## LEGACY *What will be yours?*

*What will you bequeath to future generations? How will the ideals you cherish be preserved?  
Who will work on your behalf for the sake of your grandchildren, your community and your world?*

*Citizens for Global Solutions will.*

With your support, Citizens for Global Solutions and the Global Solutions Education Fund will endure as a powerful voice, taking a stand for the beliefs you hold so dear. Not just today, but tomorrow too.

**Citizens for Global Solutions: Building peace, justice and freedom in a democratically governed world.**

For more information about remembering the Global Solutions Education Fund in your will or estate, please contact:

Aaron M. Knight  
Executive Vice President & COO  
Citizens for Global Solutions  
418 7th Street, S.E. · Washington, D.C. 20003  
(202) 546-3950 ext. 101



Citizens for  
Global Solutions

# Annual Meeting

November 13 - 14, 2006

## BUILDING A BIPARTISAN UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Prominent speakers, including Members of Congress, Hill staff, foreign policy analysts and representatives from the business and faith communities, will gather to discuss the creation of a sound foreign policy for the 21st Century.

Meeting features:



- Welcome Reception
- Panel Discussions
- Lobby Day
- Networking Opportunities

For more information and to register, please visit our website at [www.globalsolutions.org](http://www.globalsolutions.org) or contact Min Yoo, Development Associate, at 202.546.3950 x109 or [myoo@globalsolutions.org](mailto:myoo@globalsolutions.org). Space is limited!

**PALOMAR**  
WASHINGTON DC

This year's meeting will be held in downtown Washington, D.C. at the brand new Hotel Palomar. To make your reservation, please call:

202.448.1872

or

1.800.546.7866

\*You must request the Citizens for Global Solutions group rate in order to receive the discounted rate (\$175 + tax per night for a single, \$195 + tax per night for a double).

Reservations must be received on or before **Wednesday, October 25, 2006.**

*Rooms are limited!*



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**Building Peace, Justice and Freedom  
in a Democratically Governed World**

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PAC Works Toward a  
Global Majority in November