AN UNPRECEDENTED CONFLUENCE OF EVENTS has created an opportunity to fundamentally realign U.S. foreign policy. The ballooning federal budget deficit makes it politically impossible to sustain current military spending levels that are higher than at any time since World War II. Developments in North Africa and the Middle East are challenging the mindset that has shaped U.S. foreign policy for the past sixty years.

Cutting the military budget is an important objective for the Center for International Policy, but an equally important goal is to change the way America relates to the rest of the world.

Unlike his predecessor, President Obama understands that America can no longer afford to even try the old regime-change model of foreign policy. But he has not yet articulated an alternative policy. He tried a quick-pass-off variation in Libya, but that doesn’t seem to be working very well either. Bombs, whether American or European, seldom foster democratic awakenings.

The Center for International Policy is in the vanguard of the movement to develop an alternative foreign and defense policy based on international cooperation, demilitarization and respect for human rights. CIP is one of the most cost-effective and influential non-governmental advocates for peace and social justice in Washington.
Deforestation represents an environmental disaster of epic proportions. Each year, the planet loses 32 million acres of forest lands – that is an acre of rainforest every second.

Fifteen to seventeen percent of all carbon pollution in the world is due to deforestation, more CO2 than all the cars, planes, trains and ships in the world combined. Yet, halting deforestation is an affordable, scalable solution. It’s the “low-hanging fruit” – it requires no new technology and represents 30 percent of the climate solution. The truth is that if we don’t solve the deforestation crisis, we can’t solve the climate crisis.

AVOIDED DEFORESTATION PARTNERS SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE CLIMATE BY HALTING DEFORESTATION.

ADVANCING U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE POLICIES ALONG WITH BUSINESS SOLUTIONS THAT INCLUDE ROBUST INCENTIVES TO PROTECT TROPICAL FORESTS. AD Partners’ most recent public event was held at the UN Climate Change Conference in Cancún. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Norway’s Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg and leading business executives called on the global community to halt the destruction of forests.

CONVENING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR LEADERS TO INSPIRE DECISION MAKERS TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES THAT REDUCE DEFORESTATION. AD Partners founder Jeffrey Horowitz and west coast director Margaret Dick hosted a series of meetings with Jane Goodall and Governor Jerry Brown, state legislators and the California Air Resources board to make California a leader in global efforts to preserve tropical forests.
CIP’s Latin America Rights and Security program, headed by deputy director Abigail Poe, promotes transparent civil-military relations based on the rule of law, cooperative security and respect for human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**THE LATIN AMERICA RIGHTS & SECURITY PROGRAM PROVIDES CONCRETE POLICY ALTERNATIVES TO CURRENT MILITARIZED POLICIES THAT NEITHER SERVE U.S. INTERESTS NOR BENEFIT THE PEOPLE OF THE HEMISPHERE.**

**CHALLENGING THE MILITARIZATION OF PLAN COLOMBIA.**
As the Colombian government, with U.S. aid, tries to establish a state presence in ungoverned areas, we are warning that the risks of militarization, local corruption and unjust land distribution could threaten the success of the project.

**REFORMING INEFFECTIVE BORDER SECURITY POLICIES.** CIP’s TransBorder project, directed by Tom Barry, challenges the vast expenditure of funds for border enforcement, drug law enforcement and mass incarceration in the name of homeland security.

**PROVIDING ALTERNATIVES TO THE UNITED STATES’ AND MEXICO’S FAILED DRUG WARS.** CIP’s Americas project, directed by Laura Carlson and based in Mexico City, promotes less costly, less violent alternatives to the counterproductive militarized response to drug-related violence in Mexico.

**FINDING NEW WAYS TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION WITH CUBA.** CIP’s Cuba project, directed by Wayne Smith, focuses on crucial problems confronting both countries: the destructive impact of hurricanes and threats to the Gulf of Mexico’s marine environment.

**MONITORING U.S. MILITARY AND POLICE ASSISTANCE TO THE REGION.** Just the Facts, a constantly updated website about security in the Americas, is a central resource for U.S. military and police aid to Latin America (www.justf.org).

“I want to live without fear.” Photo by Murphy Woodhouse, America’s project, at the four day March for Peace with Justice and Dignity in Mexico.

CIP delegation in Cuba meeting with Dagoberto Rodríguez Barrera, Vice Minister to the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
CIP’s Global Financial Integrity program (GFI), led by director Raymond Baker and managing director Tom Cardamone, found that illicit financial outflows increased from $1.06 trillion in 2006 to approximately $1.26 trillion in 2008. These illicit capital flows enable drug cartels, terrorist organizations and tax evaders to move cash around the globe, hindering global development and security as it strips critical resources from developing nations.

GFI’s most recent report found that the global illicit flow of goods, guns, people and natural resources is estimated at $650 billion. Profits from illicit markets are funneled mainly to transnational crime syndicates, which undermine stability and stifle economic development.

**PRODUCING GROUNDBREAKING RESEARCH AND REPORTS EXPOSING THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS OF ILLICIT FLOWS ON THE DEVELOPING WORLD.** GFI’s most recent report found that the global illicit flow of goods, guns, people and natural resources is estimated at $650 billion. Profits from illicit markets are funneled mainly to transnational crime syndicates, which undermine stability and stifle economic development.

**POLICY ADVISORY PROGRAM.** GFI works with individual countries to create recommendations to curb illicit financial flows. The program encourages transparency in financial and business activities and relationships and provides consultants to governments interested in the program.
The United States now spends as much on our military as the rest of the world combined. The Bush administration used the 9/11 attacks to stampede Congress into approving almost every weapons system on the Pentagon’s wish list, most of which had nothing to do with fighting terrorists.

**COMMON DEFENSE CAMPAIGN**

The Common Defense Campaign aims to wind down the war in Afghanistan and make lasting cuts in the military budget.

**ENDING THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN.** CIP’s Afghanistan Study Group, directed by former Marine and State Department official Matthew Hoh, published a pioneering report outlining a negotiated settlement and a plan to draw down U.S. forces beginning in July.

**KEEPING TERRORISTS OUT OF AFGHANISTAN.** Former Washington Post journalist Selig Harrison, who directs CIP’s Asia project, has developed a proposal to replace U.S. and NATO troops with international peacekeepers to guarantee Afghanistan’s neutrality and enforce a negotiated peace.

**BUILDING PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR PEACE.** The Win Without War coalition, led by former Congressman Tom Andrews and made up of 41 grassroots organizations, is building support in Congress for legislation that would speed up the exit of U.S. forces from Afghanistan.

**USING DIPLOMACY TO MAKE US SAFER.** Military analyst Bill Hartung’s Arms and Security project promotes the use of diplomacy and international cooperation to protect the United States from terrorism and nuclear proliferation.

**REINING IN THE CIA.** CIP’s Intelligence Reform project, led by former CIA analyst Melvin Goodman, is leading a campaign to cut the bloated $80 billion intelligence budget.

Matthew Hoh debating “Afghanistan: A Lost Cause” on Intelligence Squared.

NYU’s Public Theater’s Public Forum: Afghanistan, hosted by Alec Baldwin (Matthew Hoh, far right).
Executive director Bill Goodfellow, board co-chairs Luis Murillo and Cynthia McClintock and deputy director Abigail Poe.

The Center for International Policy began in 1975 with a staff of just three people. Today CIP has a staff of 32, including former senior government officials, academics, journalists and seasoned activists. In addition to offices in Washington, CIP has staff in New York, California, New Mexico and Mexico City.