Dear War & Peace Fellows Alumni,

We are thrilled to update you on the recent events and exciting changes within our program. This year has been filled with remarkable opportunities and significant transitions that we are eager to share with you.

**Highlights from Fall Term**

We started this fall with a trip to visit the 158th Fighter Wing of the Vermont Air National Guard, the first National Guard unit of F-35As. The visit included a tour of the base, an unclassified briefing on the unit’s mission, and a viewing of one of the unit’s F-35s. The fellows were joined by some of the Initiative for Global Security’s visiting scholars and Rosenwald Postdoctoral Fellows.

*Fellows in front of an F-35A on a visit to the 158th Fighter Wing of the Vermont Air National Guard.*

In November, we hosted the Great Issues Scholars, Global Health Fellows, and Arctic Innovation Scholars in a state-of-the-art simulation led by expert game designers from the Naval...
War College. Fellows worked together in teams to achieve their nation's goals while navigating the complexities of diplomatic negotiations, overseeing the defense of their country, pioneering new scientific innovation, and much more!

Fellows participating in the fall term simulation.

Our Fall guests included:

- **Anne Witkowsky, Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations**: Fellows met with Assistant Secretary Anne Witkowsky to discuss the responsibilities of the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization operations and the United States’ role in conflict prevention.

- **Esther Brimmer, Senior Fellow in global governance at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)**: Esther Brimmer discussed geopolitical competition in the Arctic and her emerging new area of focus: space.

- **Discussion with Omar Dajani and Mira Sucharov**: Omar Dajani and Mira Sucharov have been unraveling the complexities of Israel-Palestine through a travel book and a podcast focusing on the vacant lot by the sea in Jaffa where Dajani’s ancestral home once stood – a microcosm of the country’s history and predicament. Mira Sucharov is Professor of Political Science at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. Omar Dajani is Professor of Law at the McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific. The son of a Palestinian refugee, he previously served as legal adviser to the Palestinian negotiating team in peace talks with Israel.

- **General Paul Nakasone, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, Director, NSA/Chief, CSS**: General Nakasone met with a small group of Fellows over lunch to discuss careers at the NSA. He also fielded questions on the growing role of the cyber realm in national security, conflict, and competition.
Highlights from Winter Term

Fellows returned from a long winter break ready to engage in a wide variety of issues. From the rapidly progressing conflict in Gaza between Israel and Hamas, to the continuing Ukraine conflict, extending into its third year. Fellows delved into the complexities of the Israel-Hamas conflict through a simulation with faculty from Reichman University in Tel Aviv and met with Former Ambassador to Ukraine Bill Taylor to discuss the Russia-Ukraine War. Other notable guest this term include:

- **Former President of Kosovo Atifete Jahjaga**: President Jahjaga returned to Dartmouth this winter as a Montgomery Fellow. She met with the War & Peace Fellows and discussed her experience with the UN intervention in her country, her path to President, and her current work on youth and women empowerment with a focus on empowering and supporting the survivors of sexual violence during the war.
- **Spencer Boyer, Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for European & NATO Policy**: Fellows took advantage of Boyer’s expertise to pepper him with questions about his time working on international law and to explore issues he was currently focused on, such as Russian aggression and influence in Europe and how it impacts U.S. interests.
- **Andrew Miller, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Israeli-Palestinian Affairs**: Andrew Miller met with students from the War & Peace Fellows, Great Issues Scholars, and one of the Middle Eastern Studies classes to discuss the U.S.’s role in the Israel-Hamas conflict.

Fellows meeting with Spencer Boyer.

DC Spring Trip

Our Fellows had the unique opportunity to engage with influential figures and deepen their understanding of national and international policy-making. Fellows met with a wide variety of representatives from the Department of Defense, State Department, Voice of America, Royal Embassy of the Netherlands, Senator Peter Welch’s office (D-VT), US Institute of Peace, and the National Security Council. Here are some of the moments that stood out on the trip:
● Discussion with Sasha Baker, Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy: An in-depth conversation on Department of Defense policies and career paths in national security.

● Conversation with Andrew Lederman, Acting Director, Office of Regional and Multilateral Affairs, NEA, State Department: A detailed look into regional policies and diplomatic strategies in the Middle East.

● Meeting with Josh Black, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs on the National Security Council (NSC): An exploration of the intricacies of multilateral negotiations and national security.

DC Trip War & Peace Fellows’ Alumni Reception

Each year as part of the DC Trip the War & Peace Fellows meet with War & Peace Alumni based in the DC area. This year we had a record number of alumni join us for the reception. We appreciate all of you who were able to make it and look forward to seeing those of you who couldn’t at future events. If you are a DC-based alumni who would like to make sure you receive information about future events, please reach out and let us know.
Highlights from Spring Term

This Spring was a tumultuous time on Dartmouth’s campus. War & Peace Fellows had the privilege of meeting with a variety of experts to discuss pressing current events, including the division in Congress on foreign policy, the continuing war in Ukraine, and the Israel-Hamas conflict. Our guests during the spring term included:

- **Congressman Jason Crow**: Fellows met with Colorado Congressman Jason Crow to discuss the role of Congress in US Foreign Policy and how divisions in congress are both being overcome and exacerbated by the current international turmoil.
- **Dahlia Scheindlin**: Dahlia Scheindlin is an international political and strategic consultant based in Tel Aviv, Israel. She met with the fellows to discuss insights from the current polling in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank.
- **Josh Paul and Lizzy Shackelford**: Josh Paul and Lizzy Shackelford separately resigned from the State Department in protest of U.S. policies; Paul in 2023 in protest to US policy in Israel, and Shackelford in 2017 in protest of policy in Africa. Fellows took the opportunity to discuss methods of dissent and the role of dissent in the State Department and U.S. government more broadly.

![Fellows meeting with Dahlia Scheindlin.](image)

Important News and Program Changes

After 10 years as the Faculty Director for the War & Peace Fellows program, Professor of Government Ben Valentino is stepping down. Professor Valentino has been instrumental in shaping the program and has been an important mentor to many past and present fellows. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for his dedication and visionary leadership and wish him the best of luck as he takes on his new role as the Associate Dean for the Social Sciences at Dartmouth.
Professor Ben Valentino (center) on the trip to the Vermont Air National Guard’s F-35 Wing.

Professor Katy Powers will step into the role of faculty director. We look forward to having Professor Powers join the Dickey Center Team and know she will bring fresh perspectives and a drive to continue to improve the program.

Stay Connected

We encourage all alumni to stay connected and involved with our community. Please consider joining our LinkedIn group to network with fellow alumni, share your experiences, and to stay updated on upcoming events and opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the War & Peace Fellows program. We look forward to keeping you informed about our progress and achievements in the months to come.

Warm regards,

Lillian Johnson ‘23
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