

TANZEEM E ISLAMI

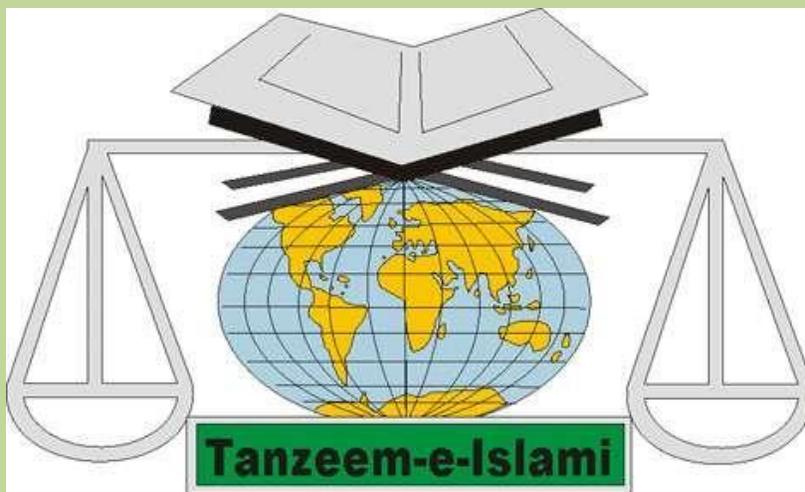


Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

PERSPECTIVE

The official online newsletter of Tanzeem e Islami

... Uploaded twice a month to [www. Tanzeem.org](http://www.Tanzeem.org)...



'PERSPECTIVE' is a trend setting newsletter issued by Tanzeem e Islami that focuses on a candid commentary on the current national and international issues, in the light of the Qur'an and the Sunnah.

A blend that gives Muslims an insight into the events of the past, those happenings at present and the Signs of things to come...

Postal Address: 67-A, Allama Iqbal Road, Garhi Shahu, Lahore. 54000

Tel: 042 – 36293939, 36366638, 36316638

Url: www.tanzeem.org

Email: markaz@tanzeem.org

Tweet us [@tanzeemorg](https://twitter.com/tanzeemorg)

Follow us on FB <https://www.facebook.com/Tanzeem.org>

Disclaimer: Unauthorized use and/or duplication of the entire Newsletter or any part of it without the express permission of the editorial board of 'Perspective' is strictly prohibited. Permission can be received by sending us a formal request on the postal address, email or telephone numbers given on the last page of this newsletter.

Excerpts and links in this newsletter may be used, provided that full and clear credit is given to 'Perspective' and 'Tanzeem e Islami', with appropriate and specific directions to the original content.

The views expressed by the authors in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the official views of Tanzeem e Islami.

All trademarks, service marks, collective marks, design rights, personality rights, copyrights, registered names, mottos, logos, avatars, insignias and marks used or cited by the newsletter are the property of their respective owners and 'Perspective' or 'Tanzeem e Islami' in no way accept any responsibility for an infringement on one of the above.

Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

PERSPECTIVE

The official online Newsletter of Tanzeem e Islami

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial	2&4
Press Releases issued by Tanzeem e Islami	3
26 'Think Tanks' that are extremely influential in shaping the domestics and foreign policies of USA	4-8

Patron: Hafiz Aakif Saeed
Chief Editor: Dr. Absar Ahmad
Editor: Raza ul Haq

From the Qur'an:

“And the disbelievers planned (their evil plans), but Allah planned (His divine & destined Master Plan). And Allah is the best of planners.

(*Surah Aal e Imran; Verse 54*)

“And those before them (too) had plotted (evil), but to Allah belongs the (divine & destined, Master) Plan entirely. He knows what every soul earns, and the disbelievers will know for whom is the final (heavenly) home.”

(*Surah Ar Ra'd; Verse 42*)

Selected Hadith:

The Messenger of Allah (SAAW) is reported to have said:

“Hasten to do good deeds against impending trials that are like parts of seriously darkened night, when a man will be a believer (*Mu'min*) in the morning and become a disbeliever (*Kaafir*) in the evening and will a believer (*Mu'min*) in the evening and become a disbeliever (*Kaafir*) in the morning, bartering his religion for an insignificant worldly material.”

(*Musnad Ahmad*)

EDITORIAL

All praise is due to Allah (SWT), and peace & blessing on his noble Messengers (AS), in particular, on the last of them all the blessed Prophet Muhammad (SAAW).

Our current issue of Perspective will focus on a 'menace' that has been influencing the 'destiny of the world' for over a hundred years – Think Tanks. We will also give a brief introduction to 26 highly 'revered' and 'vital' think tanks that operate in the US and provide the administration with policy input.

The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary define the term 'Think Tank' as “a group of people who are paid to do nothing but read, discuss, think, and write, usually to address and redress a matter of vital importance to humanity.” In simple words, you can think of a think tank as a 'research university' blessed with a complete absence of students and where, as a consequence, none of its professors has to teach – all they have to do is research, research and research.

At last count (2016), the United States had 1,984 think tanks – nearly a third of the world's total. American think tanks are constantly researching 'solutions' to a variety of the world's 'problems', and then arguing, advocating, and lobbying for policy changes at local, state, and federal levels. Although almost all of the think tanks based in the US play some role in shaping the official state policy, we will give examples of three distinct ones in this editorial. We have chosen these because the research and policy input has been the driving force behind the official state policy of the US since at least 1980's.

A think tank which shaped the entire US policy of war on terror between the years 1996 through 2007 was 'Project for the New American Century' (**PNAC**). Of the twenty-five people who signed PNAC's founding statement of principles, ten went on to serve in the administration of U.S. President George W. Bush, including Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, and Paul Wolfowitz! Renowned policy experts and observers such as Irwin Stelzer and Dave Grondin have suggested that the PNAC played a key role in shaping the post 9/11 foreign policy of the Bush Administration, particularly in building support for the Iraq War.

Similarly, **RAND Corporation** first came into the limelight as a genuine threat to the Muslim world in 2004 when it published a report in 2003 entitled “Civil Democratic Islam: Partners, Resources, and Strategies” written by Cheryl Benard. The notorious report's introduction states that contemporary Islam is struggling within itself over its values, identity, and place in the world, with rivals contending for spiritual and political dominance--as well as with the "outside" world. In Western eyes, the ideal Islamic community would be democratic, economically viable, politically stable, and socially progressive and would follow the rules and norms of international conduct. But as the international community strives to understand all this and, possibly, influence the outcome, the best approaches--or even whom to approach--are not always easy to determine. As an aid to the process, this report compares and contrasts the subgroups within Islam. The author recommends careful deliberation in deciding how to proceed, taking into account the symbolic weight of certain issues, the meaning likely to be assigned to any positions U.S. policymakers might take on these issues, the consequences for other Islamic actors, and the opportunity costs and possible unintended consequences. With all that in mind, the author then makes her own series of recommendations.

We will conclude by reproducing a couple of comments made about the 'Oded Yinon's Plan' for the establishment of a greater Israel. (*cont. on page 4*)

Press Releases issued by Tanzeem e Islami

Date: February 10, 2017

Lahore (PR): “The continued house arrest of Hafiz Saeed as well as indications of talks regarding the release of Dr. Shakil Afridi are clear signs that our rulers have yielded before foreign intervention and dictation.”

This was stated by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, **Hafiz Aakif Saeed**, during the Khitab e Jumu'ah at Qur'an Academy, Lahore. The Ameer noted that it appeared that Donald Trump had rattled the nerves of our rulers so severely that the actions being taken by them day in day out visibly exhibited their 'fear' of the US President along with a haste to please him by becoming further enslaved and meek, merely in order to avoid his 'wrath'.

While commenting on the episode of 'capture' and 'release' of several bloggers during the last few months, the Ameer remarked that while Tanzeem e Islami principally and unequivocally condemned the sudden and illegal seizure of any citizen of the country and keeping that person in custody without any formal charge, according to the due legal process, yet 'the powers that be' had been unfair, unjust and partial even in this case. He said that those who had been captured and were being kept in black sites for their 'fundamentalist' and 'extremist' interpretation of Islam had not been heard from in years, nor had their kith and kin been informed about their whereabouts, yet a handful of bloggers allegedly guilty of crimes as heinous as blasphemy against Allah (SWT) and His messenger (SAAW) had been returned within weeks of their disappearance. The Ameer noted that criminal cases could easily have been made against those bloggers who actually had published blasphemous material on their blogs, simply by accessing that material with a few clicks of the mouse!

The Ameer said that those who had a genuine bond with Islam had always persisted in their displeasure and disgust for the indecency and obscenity witnessed on 14th February (commonly called 'Valentine's Day'), but the degree of indecency and obscenity, rather lewdness, that had been displayed at the opening ceremony of this year's Pakistan Cricket League (PSL) in Dubai had 'upped the ante', causing immense grief and awful heartbreak for every God-fearing Muslim of Pakistan.

The Ameer concluded by warning the organizers of the cricket event to stop such obscene actions which brought the wrath of Allah (SWT) as the Muslims of our nation were already facing a plethora of torment and agony.



Date: February 3, 2017

Lahore (PR): “Is our country still lacking genuine sovereignty even after 70 years of independence?”

This was questioned by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, **Hafiz Aakif Saeed**, during the Khitab e Jumu'ah at Qur'an Academy, Lahore, while commenting on the house-arrest of the chief of Jamaat al Dawah, Hafiz Saeed, as a consequence of international pressure.

The Ameer noted that it appeared that the way in which the US President, Donald Trump, had demonstrated an extremely hostile attitude towards Muslim countries immediately after taking oath had made our rulers jittery and consequently our government had put Hafiz Saeed under house-arrest as a 'preemptive measure' in order to give a 'clear' and 'pleasant' message to the evil enemies of Islam, including USA and other global powers, that Pakistan would be of assistance to them in every way possible.

The Ameer remarked that by house-arresting Hafiz Saeed, our government had committed flagrant contempt of court because our courts had already found Hafiz Saeed not-guilty of all charges and honorably acquitted him. He added that if the government considered Hafiz Saeed accountable for some new 'crimes', it ought to produce him before a court of law according to our country's judicial procedure, instead of house-arresting or detaining him.

The Ameer said that even brazen actions like the one taken by our government against Hafiz Saeed would by no means please or satisfy the enemies of Islam. He said that the Holy Qur'an had warned us about 1400 years ago that the Jews and the Christians would never be pleased or contented with the Muslims until and unless they abandoned Islam and converted to their religion(s) (Judaism/Christianity).

The Ameer remarked that the more we bent towards the wicked aims of the enemies of Islam, the more courageously aggressive and violent would they become when dealing with Muslims. The Ameer concluded by stating that our only hope of survival and path to salvation was to become sincere Muslims and make Pakistan a genuine Islamic State based on Social Justice, in which case our enemies would not be able to harm us. InshaAllah!

EDITORIAL*(cont. from page 2)*

Linda S. Heard, writing for CounterPunch in 2006, reviewed the policies of George W. Bush such as the war on terror, and events in the Middle East from the Iran-Iraq war to the Invasion of Iraq in 2003, and concluded:

“There is one thing that we do know. Oded Yinon's 1982 "Zionist Plan for the Middle East" is in large part taking shape. Is this pure coincidence? Was Yinon a gifted psychic? Perhaps! Alternatively, we in the West are victims of a long-held agenda not of our making and without doubt not in our interests.”

The famous Canadian economist, Michel Chossudovsky, on his website Global Research reproduced Shahak's translation in April 2013, arguing that:

“it (The Yinon Plan) threw light for the concept of a Greater Israel in the policies of the Likud-led government coalition with Benjamin Netanyahu as the PM, and circles within the Israeli military and intelligence establishment.”

We would put only one question to our Muslim readers – Is it not time to wake up yet?

Signing off...

Dr. Absar Ahmad (Chief Editor)

26 ‘Think Tanks’ that are extremely influential in shaping the domestics and foreign policies of USA

A brief overview of the 26 most influential Think Tanks that play an vital role in shaping the overall policy of USA follows:

1- The Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs

The Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA) is a Washington, D.C.-based pro-Israel non-profit think-tank based in Washington, D.C.. It was founded in 1976 focusing on issues of national security. JINSA's stated aim is to:

"Provide leadership and affect policy on crucial issues of national security and foreign policy; to promote American security cooperation with like-minded allies including, but not limited to, Israel; to engage the American defense community about the role Israel can and does play in securing Western, democratic interests in the Middle East and Mediterranean regions; and to improve awareness in the general public, as well as in the Jewish community of the importance of a strong American defense capability."

JINSA's advisory board includes former United States Senators Joe Lieberman (I-CT) and Rudy Boschwitz (R-MN), General James T. Conway, and Chief William J. McSweeney of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, while Vice President Dick Cheney, former U.S. Representative to the United Nations John Bolton, and former Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Douglas Feith were all on JINSA's Board of Advisors before they entered the Bush administration. JINSA is a non-partisan organization welcoming advisors from both msjor political parties. It includes Democrats such as former Congressman Dave McCurdy and former Congresswoman Shelley Berkley.

2- American Israel Public Affairs Committee

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is a lobbying group that advocates pro-Israel policies to the Congress and Executive Branch of the United States. The current President of AIPAC is Lillian Pinkus.

One of several pro-Israel lobbying organizations in the United States, AIPAC states that it has more than 100,000 members, seventeen regional offices, and "a vast pool of donors." California Congressman Brad Sherman has called AIPAC "the single most important organization in promoting the U.S.-Israel alliance." In addition, the organization has been called one of the most powerful lobbying groups in the United States. The group does not raise funds for political candidates itself, but its members raise money for candidates through PACs AIPAC helped establish and by other means.

Its critics have stated it acts as an agent of the Israeli government with a "stranglehold" on the United States Congress with its power and influence. The group has been accused of being strongly allied with the Likud party of Israel, and the Republican Party in the US, but an AIPAC spokesman has called this a "malicious mischaracterization." The Washington Post described the perceived differences between AIPAC and J Street: "While both groups call themselves bipartisan, AIPAC has won support from an overwhelming majority of Republican Jews, while J Street is presenting itself as an alternative for Democrats who have grown uncomfortable with both Netanyahu's policies and the conservatives' flocking to AIPAC." AIPAC, on the other hand, describes itself as a bipartisan organization, and bills it lobbies for in Congress are always jointly sponsored by both a Democrat and Republican. AIPAC's supporters claim its bipartisan nature can be seen at its yearly policy conference, which in 2016 included both major parties' nominees—Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump—as

well as high ranking Democrats, including Vice President Joe Biden, and high-ranking Republicans, including Speaker of the House Paul Ryan.

3- Project for the New American Century (PNAC)

The Project for the New American Century (PNAC) was a neoconservative think tank based in Washington, D.C. that focused on United States foreign policy. It was established as a non-profit educational organization in 1997, and founded by William Kristol and Robert Kagan. PNAC's stated goal was "to promote American global leadership." The organization stated that "American leadership is good both for America and for the world," and sought to build support for "a Reaganite policy of military strength and moral clarity."

Of the twenty-five people who signed PNAC's founding statement of principles, ten went on to serve in the administration of U.S. President George W. Bush, including Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, and Paul Wolfowitz. Observers such as Irwin Stelzer and Dave Grondin have suggested that the PNAC played a key role in shaping the foreign policy of the Bush Administration, particularly in building support for the Iraq War. The Project for the New American Century ceased to function in 2006; it was replaced by a new think-tank named the Foreign Policy Initiative, co-founded by Kristol and Kagan in 2009.

4- Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)

With offices in New York City and Washington, DC, the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) is considered by some to be the most influential foreign-policy think tank in the United States. Including names like Fareed Zakaria, Colin Powell, Tom Brokaw, and Madeleine Albright, CFR's impressive membership list has included senior politicians, more than a dozen Secretaries of State, CIA directors, bankers, lawyers, professors, and prominent media figures. CFR is perhaps best known by the general public as the publisher of the widely read bi-monthly journal *Foreign Affairs*. In policy circles, however, CFR is known for its "David Rockefeller Studies Program," which often succeeds in influencing foreign policy by making official recommendations to the President and diplomatic community, testifying before Congress, speaking with the media, and publishing on issues of foreign policy. Notable former figures of the CFR include Madeleine Albright, Tom Brokaw, Colin Powell, Fareed Zakaria

5- Brookings Institution

The Brookings Institution boasts two major claims when it comes to think tanks: it was likely the first think tank to be founded in the United States, and its studies are the most widely cited by the media. Since its foundation in 1916, Brookings has influenced and contributed to the creation of such historic phenomena as the United Nations, the Marshall Plan, the Congressional Budget Office, and various policies of deregulation, broad-based tax reform, welfare reform, and foreign aid. Despite being founded as a Progressive institution, Brookings states that its scholars "represent diverse points of view." Consistent with this claim is the fact that Brookings is referenced by Conservative politicians almost as frequently as it is by those who are Liberal. To keep up with its widespread influence, Brookings conducts research and education in a number of social sciences, including economics, metropolitan policy, governance, foreign policy, and global economy and development.

6- RAND Corporation

Standing for "Research ANd Development," the RAND Corporation was founded in 1948 by the Douglas Aircraft Company in order to look into the long-range planning of future weapons. Today, RAND is funded by the US government, a private endowment, universities, and major corporations (especially healthcare), and as such has extended its areas of focus to include everything from energy and the environment, to transportation and public safety. On the education front, RAND is home to the Frederick S. Pardee RAND Graduate School, the world's largest PhD-granting program in Policy Analysis. RAND also publishes the peer-reviewed *RAND Journal of Economics*.

7- Heritage Foundation

Founded in 1973, the Heritage Foundation rose to prominence during the Reagan administration and the Conservative Movement of the 1980s. In fact, many of Reagan's policies drew significantly from the "Mandate for Leadership," Heritage's official policy study. Since then, Heritage has solidified itself as one of the most influential Conservative organizations in the United States. Consistent with its interest in economic principles, Heritage tracks the yearly growth of federal spending, revenue, debt and deficits, and entitlement programs, which it then publishes as the *Budget Chart Book* and distributes free to the public. Heritage also publishes a number of political theory books, and partners with the *Wall Street Journal* each year to publish the *Annual Index of Economic Freedom*. Heritage's current Board of Trustees reads like a "Who's Who" of the new Conservative movement, and includes such names as Larry P. Arnn (President of Hillsdale College), Jim DeMint (former Senator and now President of Heritage), and Steve Forbes (President and CEO of Forbes).

8- Center for American Progress (CAP)

Founded in 2003, Center for American Progress (CAP) is one of the youngest—yet most influential—think tanks on this list. With the motto "Progressive ideas for a strong, just, and free America," CAP

deals in major domestic issues such as Economic Policy, Education, Health, Security and International Affairs, and Social Policy. CAP's influence climaxed during the 2008 Presidential election, due in part to its campus outreach group, Generation Progress. In fact, referring to the program's success, Time magazine said, "Not since the Heritage Foundation helped guide Ronald Reagan's transition in 1981 has a single outside group held so much sway." Since then, the Center has remained highly influential with the Obama Administration, especially in the form of appointments.

CAP has undergone a number of recent controversies due to its unwillingness to disclose its contributors. In 2015, the Center released a partial list that included the Ford Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Walmart, Walton Family Foundation, CitiGroup, and the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates. CAP's current CEO, Neera Tanden, formerly worked for the Obama and Clinton administrations, and for Hillary Clinton's campaigns.

9- Center for the National Interest (former Nixon Centre)

The Nixon Center is a Washington, D.C.-based public policy think tank. In March 2011, it was renamed the Center for the National Interest (CFTNI). In 2001 the Center acquired The National Interest, a bimonthly journal, in which it tends to promote the realist perspective on foreign policy. The Center's President is Dimitri K. Simes.

The Center was established by former U.S. President Richard Nixon on January 20, 1994 as the Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom. The group changed its name to The Nixon Center in 1998. The center has a staff of approximately twenty people supporting six main programs: Energy Security and Climate Change, Strategic Studies, US-Russia Relations, U.S.-Japan Relations, China and the Pacific, and Regional Security (Middle East, Caspian Basin and South Asia). In 2006 it had an annual budget of \$1.6 million. The Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program of the Foreign Policy Research Institute ranked it as one of the top 30 think tanks in the United States in 2007, and it has consistently earned similar praise since then. According to the 2014 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report (Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania), the Center is number 43 (of 60) in the "Top Think Tanks in the United States".

10- Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI)

The Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) is an American think tank based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. By its own description it is "devoted to bringing the insights of scholarship to bear on the development of policies that advance U.S. national interests."

The Institute conducts research on geopolitics, international relations, and international security in the various regions of the world as well as on ethnic conflict, U.S. national security, terrorism, and on think tanks themselves. It publishes a quarterly journal, Orbis, as well as a series of monographs and books.

11- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is a non-partisan think tank that specializes in foreign policy. Though its headquarters are located in the Embassy Row neighborhood of Washington, DC, it also has centers in Moscow, Beirut, Beijing, and Brussels, which make it a unique global network of policy research centers. Each center worldwide houses local experts who produce top-notch work on critical national, regional, and global issues. As intended, these experts often provide national capitals and institutions with a deeper understanding of the circumstances shaping various policy choices. The Endowment remains highly influential, and since 2005 the Endowment's asset amount has increased 44% from \$243 million to \$349 million.

12- Rockefeller Institute of Government

The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government is a public policy research institute that conducts studies and related projects on state and local government and finance, American federalism, public management, and New York State issues, with a much broader worldview. The Institute is located in Albany, New York, and is part of the State University of New York.

13- Institute for Policy Studies (IPS)

The Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) is a left-wing think tank based in Washington, D.C. It has been directed by John Cavanagh since 1998. The organization focuses on U.S. foreign policy, domestic policy, human rights, international economics, and national security. IPS has been described as one of the five major, independent think tanks in Washington. Members of the IPS played key roles in the civil rights and anti-war movements of the 1960s, in the women's and environmental movements of the 1970s, and in the peace, anti-apartheid, and anti-intervention movements of the 1980s.

14- Open Society Foundation

The Open Society Foundation was founded in 1993 by George Soros. Affiliated with the Soros Foundation Budapest, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and the Soros Foundation New York, the Open Society Foundation releases information and funds to civil society groups around the world in an effort to advance justice, education, public health, and independent media. In the US, the Institute has focused recent efforts on advocating for a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants, net neutrality, and the organization of mass protests, including the Occupy Movement. It is also worth mentioning that

George Soros remains a very polarizing and controversial figure. Critics on the Left have argued that the Open Society Institute and Foundation serve only to advance a capitalist order, while figures on the Right have claimed the Foundation works with the intention of establishing a unitary global government.

15- National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR)

The National Bureau of Asian Research (NBR) is an American nonprofit, research institution based in Seattle, Washington, with a branch office in Washington, D.C. The organization's mission is to inform and strengthen Asia-Pacific policy. NBR brings together specialists, policymakers, and business leaders to examine economic, strategic, political, globalization, health, and energy issues affecting U.S. relations with East, Central, Southeast and South Asia and Russia. Richard J. Ellings is the current president. Funding for NBR's research comes from NBR itself, foundations, corporations, government departments and agencies, and individuals.

16- Middle East Forum (MEF)

The Middle East Forum (MEF) is an American conservative think tank founded in 1990 by Daniel Pipes, who serves as its president. MEF became an independent non-profit organization in 1994. It publishes a journal, the Middle East Quarterly. The Forum's actions include combatting lawful Islamism, protecting the freedom of public speech of anti-Islamist authors, activists, and publishers, and working to improve Middle East studies in North America.

Based on a belief that the United States has vital interests in the region of the Middle East, according to the organization, they advocate strong ties with Israel and other democracies as they emerge; work for human rights throughout the region; seek a stable supply and a low price of oil; and promote the peaceful settlement of regional and international disputes.

The Middle East Forum, a 501(c)3, has established the Legal Project to protect researchers and analysts who work on the topics of Islam and related topics from lawsuits designed to silence their exercise of free speech and to discuss key issues of public concern. The Legal Project aided Geert Wilders' legal defense when he faced a criminal indictment for his views in 2009.

17- American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

Founded in 1938, the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) seeks to “defend the principles and improve the institutions of American freedom and democratic capitalism” through “limited government, private enterprise, individual liberty and responsibility, vigilant and effective defense and foreign policies, political accountability, and open debate.” In recent years, AEI has become the most prominent think tank associated with Neo-Conservatism, and has succeeded in placing its members in influential government positions—a fact which has made it highly controversial. In fact, more than 20 AEI scholars and fellows served in posts in the George W. Bush administration.

18- The Group of Thirty (G30)

The Group of Thirty, often abbreviated to G30, is an international body of leading financiers and academics which aims to deepen understanding of economic and financial issues and to examine consequences of decisions made in the public and private sectors related to these issues. Topical areas within the interest of the group include: the foreign exchange market, international capital markets, international financial institutions, central banks and their supervision of financial services and markets, and macroeconomic issues such as product and labor markets.

19- Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is one of the most respected think tanks in Washington. Since 1962, CSIS has maintained its stated mission of “finding ways to sustain American prominence and prosperity as a force for good in the world” by providing non-partisan policy analyses on issues such as international relations, trade, technology, finance, energy, and geo-strategy. Over the years, a number of well-respected figures from every part of the political spectrum have worked with CSIS, including Madeleine Albright, former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, and former Undersecretary of Defense Michele Flournoy. CSIS regularly publishes books, reports, newsletters, and commentaries targeted at major decision-makers. These publications include Washington Quarterly, Critical Questions, Freeman Report Newsletter, and New Perspectives in Foreign Policy. Notable former members include Madeleine Albright, former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, former Undersecretary of Defense Michele Flournoy.

20- Hoover Institution

The Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace is a think tank associated with Stanford University. Since its founding by pre-presidential Herbert Hoover in 1919, the Institution has been a leader in Domestic Economic Policy, Security, and International Affairs. It describes itself as “moderate Conservative,” which makes sense once you remember that its namesake once toyed with the idea of becoming a Democrat. Regardless, Hoover has maintained the same basic tenets of “representative government, private enterprise, peace, and personal freedom” for nearly 100 years. Its in-house publisher is Hoover Institution Press (which produces books written by Hoover fellows), as well as the quarterly periodicals Hoover Digest, Education Next, China Leadership Monitor, and Defining Ideas.



Notable members include Robert Conquest, Richard A. Epstein, Niall Ferguson, Timothy Garton Ash, Victor Davis Hanson, Henry Kissinger, Harvey Mansfield, Allan H. Meltzer, Douglass C. North, Sam Nunn, Condoleezza Rice, George P. Schultz, Thomas Sowell, Shelby Steele

21- Center for a New American Security (CNAS)

Center for a New American Security (CNAS) was founded relatively recently, in 2007, but has since become a regular resource to such media outlets as the New York Times, the Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, C-SPAN, NBC, NPR, and a number of others. The Center specializes in domestic national security issues, especially terrorism, irregular warfare, the future of the US military, and Asia's emergence as a global power. While CNAS describes itself as "independent" and "non-partisan," the Obama administration has hired several CNAS employees for important jobs, including CNAS co-founders Kurt Campbell (Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs) and Michele Flournoy (Undersecretary of Defense for Policy). Most of what CNAS publishes are thorough reports meant to assist and inform policy-makers and national security leaders.

22- Stimson Center

The Stimson Center uses analysis and outreach in an attempt to enhance international peace and security. Upon its founding in 1989, Stimson focused exclusively on arms control. Since then, it has expanded to include a wide range of security issues, including international peace organizations and nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. Stimson also runs the "Security for a New Century" seminar series, through which it works actively with the US Congress. The Center publishes a number of books, articles, and studies each year, the most well-known of which is the "Spotlight" series, a bi-weekly commentary on current foreign policy issues. Notable members include Lincoln P. Bloomfield Jr. and Condoleezza Rice.

23- James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy

Named for a former US Secretary of State, and directed by a former US Ambassador to Israel and Syria, the James A. Baker III Institute at Rice University has become a well-respected producer of public policy research. Baker is officially non-partisan, and conducts research with the aim of narrowing the gap between theory and practice in public policy. Areas of current research include Arab media and politics, drug policy, homeland security and terrorism, space policy, and projects on the Americas, China, and Mexico, to name but a few. The institute employs scholars and researchers from a variety of backgrounds, and its Board of Advisers includes named such as William Barnett, Colin Powell, Madeleine Albright, and Rice University President David Leebron.

24- Lexington Institute

The Lexington Institute was founded in 1998 in order to promote America's ability to project power around the world so that "we can not only defend the homeland of democracy, but also sustain the international stability in which other free-market democracies can thrive." Its three main issues are national security, education reform, and US relations with Cuba. Lexington's fellows and researchers are widely cited by the media, especially when it comes to the issue of Cuba. Though the Institute officially refers to itself as "independent" and "non-partisan," many think tank watch groups and media sources have labeled it as "Conservative."

25- The Future of American Democracy Foundation

The Future of American Democracy Foundation is an American nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy foundation dedicated to research and education, working in partnership with the Yale University Press to clarify and analyze contemporary US domestic and foreign policy. Board members include distinguished scholars and experts with various political affiliations and beliefs. Board members include Jonathan Brent, Editorial Director of Yale University Press; Norton Garfinkle, former Chairman of the George Washington University Institute for Communitarian Policy Studies; Thomas E. Mann of the Brookings Institution; Norman J. Ornstein, resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research; Hugh Price, formerly president of the National Urban League; Alan Wolfe of Boston College; and Ruth A. Wooden.

26- Pew Research Center

The Pew Research Center is a nonpartisan American "fact tank", which is based in Washington, D.C. It provides information on social issues, public opinion, and demographic trends shaping the United States and the world. It also conducts public opinion polling, demographic research, media content analysis, and other empirical social science research. Pew Research Center does not take explicit policy positions, and is a subsidiary of The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Sources: <https://onthinktanks.org>, www.thinktankinitiative.org, www.aipac.org, www.rand.org, www.cfr.org, www.globalresearch.ca, www.counterpunch.org, et al.