

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



CYPRESS FUND
FOR PEACE & SECURITY

The Post-9/11 World is Not Safe

The post-9/11 world is not safe. Global networks of violence threaten to undermine the security of individual states, while the spread of weapons of mass destruction outpaces the Cold War treaty mechanisms designed to control them. In failed and authoritarian states around the world, citizens lack access to even the most rudimentary forms of democratic expression, creating situations ripe for bitter intergroup and civic rivalries, and setting the stage for cultures of violence. New ideas, institutions, and practices for preventing deadly conflict, and reducing the spread of weapons of mass destruction, are critical as we face an uncertain and dangerous future.

Foundations Are Backing Out

At a time when organizations countering deadly violence require more support than ever, the philanthropic community has pulled back dramatically from issues of nuclear non-proliferation and peacebuilding. Since 2000, the W. Alton Jones Foundation, the Merck Foundation, and the Starr Foundation have all discontinued their funding in the area of non-proliferation. In the same period, the Hewlett Foundation (the field's major funder), the Soros Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation, the Winston Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and the MacArthur Foundation have all either disbanded or dramatically reduced their programs in areas related to conflict resolution and peacebuilding. There are remarkably few foundations still active in these areas, meaning that academic institutions and NGOs must scramble for funds, without the ability to conduct long-term projects or effective strategic planning.

What We Can Do

Core Beliefs of Safety

The Cypress Fund for Peace and Security ("Cypress Fund") operates on the following assumptions and beliefs about what will help create a safer, more peaceful future:

- Without safety there cannot be security; without security there cannot be peace.
- Individual security, including the freedom to pursue one's life ambitions in a climate free from tyranny, disease, intergroup violence, and nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, lies at the heart of peaceful societies.
- On the global level, safety involves freedom from the threat of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction such as biological and chemical weapons. Locally, safety involves freedom from "machine gun" cultures and continual, destabilizing violence. Little has been done about the global avalanche of small arms, destabilizing governments around the world, particularly in Africa and Latin America.
- Proliferation of nuclear materials and chemical/biological weapons technology now means that the question is "when" not "if" a nuclear or chem/bio incident will take place. New means for halting the proliferation of nuclear materials, along with disincentives for using nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, must displace the outmoded Cold War system.
- Peaceful societies, with citizens free from fear, who are therefore able to hope, dream, and achieve are less likely to support or harbor terrorists.
- Stabilizing societies involves strengthening the links between democracy, development, conflict resolution and peacemaking, human rights, and health.
- At a time when conflict prevention is cast in negative terms such as "early warning" and crisis intervention, we need positive models for "early hope" and deeper, more structural conflict prevention. Preventing conflict is ultimately more productive than responding to conflict in a crisis situation.
- NGOs that work in these fields are not being supported on a sustained basis, which is essential to enable them to plan and be effective.

Stemming the Proliferation of Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Weapons

The Cypress Fund will pursue formal and informal strategies for stemming the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Key to our efforts are the beliefs that:

- Supporting the Non-Proliferation Treaty Regime and its underlying bargains is key to stemming the flow of weapons of mass destruction.
- Grass roots efforts against proliferation can help change attitudes and norms about the use of weapons of mass destruction. NGOs leading these efforts must be able to disseminate the results of their studies and analysis to inform public attitudes, and also, perhaps equally or more important, to do the same with government agencies and officials both abroad and in the United States.

Creating Safe Societies

Creating societies that can use political dialogue, rather than deadly violence, to resolve disputes requires the development of new bonds between disparate fields. The Cypress Fund will support groups working as bridges between these fields, in the belief that:

- The elements leading to safer societies consist of democracy (or at least a few robust democratic institutions); civil society organizations (an informal infrastructure acting as a buffer between the government and its citizens – what de Tocqueville deemed to be the great strength of American democracy); a strong framework of human rights and rule of law; security mechanisms; adequate public health; healthy development and economic security; and conflict resolution mechanisms.
- In order to attain the stable economic development, freedom from ravaging diseases, robust physical infrastructure (including water), and access to education that lead to less violent societies, leaders and citizens must learn how to use public participation and dialogue for the resolution of large-scale social problems and the creation of blueprints for social change.
- Supporting groups working at the intersection of these fields can have strong ripple effects throughout a society, creating change much larger than their own individual efforts.

Grantmaking Strategies

1) A top priority of the Cypress Fund will be to develop new theory, best practices, and fresh ideas in the areas of peace and security in the post-9/11 world. To this end:

- All grantmaking will focus on educational and informational purposes, in addition to the underlying substantive work of the grant.
- The Cypress Fund will use its resources to disseminate grant results, hold annual conferences among grantees, and issue reports to policy makers and NGOs working on issues of peace and safety.

2) Regular, ongoing support will be the goal of most grants, with the Cypress Fund occasionally acting as an operating institution in areas of clear need.

Whether we are funding micro-grants or are offering institutional support, we want to be consistent, reliable funders. Grants will be readily renewable from year to year if the work continues on track. We want to act as strategic partners with our grantees, helping them grow as they pursue their missions. We hope to make longer-term commitments that will help both the Cypress Fund and the grantee use the relationship to the best advantage.

- NGOs committed to the fields of arms limitation, non-proliferation and conflict prevention, must have regular support in order to build sufficient staying power to help move the United States and the world community effectively in the direction of peace, stability and security in the 21st century. The Cypress Fund hopes to become a reliable supporter of effective NGOs and related institutions within the limits of its resources.

- In a small number of cases in which the Cypress Fund determines that more information or different types of programs are necessary to attain particular goals, it may act as an operating institution, to commission studies, organize new groups, establish pilot projects, or develop new initiatives.
- Regional review boards will help identify potential grantees whose goals closely match those of the Cypress Fund
- The Cypress Fund will begin funding with microgrants, then, as its resources expand, will add levels of institutional support to grantees, and will add funding to support university and think tank research.

Building the Organization

Creating the Cypress Fund

- In October 2005, we received our designation as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity from the Internal Revenue Service. We will continue to work with our legal counsel, Covington & Burling, to ensure that we satisfy the funding guidelines set out for 501(c)(3) organizations.
- We incorporated in the District of Columbia in March, 2005.
- We have sublet space in Dupont Circle, in Washington, DC, in order to be close to the non-proliferation, conflict prevention, and policy communities.
- We held our organizational board meeting on April 7, 2005, and subsequent board meetings on November 8, 2005 and April 11, 2006.

Building the Board

We have created a small, working board as the organization begins operation. We will expand the board as our activities and fundraising progress. The following people currently serve on the Cypress Fund's executive board:

- Ambassador Thomas Graham (board chair)
- Melanie Greenberg (ex officio)
- Jan Eliasson, United Nations Envoy for Darfur; former Foreign Minister of Sweden and President, UN General Assembly
- Rosemarie Forsythe, Manager, International Political Strategy, Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Katherine Hope Gurun, Mediator with JAMS; former Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Bechtel Corporation
- David Hamburg, DeWitt Wallace Distinguished Scholar, Weill Medical College, and president *emeritus* of the Carnegie Corporation
- David Holloway, Raymond A. Spruance Professor of International History, Stanford University
- Eliza Klose, founder and former president of ISAR: Initiative for Social Action and Renewal in Eurasia
- Nancy Lampton, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, American Life and Accident Insurance Company of Kentucky, Inc.
- Nancy Lindborg, President, Mercy Corps
- Richard Rhodes, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *The Making of the Atomic Bomb*

We plan to draw from the academic world, the corporate community, and the substantive fields of non-proliferation and peacebuilding for the remaining slots. We will stress an international vision in the board's composition.

The following people have agreed to serve on the Advisory Board of the Cypress Fund:

- **Hrach Gregorian**, President of the Institute for World Affairs
- **Johanna Mendelson-Forman**, United Nations Foundation
- **B. Stephen Toben**, President, Flora Family Foundation
- **Professor Christopher D. Jones** (The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, at the University of Washington).

Staffing

- Ambassador Graham, as board chair, will serve as Chief Executive Officer, and will play a strong role in all foundation programs.
- Melanie Greenberg, as President, will run the foundation's programs and will work jointly with Ambassador Graham on all strategic planning.
- We hope to hire an assistant to manage the administrative needs of the organization (with expertise in grants administration).
- Eventually, we hope to hire a substantive program officer, as well.
- We will outsource the investment of our endowment, our legal services, our accounting oversight, and our computer needs.

Funding Levels:

In the immediate future, we are focusing on fundraising and bringing resources into the foundation that we can immediately turn around into grants. In the early years, we plan to make grants in the order of \$300,000 - \$500,000 per year, even if it means the slower development of a potential endowment. Eventually, we hope to build an endowment in the area of \$20 million that would translate into \$1 million to \$1.2 million annually, with a percentage left for administration.

Biographies of Ambassador Thomas Graham, Jr. and Melanie Greenberg

Ambassador Thomas Graham, Jr. (Chairman)

Ambassador Thomas Graham, Jr. is special counsel in the Energy Practice of the law firm of Morgan Lewis, resident in the Washington, D.C. office. Ambassador Graham participates in the International Energy and Department of Energy practice areas.

Internationally known as a leading authority in the field of arms control agreements to combat the spread of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, Ambassador Graham has served as a senior U.S. diplomat involved in the negotiation of every major international arms control and non-proliferation agreement for the past 30 years, including The Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT) Treaties, The Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) Treaties, The Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) Treaty, Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty, and Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

Ambassador Graham also currently serves as the Chairman of the Lawyers Alliance for World Security. From 1994 until 1997, he served as the Special Representative of the President for Arms Control, Non-Proliferation, and Disarmament, appointed by President Clinton. He served for 15 years as the General Counsel of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA).

He has also served as the Acting Director and Acting Deputy Director of ACDA, as Legal Advisor to the U.S. SALT II, START I and START II Delegations, the Senior Arms Control Agency Representative to the U.S. Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces and the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Delegations, and many others. In addition, Ambassador Graham led U.S. Government efforts to indefinitely extend the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1994 and 1995.

Ambassador Graham worked on the negotiation of The Chemical Weapon Convention and The Biological Weapons Convention. He drafted the implementing legislation and managed the ratification of the Geneva Protocol banning the use in war of chemical and biological weapons.

Ambassador Graham is also a widely published author in both scholarly journals and major newspapers. He is the author of

Disarmament Sketches, Three Decades of Arms Control and International Law, 2002 (a memoir) ; Cornerstones of Security, Arms Control Treaties in the Nuclear Era, 2003, with Damien J. Lavera (existing treaties with comments); Common Sense on Weapons of Mass Destruction, September, 2004-all published by the University of Washington Press. Recent articles include: "National Self Defense, International Law, and Weapons of Mass Destruction, in the University of Chicago Law School Journal of International Law, Spring, 2003; and "An NPT for Non-members," Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, May/June, 2004 (with Avner Cohen). He has taught at many prestigious universities, including the University of Virginia School of Law, the Georgetown School of Foreign Service, the Georgetown University Law Center, Stanford University, and the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington.

Ambassador Graham received a L.L.B. from Harvard University in 1961 and an A.B. from Princeton in 1955. He is a member of the Kentucky, District of Columbia, and New York bars and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He chaired the Committee on Arms Control and Disarmament of the American Bar Association from 1986-1994. Ambassador Graham received the Trainor Award for Distinction in Diplomacy from Georgetown University in 1995.

Melanie Greenberg (President)

In addition to creating the Cypress Fund, Melanie Greenberg was until September 2004 a visiting scholar at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies, focusing on issues of justice in post-conflict peacebuilding. From 2000 – 2002, Ms. Greenberg was director of the Conflict Resolution grantmaking program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Prior to joining the Hewlett Foundation, Ms. Greenberg served as the associate director of the Stanford Center for International Security and Cooperation, and deputy director of the Stanford Center on Conflict and Negotiation. In her work on international conflict resolution, Ms. Greenberg has helped design and facilitate public peace processes in the Middle East and the Caucasus. She has taught courses in international conflict resolution, multi-party conflict resolution and negotiation at Stanford Law School and Georgetown University Law Center, and she was lead editor and chapter author of the volume Words over War: Mediation and Arbitration to Prevent Deadly Conflict (Rowman & Littlefield, 2000). Ms. Greenberg until recently served as board chair of the Alliance for International Conflict Prevention and Resolution, and sits on the board of directors of Women in International Security, Lawyers Alliance for World Security, and Partners for Democratic Change. She is a member of the Council of Advisors for the United States Institute of Peace, and serves on the editorial board of Dispute Resolution Magazine. She is a member of the United Nations Advisory Committee on the Prevention of Genocide. Ms. Greenberg holds an AB magna cum laude from Harvard, and a JD from Stanford Law School. She lives in Washington, DC with her husband and two children.

Contact Information:

Cypress Fund for Peace and Security
1601 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 777-2250 (office); (202) 337-7677 (Direct line for Melanie Greenberg)

mgreenberg@cypressfund.org
tgraham@cypressfund.org

