Senator Frank Forrester Church served the state of Idaho and the nation with great distinction and dedication. He was born in Boise, Idaho on July 25, 1924.

During World War II, he served in the United States Army assigned to military intelligence in India, Burma, and China from 1942 until 1946.

Following his discharge, he received his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University in 1947. In 1950, Church graduated from Stanford Law School, and after passing the Idaho Bar Exam he practiced law in Boise, Idaho.

In 1956, he began a successful campaign to become the fifth youngest member ever to sit in the United States Senate. Known for his intelligence, acuity, and sensitivity to the nuances of American diplomatic interests, Church chaired the Committee on Foreign Relations during the Vietnam War. He also served as chair of the United States Senate’s Special Committee on Aging, and as a member of the Special Committee on Termination of the National Emergency.

During the 21st General Assembly of the United Nations, Church was chosen as a delegate to represent the United States. His forthright character and discernment won the respect of scholars and leaders throughout the world. Church died on April 7, 1984.

In recognition of his distinguished service to the world, the members of the International Affairs Council hold the Frank Church Symposium every year.

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International Diplomacy: Evolving Dynamics in the 21st Century

March 10, 2022

Rendezvous ABC Suites

10:00 a.m.—Welcome: Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, Dr. Kandi Turley-Ames

10:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.—Panel 1: Climate Change

2:30-3:15 p.m.—Joseph and Priscilla Hearst Memorial Lecture: Dr. Yuliya Brel-Fournier: “The Development Path of Belarus: From Imitation Democracy to a Real Dictatorship”

- Introduction by Dr. Raphael Njoku, Chair of the Global Studies and Languages Department

Rendezvous ABC Suites

3:30-4:45 p.m.—Panel 2: Global Peace

5:00-6:15 p.m.—Keynote - Dr. Mihir Kanade: “International Cooperation, Global Solidarity, and Development: What should we learn from the COVID-19 pandemic?”

- Introduction by Dr. Karen Appleby, Interim Provost & Vice President For Academic Affairs

Schedule is subject to change.
International Diplomacy: Evolving Dynamics in the 21st Century

March 11, 2022
Rendezvous ABC Suites

9:00-10:30 a.m.—Panel 3: African Investment and Growth

10:45-11:30 a.m.—Lecture 2: Richard H. Foster Lecture
Dr. James Robinson: "Africa's Latent Assets"

- Introduction by Dr. King Yik, Assistant Professor Global Studies

11:45 a.m.-12:35 p.m.—Panel 4: Distribution Chains and Economic Stability

Schedule is subject to change.
International Cooperation, Global Solidarity, and Development: What should we learn from the COVID-19 pandemic?

The COVID-19 pandemic brought the entire world to a grinding halt for the better part of 2020 and 2021 and unleashed disastrous consequences in its wake. In addition to the loss of over 5 million lives worldwide, the pandemic alone has upended livelihoods of hundreds of millions, has added over a 100 million more undernourished persons, and over 275 million more are at the risk of acute food insecurity.

At the same time, the pandemic has marked the beginning of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. Unsurprisingly, the most severe impacts have been on the weakest and poorest countries, especially in Africa. For most of the heavily-indebted countries, annual debt repayments far surpass their public health budgets. Yet, even temporary debt relief remains elusive. Official Development Assistance has dwindled. While vaccine-nationalism by richer countries has deprived others any meaningful access to vaccines, the demands by the Global South for temporary waivers of intellectual property rights over essential medicines and vaccines have been rejected. The pandemic has exposed existing fault lines in global solidarity and international cooperation at a time when these are needed the most and has accelerated the derailment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This lecture will highlight the key issues at stake in efforts to recover globally from the pandemic and bring the 2030 Agenda back on track. It will elaborate on the duty of States to cooperate to realize development viewed not through the business-as-usual lens of charity or privilege, but as a human right of all persons and peoples everywhere, as the only way in which any recovery is possible towards a better world.

Africa’s Latent Assets

Despite the past centuries’ economic setbacks and challenges, are there reasons for optimism about Africa’s economic prospects? We provide a conceptual framework and empirical evidence that show how the nature of African society has led to three sets of unrecognized “latent assets.” First, success in African society is talent-driven and Africa has experienced high levels of perceived and actual social mobility. A society where talented individuals rise to the top and optimism prevails is an excellent basis for entrepreneurship and innovation. Second, Africans, like westerners who built the world’s most successful effective states, are highly skeptical of authority and attuned to the abuse of power. We argue that these attitudes can be a critical basis for building better institutions. Third, Africa is “cosmopolitan.” Africans are the most multilingual people in the world, have high levels of religious tolerance, and are welcoming to strangers. The experience of navigating cultural and linguistic diversity sets Africans up for success in a globalized world.
Yuliya Brel-Fournier is an assistant policy scientist at the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research at the University of Delaware. Her research interests concentrate on the problems of transition from authoritarianism to democracy in Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries and the former Soviet Republics, modern dictatorships, democratic governance, and the role of civil society in the process of transition to democracy and its subsequent consolidation. Additionally, her research focuses on the modern nation-building in post-communist states and on whether the strength/weakness of national consciousness, alongside other factors, played a role in the divergent outcomes of the process of democratization in CEE countries.

The Development Path of Belarus: From Imitation Democracy to Real Dictatorship

The Republic of Belarus, which used to be part of the Soviet Union, became an independent state in August 1991. In 1994, Belarusian citizens elected their first president. Within a short period of time, however, the first democratically elected Belarusian president turned into an authoritarian ruler and brought under his control all three branches of government. Between 1994 and 2020, Lukashenko did not experience much difficulty with re-elections. His political longevity was conditioned, at least partly, by a specific social contract with the citizens that was sustained for many years, namely, loyalty in exchange for well-being.

In August 2020, Lukashenko attempted to get re-elected for the sixth consecutive time. This time, the election ended in months-long mass protests against the electoral fraud, unspeakable violence used by the riot police against peaceful protesters and the deepest political crisis in the modern history of Belarus.

Jonas Gamso is an assistant professor at Arizona State University’s Thunderbird School of Global Management, as well as a Senior Global Futures Scholar in ASU’s Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory. His research focuses on international trade and its impacts on sustainable development and governance in developing countries and his articles appear in the European Journal of International Relations, International Affairs, International Studies Quarterly, the Review of International Organizations, the Review of International Political Economy, World Development, and other journals. Jonas teaches in the undergraduate and master’s programs at Thunderbird and has won teaching awards for both undergraduate- and graduate-level teaching. He is the academic director for the Advanced Certificate of Global Trade Development program, which serves state-level policymakers working on trade issues, and he teaches in the UN Global Compact’s Young Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Innovators program, which helps global companies to align their business models with the UN SDGs.
Panelists
Climate Change

Dr. Ronald Mitchell
University of Oregon
Attendance: Virtual

Ronald B. Mitchell is a Professor of Political Sciences and Environmental Studies at the University of Oregon and an expert on international environmental politics and law. He founded and directs the International Environmental Agreements Database Project, which provides scholars and practitioners a comprehensive catalog of all environmental treaties. His research seeks to identify and explain patterns in the design and effectiveness of international environmental treaties. He has published four books and numerous other scholarly foundations, has received various national-level grants, and received the 2018 Elinor Ostrom Career Achievement Award.

Dr. Romuald Afatchao
University of Idaho
Attendance: In-person

Romuald K. Afatchao is a clinical professor and the associate director of The Martin Institute and the Program in International Studies at the University of Idaho with more than 10 years of experience in international development. A native of Togo, he has a law degree, an L.L.M. in environmental law and politics from the University of Lomé in Togo, a master’s in International Studies from the University of Limoges in France, and a doctorate in environmental science from UI. Afatchao is a founding director, the president and executive director of the Institute for Community Partnership and Sustainable Development. He also co-founded a Togolese NGO — The National Association of Consumers and the Environment — in the late 1990s. His interests include African affairs, international development, poverty reduction, millennium development goals, indigenous rights, intellectual property rights, climate change, and environmental law and policy.

Dr. Philip Mote
Oregon State University
Attendance: Virtual

Philip Mote is vice provost and dean of the Graduate School and remains active in the Oregon Climate Research Institute (OCCRI) and the NOAA-funded Climate Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC) for the Northwest. He served for several years in leadership of the 60,000-member American Geophysical Union, as President of Global as President of Global Environmental Change, member of the Council, Vice Chair of the Council Leadership Team, and a member of the Board of Directors.

Philip was the founding director (2009–19) of OCCRI and remains involved in communicating climate science within Oregon.

He earned a B.A. in Physics from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Washington.

Dr. Adeola A. Adebajo
Tai Solarin University of Education
Attendance: Virtual

Adebajo, Adayero Adeola, Ph.D. is a senior lecturer in the Department of Political Science, Tai Solarin University of Education, and specializes in peace and conflicts studies including gender issues. She has several publications to her name and is currently working on a few other projects internationally.
Panelists
Global Peace

Dr. Alexandra Chinchilla
Dartmouth College
Attendance: Virtual

Alexandra Chinchilla is a Rosenwald Fellow in U.S. Foreign Policy and International Security and Niehaus Postdoctoral Fellow at The John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding at Dartmouth College. She received her Ph.D. in Political Science at the University of Chicago in August 2021. Alexandra’s research focuses on international security and political violence. Her work examines how powerful states use security assistance tools like military training and advising to influence other militaries and shape local political violence. She also explores how security cooperation more broadly affects democracy, human rights, and civil-military relations in recipient countries. Her other research examines modern irregular warfare.

Dr. Colin Johnson
Idaho State University
Attendance: In-person

Dr. Colin Johnson’s research is at the intersection of international migration and development, incorporating human security, political demography, and ethnic conflict. His empirical expertise is in post-communist Eurasia, including field experience in the Russian Federation, Kyrgyzstan, and Estonia.

Dr. Johnson received his Ph.D. from Brown University in 2017 and then taught as a UCIS Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies and the Department of Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh from 2017-2019.

Vedran Obućina
University of Regensburg
Attendance: Virtual

Vedran Obućina is a Croatian political scientist, and theologian, engaged in religion-based peacebuilding in the Balkans, Caucasus, and the Middle East. He is a Ph.D. researcher at the University of Regensburg (Germany), Institute for Peace and Economics (Sydney, Australia) Ambassador, Rotary Peace Fellow from Chulalongkorn University (Bangkok, Thailand), and co-founder of Solidarity2020andbeyond. He authored the book “Political System of the Islamic Republic of Iran” and wrote many other scientific articles, studies, and analyses. He focuses also on Afghanistan, particularly on the role of Deobandi School within the Taliban movement and the possibilities of religious diplomacy in Afghanistan.

Dr. Xiaoyu Pu
University of Nevada, Reno
Attendance: Virtual

Xiaoyu Pu is an associate professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is a public intellectuals program fellow at the National Committee on United States-China Relations (NCUSCR). Previously he was a non-resident senior fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue, a Stanton fellow at Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) in Brazil, and a postdoctoral fellow in the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program. He is the author of Rebranding China: Contested Status Signaling in the Changing Global Order (The Studies in Asian Security Series, Stanford University Press, 2019). His research has appeared in International Security, International Affairs, The China Quarterly, and The Chinese Journal of International Politics. Dr. Pu received his PhD from Ohio State University.
**Panelists**

**African Economic Investment**

**Dr. Shin Kue Ryu**  
*Idaho State University*  
*Attendance: In-person*

Shin Kue Ryu’s research interests include politics and sustainable development goals, strengthening public sector capacity building in developing country contexts, and infrastructure development implementation frameworks. His specific interests include expansion of equal access to government services in development country contexts, water and sanitation infrastructure policies in Asia and the Pacific countries, and the role of politics in achieving sustainable development goals.

Dr. Ryu was the principal researcher for WaterAid’s comparative sanitation case studies of Malaysia, Singapore, and South Korea. The research serves to demonstrate that universal access to sanitation can be achieved within a single generation, research that was much needed in light of the failing to meet the Millennium Development Goal on sanitation, which signaled a need to depart from the status quo. The research has been cited as a solution to Asia’s challenge on sanitation by the Asian Development Bank’s flagship report, the Asian Water Development Outlook 2016.

Dr. Ryu also brings professional experience of having worked at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, DC. His experiences involve being the researcher for the World Bank’s Public-Private Partnership Reference Guide 2.0 and Delivering Universal and Sustainable Water Services: Partnering with the Private Sector – Guidance Note. He is also the co-author of OECD Public-Private Partnerships: The Relevance of Budgeting publication, which was presented at the OECD Senior Budget Officials Meeting.

**Dr. Adeola A. Adebajo**  
*Tai Solarin University of Education*  
*Attendance: Virtual*

Adebajo, Aderayo Adeola, Ph.D. is a senior lecturer in the Department of Political Science, Tai Solarin University of Education, and specialized in peace and conflicts studies, including gender issues. She has several publications to her name and is currently working on a few other projects internationally.

**Dr. Faruq Boge**  
*Lagos State University*  
*Attendance: Virtual*

Boge, Faruq Idowu holds a Ph.D. Degree in History and International Studies from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria. He lectures on African History and World History at the Lagos State University (Foundation School), Badagry Campus, Lagos. His research interests cover Social and Economic History, African History, Crime and Security Studies, and Development Studies. He is a professional member of the Historical Society of Nigeria (HSN) and the Lagos Studies Association (LSA). Also, Dr. Boge is a fellow of the Ife Institute of Advanced Studies.
Co-Panelists
African Economic Investment

Isaac Olawale Yemisi
University of Ilorin
Co-Panelist with Dr. Faruq Boge
Attendance: Virtual


Sunday Toyin Omojowo
Tai Solarin University of Education
Co-Panelist with Dr. Adeola Adebajo
Attendance: Virtual

Sunday Toyin Omojowo is an avid reader and a research enthusiast. He is a Graduate Assistant in his Alma Mater, Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun, Ogun State, Nigeria, in the Department of Political Science. He is currently working on a few projects in the field of International Relations.

Peter Robert Jacobs
University of Leiden
Co-Panelist with Vedran Obućina
Attendance: Virtual

Peter Robert Jacobs is a final year MA student of International Organisations and Crisis Management at the University of Leiden. His main research engagement is analyzing the political ramifications of the ICC’s actions, and analyzing the work of the Court within the assumption of International Law as an inherently politicized space, contrary to the proclamations of its actors. He holds a first-class honours Bachelor’s Degree in History and Politics from the University of York, and his long term aim is to qualify as a barrister in the UK, before proceeding to practice law internationally.
**Moderators**

**Climate Change**

Dr. Sarah Ebel  
Idaho State University

Dr. Sarah Ebel is an environmental anthropologist who is broadly interested in the interactions between cultural, socio-political, and ecological systems which affect governance and decision-making under the context of adaptation to environmental change. She specializes in the intersection between governance, adaptation, and social well-being, analyzing the relationships between individuals, institutions, and the ecosystem at different scales in politicized natural resource contexts undergoing environmental change.

**African Economic Investment**

Dr. Iris Buder  
Idaho State University

Dr. Buder teaches undergraduate courses in the economics of health care, macroeconomics, microeconomics, and economic issues. Her research interests are in analyzing the economics costs of diseases, conducting cost-effectiveness analyses for public health interventions, researching health disparities, and researching health-related quality of life. She currently serves as a board member for Health West Community Center.

**Distribution Chains and Economic Stability**

Dr. Karl Geisler  
Idaho State University

Dr. Karl Geisler received his Ph.D. from the University of Nevada, Reno. As a regional economist his research primarily examines how economic activities spillover between jurisdictions, such as how casinos impact employment in host and adjacent counties. In his free time he enjoys many outdoor activities, particularly whitewater rafting and skiing.

**Global Peace**

Dr. Kellee Kirkpatrick  
Idaho State University

Dr. Kellee J. Kirkpatrick earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Kansas where she concentrated her studies in American politics and public policy. She also earned a graduate certificate in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies from KU. Dr. Kirkpatrick has a diverse educational background including a master’s degree in Strategic Communications and undergraduate degrees in Public Relations, Print Journalism, and Vocal Performance.

Dr. Kirkpatrick’s research agenda examines issues of women’s health and reproductive policy and specifically focuses on questions that concern how and why governments regulate private, social issues. Her research often explores how policy evolves at the intersection of morality and economic interests.
The International Affairs Council

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The International Affairs Council

The Idaho State University International Affairs Council was organized in December 1970, beginning as the first model UN in Idaho. The IAC believed sharing different viewpoints was vital to understanding the resolutions to complex international problems, and the Frank Church Symposium on International Affairs was born in 1972 in pursuance of this knowledge.

Since its creation, the annual symposium has hosted representatives, speakers, and experts from 45 different nations. It is the only event of its type in the region, and one of very few in the United States. Keynote speakers in the past include Dr. Anthony Lake, Former National Security Advisor to President Clinton; Oscar Arias, Nobel Peace Prize winner and former President of Costa Rica; General Amos A. Jordan, former member of President Bush’s Intelligence Oversight Board; and India’s Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Arun K. Singh. We are pleased to have Dr. Mihir Kanade as our keynote speaker this year.

We are proud to host such dignitaries, businessmen and businesswomen, and world-renowned speakers. The International Affairs Council counts on your support to help us continue to bring such individuals to our region. We hope you come, participate in, and enjoy the 51st annual Frank Church Symposium on “International Diplomacy: Evolving Dynamics in the 21st Century” in the Rendezvous ABC Suites on ISU Campus, March 10-11, 2022.
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Thank you to all of our generous supporters for making this year’s symposium a success!

We would also like to extend a special thanks to the President of ISU, Kevin Satterlee, ISU Interim Provost Karen Appleby, as well as the Dean of ISU College of Arts & Letters Kandi Turley-Ames for their generous support and time in making this year’s symposium a noteworthy success.

Without their willingness to help their students succeed and participate in the community’s activities, the Frank Church Symposium would not be what it was in the past, what it is today, and what it will be in the future.