

The Fight for Autonomy in Bolivia

By Walter Justiniano



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On December 15, 2006, over one million people gathered in Santa Cruz to ask for rule of law, freedom, democracy, and autonomy. Fundación Libertad y Democracia (FULIDE, Bolivia) helped organize this historic event, supporting the fight for freedom.

When Evo Morales was elected to power last year, it was largely because the people of Bolivia wanted change. Many believed that Morales could deliver the necessary reforms to unite Bolivia and offer it new direction as a unified country. During his campaign, Morales reached out to the country's diverse groups, promising to bring equality and dignity by creating a government for all.

But today, those who helped put Morales in power are disappointed. Despite his promises, the Indians are still

excluded from having a voice in the government.

Members of the middle class, who wanted to fight corruption and bring about a "moral cleanliness," now realize that Morales only seeks to add to his own power by building a totalitarian state that controls most of the country's wealth. Morales has operated as an apprentice of Chávez and Castro, governing Bolivia as a client of these two dictators, ignoring Bolivia's need for autonomy.

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Atlas works with think tanks and individuals around the world to advance a vision of a society of free and responsible individuals, based upon private property rights, limited government under the rule of law and the market order. Atlas is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that is supported solely by donations from individuals, foundations and corporations.

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At Atlas

Atlas Says Farewell to Elena Ziebarth, Director of Public Affairs



During the Liberty Forum in Philadelphia, Atlas President, Alex Chafuen recognized all the hard work Elena Ziebarth has contributed over the 5 years that she has been with Atlas. (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)

In August, Atlas said farewell to director of Public Affairs, Elena Ziebarth. In 2002, Elena started at Atlas as Leonard Liggio's assistant. Within a year she began to work on Atlas's events and publications, eventually managing all of Atlas's public affairs. Elena, who majored in International Studies at Middlebury College in Vermont, is going to get her MBA at Thunderbird: The Garvin School of International Management in Arizona. At Atlas, Elena will be missed, but she will always be connected to the freedom movement. Atlas is very grateful for all of Elena's contributions and is excited about her bright future! ●

New Atlas Staff and Interns



Niki Straub (*standing, left*) is a recent graduate of Grove City College where she double-majored in Political Science and Spanish. Niki interned last summer at Atlas and was a student research fellow at Grove City College's **Center for Vision and Values** (Pennsylvania). Our third KAP staff member, Yiqiao Xu (*standing, right*) has worked at Atlas for over two years as Program Manager of award programs.

This summer, Atlas hosted two interns. Pawel Lisiewicz (*seated, left*), a Koch Summer Fellow through the **Institute for Humane Studies** (IHS, Virginia), and Rachel Shafer (*seated, right*), with **The Fund for American Studies'** DC Summer Program. Pawel is currently writing his Ph.D. thesis on classical liberalism and the European Union through a fellowship with IHS. He holds a M.A. in Political Science from Poland and attended postgraduate studies at the London School of Economics. He has worked for the **Polish Foundation in Support of Local Democracy, Institute of Economic Affairs** in London, as well as assisting a member of the European Parliament. Pawel was chairman of Young Center Association and is a board member of a new think tank, **Project: Poland**. Rachel recently finished her second year at the University of Tulsa studying Economics and Mathematics. Rachel assisted Atlas Senior Fellow Gabriel Zinny with Latin American Programs. ●

2007 SIR ANTONY FISHER INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL AWARDS

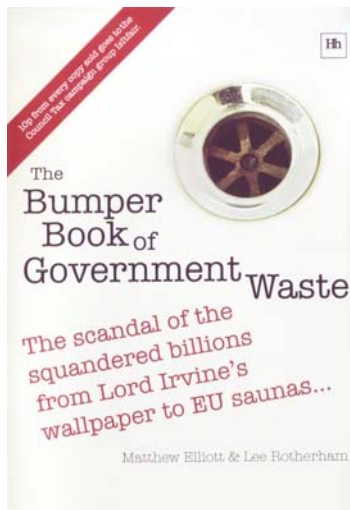
During Atlas's 7th Annual Liberty Forum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Atlas announced the 2007 winners of the Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards. These awards are given for think tank publications that have made the greatest contribution to public understanding of the free society. This year it was a sweep by European institutes, with the winners being:



Fisher Award Winner Andrzej Kondratowicz (far left, Polish Society of Economists) with (left to right) Linda Fisher Whetstone, Atlas Trustee and daughter of Sir Anthony Fisher; William Sumner, Atlas Chairman; and Alex Chafuen (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)

The TaxPayers' Alliance

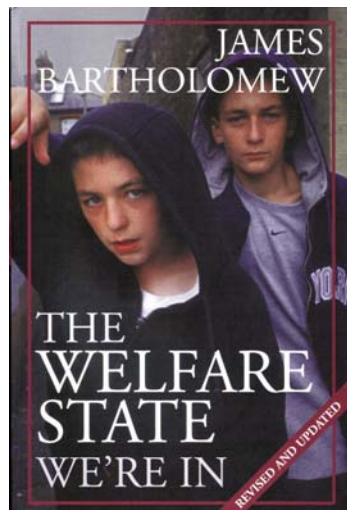
(United Kingdom) won the \$10,000 Young Institute prize for its book, *The Bumper Book of Government Waste* by Matthew Elliott and Lee Rotherham (Harriman House Publishing, Hampshire, United Kingdom, 2006). In Britain, calls for tax cuts are invariably met with the response that they would lead to fewer teachers, doctors, and nurses. By showing that money is wasted, the strength of this response is undermined, making it easier to call for lower taxes. The book, as noted by one of the Fisher Awards judges, is "Attractive to the educated, and uneducated, layman. . . You can scarcely write a more congenial book than this about this subject." Their book has sold nearly 20,000 copies to date.



Young Institute Winner

Institute of Economic Affairs

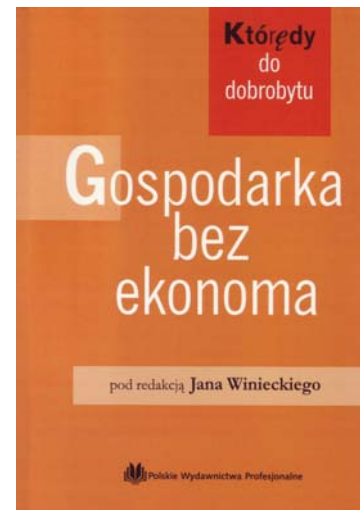
(United Kingdom) won the \$5,000 Established Institute prize for *The Welfare State We're In* by James Bartholomew (Politico's Publishing, London, United Kingdom, 2006). By tracing the history of the welfare state, Bartholomew provides compelling evidence that services currently provided by the government were previously offered through private means before the state stepped in. He concludes that the condition of the poor would be much better if the welfare state had never existed. One Fisher Award judge commented that Bartholomew, "makes a compelling case that private civil society efforts will fulfill those tasks that every decent person believes should be fulfilled."



Established Institute Winner

Polish Society of Economists

(TEP, Poland) won the \$2,000 Innovative Project prize for *Which Way to Wealth Creation?* This project started with the dissemination of free-market ideas to address important economic issues on opinion editorial pages of regional newspapers. TEP successfully negotiated with the regional newspapers' editors to publish all the articles, written by some of Poland's leading economists and journalists. Since 2003, TEP has reached over two million readers with each article. In 2006, TEP turned these educational pieces into a book, titled *The Economy without a Supervisor*, published by Wolters-Kluwer, a distinguished international publisher of academic works.



Innovative Project Winner

The Fight for Autonomy in Bolivia *(continued from cover)*

The Morales style of government has added to the violence in Bolivia. As a result of the instability stirred by Morales, more than 40 political deaths have occurred. The deaths in San Julian, Cochabamba, and Huanuni, for example, are directly connected to the power-seizing efforts of the political party led by Morales, Movimiento al Socialismo (MAS), literally meaning “movement towards socialism.”

Morales is also trying to destroy the institutions that exist to protect the constitutional state of Bolivia. In January 2007, paramilitary hordes were sent to Cochabamba and a leader from MAS led the burning of the departmental prefecture building. During this raid, many civilians were attacked, including a 16-year-old boy, Cristian Urresti, who was murdered in front of his parents when he went out to the streets to ask the government to uphold the principles of democracy and rule of law. Urresti is now remembered as the first

freedom fighter martyred during the struggle against Morales’s totalitarian movement.

The Red Ponchos army, an indigenous Andean group of the Aymara people who support Morales, were sent to Sucre to attack and intimidate the members of the constitutional court. Cuban and Venezuelan paramilitaries kidnapped Amauris Samartino, an exiled Cuban doctor residing in Bolivia, who was later expelled from Bolivia for speaking out against Morales and Castro. MAS has also threatened the National Senate. Individuals who do not comply with their demands face potential job loss or other forms of “communitarian justice.”

This style of government is taking Bolivia on a path to destruction. Alvaro Garcia Linera, vice president of Bolivia and socialist hard-liner, actively contributes to this downward spiral. Miguel Chavez (not related to Hugo Chávez) also fuels this decline in his role as com-

munications adviser, where he is responsible for the MAS campaign and other suspicious activities.

The citizens of Bolivia, however, are gradually realizing that the changes they desire will only come from a decentralized government. On July 2, 2006, a referendum proposing an autonomous style of government was held in several eastern provinces of Bolivia. The results from these votes showed that those regions wanted a decentralized system of public management. The Bolivians now seek a change in the government that will empower the people of Bolivia, not oppress them.

Bolivia in the International Context

Bolivia is one of the most enthusiastic members of ALBA (Alternativa Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América/Bolivarian Alternative for the Peoples of Our America), which promotes strong relations with Venezuela, Cuba, Iran, Ecuador, Haiti, and other countries that are opposed to free and open markets.

Presently, Chávez has a great influence in Bolivia. It is no secret that checks from the Venezuelan government are personally delivered to Morales’s city chiefs for “discretionary expenses.” Several mayors were found depositing these checks, from the Embassy of Venezuela, signed by the Venezuelan ambassador to Bolivia, in their personal accounts! Despite this blatant proof of corruption, this “monetary relationship” between Venezuelan and Bolivian officials has received very little media attention.

Editor’s Note: *Atlas invites members from its think tank network to contribute to Highlights. The opinions expressed by the authors are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of Atlas Economic Research Foundation.*



At the 2007 Liberty Forum, Walter Justiniano’s institute, FULIDE was awarded a grant through the Atlas’s Templeton Freedom Awards. During the workshop, Justiniano spoke on why think tanks are essential in the fight for freedom in Bolivia and around the world. (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)

FULIDE

FUNDACION LIBERTAD Y DEMOCRACIA

Santa Cruz, Bolivia
www.fulide.org.bo

FULIDE's Role in Bolivia

With these profound challenges facing Bolivia, FULIDE remains a steadfast defender of the principles of freedom, democracy, respect for rule of law, private property, and limited government in order to promote permanent and sustainable development in Bolivia.

While the Bolivian government aligns itself with corrupt counties, Fundación Libertad y Democracia (FULIDE) promotes trade agreements with highly developed countries as the best way to boost Bolivia's economic performance. Commercial transactions with successful countries will bring new technological information, operational experience, and economic resources that will lead to modernization and growth.

As Bolivia enters into a low-intensity civil war, the citizens feel powerless. Bolivians are not accustomed to these covert strategies of war, including controls, counter-intelligence, and attacks by paramilitary forces. FULIDE encourages Bolivians to stand up to the government before authoritarianism is firmly rooted.

FULIDE actively combats the growth of government by disseminating information to the Bolivians through print media and events. One of the biggest events that they recently co-sponsored was "Cabildo Del Million (The Million-Person Town Hall)." More than one million people gathered together in Santa Cruz to ask for rule of law, democracy, and autonomy. Without events like this and the spread of ideas promoting the free society, Bolivians will continue to follow Morales's path of destruction.



The organizers of the Cabildo del Million, ("The Million-Person Town Hall") achieved great success in gathering over one million people in Santa Cruz, Bolivia to express their desire for freedom.

Autonomy is the only system that will bring about self-sustaining economic growth for every region, respecting customs, characteristics, and ethnical differences. Without autonomy, Bolivia's regions could potentially fragment, as Yugoslavia did in the 1990s. Bolivia's culturally and ethnically diversity poses great challenges unless it can decentralize power in order to unite and modernize. ●

By Walter Justiniano, Executive Director of Fundacion Libertad y Democracia in Bolivia



Walter Justiniano

Templeton Freedom Award in Brazil



The impact of Atlas's Templeton Freedom Award (TFA) goes beyond a one-time recognition for the accomplishments of an institute. For many institutes this award increases their public awareness and credibility in their home countries as well. Atlas awarded the **Instituto de Estudios Empresarias (IEE)** with a Templeton Freedom Award grant at this year's Liberty Forum in Philadelphia, PA. After the event, IEE president Paulo Uebel invited Becky Norton Dunlop (Atlas TFA judge, **Heritage Foundation**) to present the award at one of the institute's main programs in Brazil, the University-Business Forum (FUE). FUE was co-hosted by **Fundação Irmão José Otão (FIJO)**. Pictured here (left to right) is Paulo Uebel, Becky Norton Dunlop, and Maria Cecilia (president of FIJO). ●

Atlas Events in South America

Law and Economics Conference in Brasilia



Henry Manne (left) and Robert Cooter (right), with the president of the Supreme Court of Brazil, Ellen Gracie

As part of its efforts to promote freedom in Latin America and the Caribbean, Atlas co-sponsored this year's "Law and Economics Colloquium for Judges of the Supreme Court of Brazil" in Brasilia from May 22-23. The Colloquium was organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Law and Economics Center (CLACDE) established by the Law and Economics Center at the George Mason School of Law and the Latin American and Caribbean Law and Economics Association (ALACDE).

Atlas previously co-sponsored this conference in 2006 in Argentina, which focused on reaching judges from Latin American countries.

The first day of this year's program, held at the Federal Senate of Brazil, was open for the general public. The conference was well-attended with 500 registered participants, 100 of whom attended in person while the remainder viewed the presentation online.

The program on the second day, entitled "International Colloquium of Law and Economics," was restricted to judges on the Supreme Court of Brazil. The president of the Federal Supreme Court of Brazil, Ellen Gracie, gave the opening remarks. The Supreme Court hosted a lunch for all the speakers and organizers of this event at the president's office. This is the first time ever that the Supreme Court of Brazil has hosted such a conference.

Six panels of Law and Economics experts presented during the two-day conference. Among the speakers were U.S. experts on the subject including Henry Manne, Robert Cooter, and Frank Buckley, and international speakers including Nuno Garoupa (Portugal), Francisco Reyes (Colombia), Alfredo Bullard (Peru), Andres Roemer (Mexico), Bruno Salama, Luciano Timm, Jairo Saddi, and Ivo Gico (Brazil).

International Seminar on Globalization and Law with the Hon. Antonin Scalia

On May 28-29, 2007, Atlas co-sponsored an event in Peru featuring the Honorable Antonin Scalia, U.S. Supreme Court justice, in celebration of the tenth anniversary of La Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (The Law Faculty at the Peruvian University of Applied Sciences). The other event sponsors were Estudio Echeopar, Miranda & Amado, Muñiz-Ramírez, Payet-Rey-Cauí, the National Peruvian Library, the U.S. Embassy, and **The Federalist Society** (Washington, DC). The conference, entitled "International Seminar of Globalization and Law," featured presentations and panels addressing the separation of powers, globalization, and law.

Scalia, who has served on the Supreme Court since 1986, is a vehement defender of the theory of original intent for the interpretation of the U.S. Constitution. During the conference he presented and discussed the differences between the Peruvian and American constitutions, highlighting the primary emphasis of separation of power in the U.S. Constitution, a policy which is secondary to the Peruvian Bill of Rights under the Peruvian constitution. Peruvian judiciary figures and UPC professors of law participated, among others.

The goal of the seminar was to discuss the challenges that globalization poses for the world of law, in substantive and legal terms. Key questions addressed included: "Until what point should international institutions work towards resolution in specific cases?" And, "Should they make international standards as sources of law?"



The Honorable Antonin Scalia at Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas

Institute Events in Europe

Portugal: The Treaty of Rome at 50: The Future of Europe



Atlas's Leonard Liggio at a panel discussion during the 15th International Meeting of the Institute of Political Studies at the Catholic University of Portugal

Atlas's president, Alejandro Chafuen and Leonard Liggio, Atlas's executive vice president participated in the 15th International Meeting of the **Institute of Political Studies** at the Catholic University of Portugal, June 27-30, 2007. The title of the conference was, "The Treaty of Rome at 50: The Future of Europe." Leonard Liggio presented the keynote address on "The Christian Roots of Western Liberty," where he discussed the key historical events of the classical liberal movement.

Special events were held with Robert Conquest (Hoover Institution) and Pedro Schwartz (San Pablo-CEU University, Madrid). The president of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, and the Foreign Minister of Portugal, Luis Armado gave other major addresses. The conference was organized by Professor Joao Carlos Espada and was co-sponsored by Boston College, Harvard University, King's College (London), and the Royal Institute of Philosophy (London).



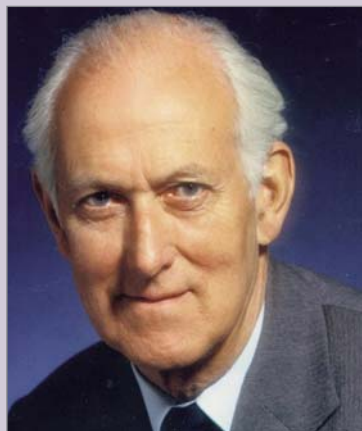
Gabriel Calzada's class on the historical background and modern challenges to classical liberalism had the highest attendance of any course offered at the Summer University program.

Spain: Summer University

On July 2-6, 2007, **Instituto Juan de Mariana (IJM, Spain)**, directed by Gabriel Calzada Álvarez, joined with the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos (Spain) to offer a one-week Summer University course. It was the University's most well-attended summer school program, focusing on the foundations of the free society as well as on the challenges posed to liberalism in the 21st century. Despite its young age, IJM, has earned a reputation as one of the most dynamic market-oriented groups in Spain.

Atlas's Alejandro Chafuen and Gabriel Calzada gave the first lectures of the course on the late medieval, Christian origin of free-market thought and Austrian economics. Other teachers at the conference included Enrique Ghersi (Centro de Investigación y Estudios Legales, CITEL), Jesús Huerta de Soto, María Blanco, Carlos Rodríguez Braun, and Gabriel Zanotti. Thanks to the generosity of the Templeton Foundation, Atlas provided three international scholarships for individuals to attend this program.

IJM members and several other professors will be teaching at a new master's program in Austrian Economics, which is being launched September 2007 at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos.



DEADLINE CHANGE: DECEMBER 1, 2007 Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards

The deadline for the Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards has been moved forward. Atlas has changed the deadline of February 1 to **December 1** because of the increase in the number of nominations received in the last few years. Moving the deadline forward will give the judges more time to review the publications.

The Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards recognize the institutes that published a book, magazine, report, monograph, or study that, in the opinion of the judges, made the greatest contribution to public understanding of the free society.

Be sure to have your entries for the 2008 Fisher Awards in by **December 1, 2007**, if you would like to be considered for this award. For more information, please visit the Atlas website (www.AtlasUSA.org). ●

One-on-One Interview with Marcela Prieto, Instituto de Ciencia Política (Colombia)

*In June 2007, Marcela Prieto, the executive director for the **Instituto de Ciencia Política** (ICP, Colombia) and editor of *Perspectiva* magazine, paid a visit to Atlas during her trip to Washington, D.C., where she met with government and think tank leaders to discuss U.S.-Colombian relations. Atlas's Romulo Lopez had the opportunity to sit down with Marcela to discuss the free trade agreement between Colombia and the U.S. that is currently being debated in Congress, as well as to learn about how ICP has been involved.*

What do you think are the major obstacles to making this free trade agreement a reality?

Unfortunately, the discussion has not been developed over the actual treaty itself or the commercial part of it. All of the topics that have been raised so far have been political things – about the improvements or non-improvements in Colombia. My objective here in Washington was to lead a group of civil society organizations to talk to congressmen and think tanks about what Colombia actually is. I brought the head of a think tank that deals with economic policy, another that deals with social policy and human rights, and others that deal with justice, education, and social corporate responsibility. Why? Because these are the topics that everyone here is discussing. We wanted to show the real context of Colombia by showing accurate facts and objective analysis. We do not represent the government or any political party. We represent two fundamental principles: democracy and free markets.

So that is your strategy, as a think tank, to support this whole process?

Exactly. Our strategy was to show that Colombia over the past ten years is a story of success. We showed the economic and social trends over the last ten years of very sensitive issues, such as union-leader killings or kidnappings,



Atlas's Romulo Lopez (left) and ICP executive director, Marcela Prieto (right)

have improved significantly. Also, we showed that if Colombia continued its current policies, matters would continue to improve.

Since you have been here, you have talked to U.S. senators and representatives who are delaying the passage of this agreement. What do you think will make them change their minds?

They have their own political agendas. Democrats now have the majority, and Colombia is an interesting target for them to make a statement about issues that are important to them, such as human rights and social justice. They are not fundamentally opposed to the free trade agreement with Colombia, but they say “not yet.”


Instituto de Ciencia Política
 Hernán Echavarría Olózaga
 Bogotá, Colombia
www.icpcolombia.org

How do Colombians feel about this apparent rejection from the U.S.?

It is not clear to us yet that the free trade agreement will not be signed. We are

still in limbo. It is important for me to say that in polls done in Colombia, almost 60 percent of the population approves of the free trade agreement. These polls include rural and urban sectors.

What is the split between the rural and urban populations in Colombia?

70 percent of Colombia's population lives in urban centers.

But are the people in rural areas in favor of the free trade agreement? Sometimes there are concerns about issues like the U.S.'s agricultural subsidies.

Yes...In expectation of the free trade agreement, many internal structural reforms are currently taking place. “Agro Ingreso Seguro” is a program that is helping its farmers to adapt to a free market through micro-credits, through incentives to adopt better technologies, and through incentives to switch to crops that will be more competitive.

What about the politicians in Colombia? How have they responded to what is going on in Washington?

The politicians who oppose the agree-

ment have had no impact in Colombia. The president of Colombia has high popularity and the people support the government's strategy to pursue the free trade agreement. So the left-wing political party, because they identified how sensitive human rights are here in Washington, has done a very effective job lobbying here and has given the wrong information. It is good to bring these issues into the spotlight, because then the Colombian government does something. However, the left has been lobbying in an irresponsible way.

Colombia is like a holding wall against the effects that Chávez is having in the region. Signing the free trade agreement will give a good message: that there is an alternative model that can compete with what Chávez is proposing in the region.

We can imagine the benefits to Colombia from this free trade agreement. But what will happen if the free trade agreement is not approved?

Many public policies during the past five years have been very successful in improving human rights, the justice system, and so on. These improvements will continue with or without the free trade agreement. On the commercial side, we have policies . . . to improve the agricultural sector. There are also plans to sign free trade agreements with other countries, including Chile and the European Union. We can continue to move forward if the trade agreement with the U.S. is not approved. But as a political scientist, I would say that the positive effects of this agreement go beyond commerce and tackle aspects of geopolitics. Colombia is like a holding wall against the effects that Chávez is having in the region. Signing the free

trade agreement will give a good message: that there is an alternative model that can compete with what Chávez is proposing in the region.

Is there any risk that Colombia will follow in Chávez's footsteps?

No, I would say proudly that Colombia has strong democratic values. Even the left party is strongly democratic. However, within the party you have people who are in the extreme left that we know have received money from Chávez to finance their campaigns. Chávez is doing his underground job pretty well in Colombia. But as for finding effects on the higher levels of Colombian politics? That is very difficult.

What is ICP's role in Colombia, especially as you face issues like these?

The Institute is the reference organization that defends two basic principles: market economies and democratic values. We do research work – in the past semester, all of our efforts have been concentrated on the free trade agreement: making comparisons with other trade agreements and making a very objective analysis of the impact it would have. In terms of promoting free trade points of view and liberty, we have many things . . . such as *Perspectiva* magazine, research bulletins sent to policy makers and influencers, essay contests, seminars, and other things.

What other topics, besides the free trade agreement, are you working on currently?

Promoting democratic values. We work with political parties, and in order to strengthen political parties, we are now working with the **International Republican Institute** (IRI, Washington, DC) – having a program in which we work with political parties, purely on issues. This has given us the opportunity to work with all political parties regardless of their place on the political spectrum. We are also working with the business community, encouraging corporate social responsibility and engaging them on social topics. ●

To learn more about ICP visit,

The 12th issue of *Perspectiva* focused on 'Neopopulism: An Electoral Strategy' and included an article from Atlas Senior Fellow Gabriel Zinny. *Perspectiva* won Atlas's Sir Antony Fisher Award for Innovative Projects in 2005.

colombia.org. To listen to the extended audio version of this interview, please visit the Atlas website (www.AtlasUSA.org).

Freda Utley Prize for Advancing Liberty



Atlas is accepting applications for the Freda Utley Prize for Advancing Liberty. Named for the late Freda Utley, an outspoken writer and commentator against totalitarian regimes like the Soviet Union and China, this \$10,000

prize rewards the efforts of think tanks in difficult parts of the world that are most effective in disseminating the ideas of freedom or have a substantial impact on opinion-makers, so that concepts relating to freedom become better understood.

In 2006, the Freda Utley Prize attracted 81 applications from 40 countries. Previous winners include the New Economic School (NES) in the Republic of Georgia and the Association for Liberal Thinking (ALT) in Turkey. To learn more about this prize, visit the Atlas website (www.AtlasUSA.org). The deadline to apply for this event is **August 31, 2007**. ●

Atlas's 7th Annual Liberty Forum

APRIL 24-26, 2007, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Atlas held its 7th Annual Liberty Forum April 24-26, 2007, at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel. This year, the event attracted more than 270 participants from 52 countries and 26 U.S. states. Over 120 public policy institutes were represented at the conference, which took place prior to the Heritage Foundation Resource Bank (April 26-27, 2007). The Liberty Forum, Atlas's largest annual event, was created to provide opportunities for think tank "intellectual entrepreneurs" and other allies to refine their management and leadership strategies, to explore ideas, to network with new partners, and to develop future collaborations for advancing liberty and free-market ideas. It is also designed to encourage, inspire, and energize all participants to apply what they have learned, and continue with their work for the cause of freedom in their homelands.



All 16 winning think tanks from this year's Templeton Freedom Awards program sent representatives to this year's Liberty Forum. They are pictured above at the Templeton Freedom Award reception. (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)

Atlas Club Briefing

Atlas kicked-off the Liberty Forum with a special meeting on April 24 for its Atlas Club supporters who give \$1,000 or more annually. During the Atlas Club Briefing, Club members heard from Boris Begovic of the **Center for Liberal-Democratic Studies** (Serbia) and Franklin Cudjoe of **IMANI Center for Policy and Education** (Ghana).



Borut and Nadine Prah (far left) with Natasha Srodcsamy and Joel Anand Samy (Adriatic Institute for Public Policy, Croatia), and Tanja Stumberger (far right, Free Society Institute, Slovenia) during the Templeton Freedom Awards Reception

Reception for the 2007 Templeton Freedom Award Winners

Following the Atlas Club Briefing, Atlas hosted a special reception in honor of the 2007 Templeton Freedom Award winners. This is the fourth year that Atlas has administered the Templeton Freedom Awards. All 16 winning institutes took part in the celebration of their accomplishments. They, along with other guests, were joined by many winners from the past four years of the Templeton Freedom Awards program. Stephen Klimczuk, vice president of Strategy and Evaluation at the John Templeton Foundation, and Ricardo Lopez Murphy, Argentine presidential candidate, gave brief remarks.

New Intellectual Entrepreneur Breakfast

On the morning of April 25, Atlas's Coalition Relations team organized a special breakfast meeting for new "intellectual entrepreneurs," or "IEs," where they learned about strate-

gic planning, running a think tank on a limited budget, and corporate fundraising. These presentations were designed to help individuals as they start and grow their fledgling institutes.

Luncheon Address by Jaroslav Romanchuk

The Liberty Forum luncheon speaker, Jaroslav Romanchuk, founder and president of the **Scientific Research Mises Center** (Belarus), spoke on the cause and importance of freedom. Romanchuk is devoted to creating a "nationwide network of freedom lovers and freedom fighters" in one of the most autocratic countries in Europe. He shared his thoughts on the true meaning of freedom, why it is worth fighting for, and how he is embracing that challenge.



Jaroslav Romanchuk (Scientific Research Mises Center, Belarus) spoke at the opening luncheon, sharing his passion for liberty. (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)



John Allison, Chairman & CEO of BB&T Corporation, gave the Liberty Forum keynote address at the Sir Antony Fisher Memorial Awards Dinner. (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)

Dinner Keynote Address by John Allison

John Allison, Chairman & CEO of BB&T Corporation delivered the keynote address at the Sir Antony Fisher Memorial Awards Dinner. Allison, a leading champion of private property rights, said, “The idea that a citizen’s property can be taken by the government solely for private use is extremely misguided – in fact, it’s just plain wrong.” Last year, Allison announced that his company would refuse loans to developers that made use of the Kelo decision’s expanded definition of eminent domain, the practice which allows the government to seize private property.

In his speech, Allison discussed how Ayn Rand’s ideas of “rational self-interest” animate his approach to business and life in general. He also spoke of his involvement in establishing programs that educate young people about the morality of free enterprise.

During the dinner, Atlas president Alex Chafuen, Atlas chairman Bill Sumner, and Atlas trustee Linda Whetstone paid tribute to Dorian Fisher Adams. Dorian Adams, a hidden hero of the freedom movement and wife of Atlas’s late founder, Sir Antony Fisher passed away in early

April. The contributions she made enabled Atlas to become a reality.

Atlas director of Coalition Relations, Colleen Dyble, announced the winners of the 18th Annual Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards: **The TaxPayers’ Alliance** (TPA, United Kingdom), **Institute of Economic Affairs** (IEA, United Kingdom), and the **Polish Society of Economists** (TEP) (see article on page 3 for more information on the winning entries).

Atlas-SPN Leadership Development Breakfast

On the morning of April 26, Atlas and the State Policy Network (SPN, California) co-hosted a Leadership Development Breakfast on Media & Communications Strategies. This event attracted over 370 participants from all over the world and throughout the U.S. Issues addressed during this presentation included utilizing communication technology, handling hostile media, focus groups and opinion polls, as well as launching a marketing campaign.

Policy & Think Tank Management Panel Sessions

During the Liberty Forum, policy-focused panel sessions addressed a variety of topics, including “Environmental Policy, Natural Resources & Property Rights,” “Educational Reform & Initiatives,” and “Voices of Freedom in the Muslim World.” These panels show-



S. V. Gomathi from The Educare Trust (India) spoke during the policy session, “Educational Reform and Initiatives.” (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)



George Cahill (center) congratulates Fisher Award winner representatives, John Blundell (left, IEA, United Kingdom) and Matthew Elliot (right, TPA, United Kingdom). (Photo courtesy of Anthony Sinagoga)

cased speakers who discussed the current climate as well as potential future outcomes regarding these issues. Atlas also held sessions on think tank management and development. The issues covered in these panels included “Think Tank Essentials,” “Fundraising Essentials in the International Context,” and “Advancing Freedom in the Academy,” which focused on developing university-based think tanks, an Atlas Teach Freedom Initiative project. ●

For more details on the Atlas’s 7th Annual Liberty Forum, including photos, information on speakers, and presentations, please visit www.AtlasUSA.org.

SAVE THE DATE

2008 Liberty Forum April 25-26

Please join us **April 25-26, 2008** for Atlas’s 8th annual Liberty Forum in Atlanta, Georgia. The event will be held after the Heritage Resource Bank at Atlanta’s Sheraton Hotel. Be sure to check the Atlas website www.AtlasUSA.org for more information in the upcoming months. We hope to see you then!



Sheraton Atlanta
HOTEL

Management Tip: Effective Fundraising Techniques



Alexandros Mantikas
Vice President, Hellenic
Leadership Institute

The following article is an adaptation of Alexandros Mantikas's presentation at the New Intellectual Entrepreneur Breakfast at this year's Liberty Forum.

Fundraising is vital for Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs).

The right donor can be a supporter, strategic ally, advocate, multiplier, and advertiser. Donors can assist and promote NGOs in various ways other than donating money. To set the framework of our discussion, let us play devil's advocate by asking the question: "Is there such a thing as a wrong donor?" The answer is a resounding "YES!" and organizations should always be aware of it. "Wrong" donors can potentially disorient an organization or even harm its reputation by trying to force the institute to compromise its principles in return for a sizable gift. Organizations should always resist the temptation of associating with these donors, regardless of the size of the gift.

Categories of Donors

The Hellenic Leadership Institute (HLI, Greece) distinguishes donors in two basic categories: permanent donors and activity-specific donors. **Permanent donors** are individuals or organizations that offer financial support year after year. They are usually firm believers of the organization's mission, values, and work, and are always updated on current developments. **Activity-specific donors** are individuals and organizations that have not provided funds in the past and do not necessarily have a clear idea of the organization's work but could be interested in a specific project or program.

Both categories can include donations-in-kind and communications sponsorships – types of sponsorship which are extremely important for an organization's operations. Although not a financial gift, donations-in-kind can cover an important part of day-to-day expenses (printed material, etc.). Communications sponsorships are also very important as media exposure is absolutely essential for the spread of ideas.

How Tos: Tips & Challenges

Sponsorship is the way HLI has successfully approached fundraising the last few years: donors provide necessary funds and in return they receive

certain benefits. The challenge is to identify their needs and then cater to them – hopefully exceeding their expectations. This approach, when executed right, usually creates win-win, long-lasting relationships.

Permanent donors are invaluable to a non-profit since they provide funds that help maintain operations and set annual budgets early in the year. For permanent donors, the "cornerstone" of operations, it is imperative to religiously monitor developments in areas of their interest, in order to match offerings to their needs.

The activity-based donors have not given funds in the past and may never do so unless they are presented with a project they are interested in. Activity-based donors are also essential since they allow institutes to organize better events and activities, and achieve higher publicity due to their involvement. This working relationship has excellent potential, as short-term projects allow organizations and potential donors to get acquainted, making it easier for them to turn into permanent donors, the end goal.

In both cases it is essential to cultivate interpersonal relations with donors, always keeping in mind that soliciting donations is like making a sale. You need to meet and try to persuade the donor. This process requires energy, passion, time and a clear plan. Most importantly, one should never take this relationship for granted. Just because a donor gave once, does not mean that they will continue to do so in the future. Remember that this relationship is like marriage, requiring attention and ways to keep it interesting, fresh and stimulating for the parties involved.

In Greece, NGOs face certain difficulties, relevant to the mentality of the society. People feel more comfortable making donations to clear-cut charities, like hospitals, churches, or the arts, whereas giving money to public policy institutions is not compatible with their mentality.



HLI's Approach

HLI's approach to fund-raising is a mix of both, which we call "activity-oriented donors on a long-term basis," a plan that requires a business-to-business approach. This approach demands extra effort on the institute's part, since each donor has different needs which can only be addressed by customized proposals. Equally important is the ability to provide potential donors with multiple, yet clearly defined sponsorship offers to choose from. HLI currently offers four categories of sponsorship (from Grand Sponsor to Supporter, with varying benefits), covering donors' various financial standings.

Step 1 of our fundraising strategy is to define the donor platform and benefits, which is really a compass of what our organization can offer.

Step 2 is to identify potential donors, be able to sell HLI's strengths, and be very thorough about the project's true value to them. For some donors value can mean networking opportunities with business and media leaders, for others speaking opportunities during the event. Either way, never assume that potential donors under-



stand your jargon, or can clearly identify the value of the proposition. Successful organizations are ready to be very thorough, give examples, and take the time to put the extra effort that will separate them from the pack.

Step 3 is to try new approaches, and utilize our resources to the fullest – newsletters, websites, direct-mail campaigns, anything that can attract the attention of potential donors.

Step 4 is that, as an added-value factor, both to the institute and the

potential donor, it is crucial to offer benefits that can set you apart from the competition, finding your "niche" in the market. In HLI's case, market research and public opinion polls that get media attention and exposure are two elements that potential donors appreciate.

Step 5 is to set boundaries and never compromise our principles. Even declining a gift can gain you a reputation for integrity in the long run.

Finally, a point that should never be neglected is to always measure results. As management guru Peter Drucker said, "You can never improve what you cannot measure." HLI is very particular about measuring results. Last year, we went from two to six fundraising campaigns, doubled the number of donors and increased the total sum of funds raised by 40 percent.

In the last three years that HLI has been active in fundraising, the experience and the lessons learned have been invaluable. Starting up, operating, and maintaining an NGO is not for the faint-hearted, as it often involves hardships, rejection, and disappointments. But, to use the words of Winston Churchill: when you start, you should "Never, never, never give up!" ●



Mantikas spoke on fundraising during the New Intellectual Entrepreneur Breakfast at Atlas's 2007 Liberty Forum.



Athens, Greece
www.hli.gr

International Student Leadership Conference at Al Akhawayn University in the Atlas Mountains

By Sajid Anani, Program Manager



Sajid Anani

Despite the problems plaguing the Middle East and North Africa, many young people in these regions are filled with energy and passion to create freer societies full of opportunities for future generations.

This is broadly what Atlas has discovered in the last two years, as it has increased its outreach to potential friends in the Muslim world.

In May 2007, Atlas co-sponsored an International Student Leadership Conference at Al Akhawayn University in Morocco. Morocco stands out as a country with rich culture and diverse geography. I was struck by the vistas of oak trees and high mountains, and by the cold weather that accompanied our conference in the town of Ifrane, a hidden mountain town that blends modernity with tradition. The university was built in 1995 and lies just a few miles away from a ski-resort. It sits 5,000 feet above sea level, amid lies just a few miles away from a ski-resort. It lies 5,000 feet above sea level amid the Middle Atlas Mountains.

The goal of the conference was to introduce participants to the fundamental principles of free societies and to strategies for translating the participants' energies into effective action. Some presenters explained that religion can be used to strengthen civil liberties and not limit them. Tom Palmer from the **Cato Institute** (Washington, DC) explained that the Arab philosopher Averroes claimed that everyone was entitled to life, liberty, and property. Other presenters gave examples of global freedom fighters, and Jesse Sage from the **American Islamic Congress** (Washington, DC) discussed how non-violence campaigns



Left to right: Ahmed Abouraya (Egypt), Sami Ben Gharbia (Tunisia), and Atlas's Sajid Anani at the Al Akhawayn University campus

were effectively waged by leaders like Martin Luther King Jr.

To motivate participants to act on the lessons learned at the conference, Atlas created a small grant competition exclusively for the conference participants. Esra'a Al Shafei from Bahrain won the \$5,000 grant prize to fund her project, Mideast Youth (see spotlight on page 15). Atlas also met with a small group of fervent pro-market professionals who are committed to establishing new think tank in Rabat, Morocco.

In total, the event witnessed the birth of six new efforts to defend civil liberties in the region. Members of each working group promised to keep working on achieving the goals that they set at the conference. Among them, Souad Adnane from Morocco is part of the group Civil Rights Network Defenders that aims to "to create a solidarity network for young human rights activists in the Middle Eastern/North

African region." Other younger participants formed a "Start A Think Tank Group" to promote economic and political liberty, to influence public policy, and to reduce bureaucracy in public policy institutions. Mohammad Azraq remarked that he, and other attendees from Jordan, benefited from the conference because they "learned more about think tanks, and free market ideas. We developed a draft plan to establish a think tank on the Middle East, and I became part of an initiative that I learned about at the conference, Mideast Youth."

It was thrilling to be among a group of over 40 young people from the Middle East and North Africa who all spoke the same language: freedom. Atlas will continue nurturing their interest in spreading the ideas of liberty broadly in the Muslim world. ●

SPOTLIGHT: Esra'a Al Shafei

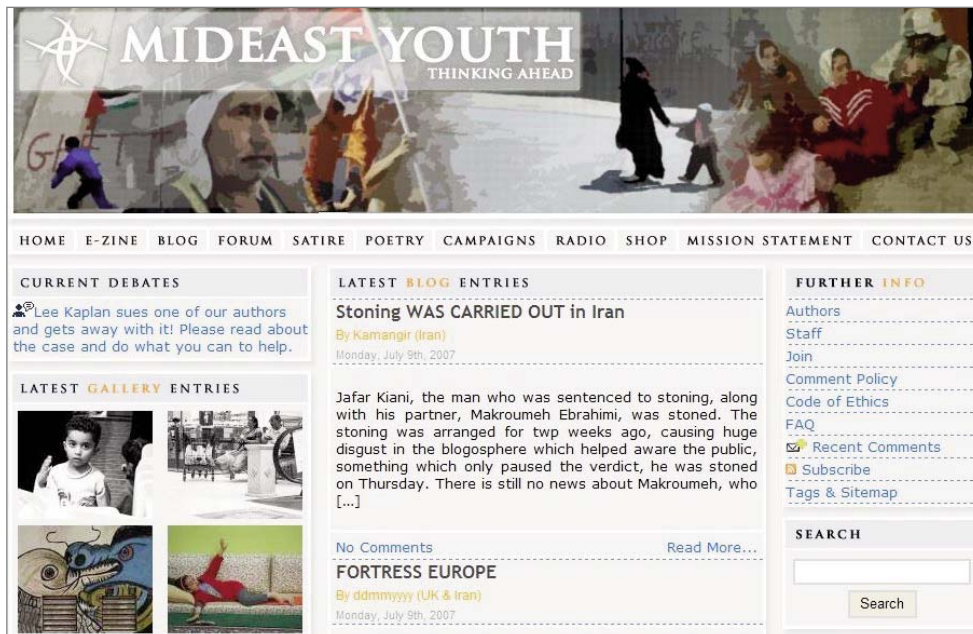
Grant Award Winner for the project: Mideast Youth

At the age of 20, Esra'a is already a well-known blogger in the Arab world. As an outgrowth of her participation in the conference co-sponsored by Atlas in Morocco, she refined the strategic plan for her project, Mideast Youth, which provides an online "town square" for discussion among students in the Middle East and North Africa. The project has brought together Arabs, Iranians, Kurds, and Israelis to work side-by-side on projects that encourage liberal reforms and interfaith understanding.

Based on her proposal, Esra'a won the grant award made available by Atlas to the attendees of the conference.

The project has an overall vision of protecting the freedom of speech. It addresses the problems of censorship, human rights, interfaith dialogue, and taboos. The network of writers, artists, and musicians who work for this project from their own countries are encouraged to do one thing: address hard questions!

Mideast Youth has spawned a vari-



www.mideastyouth.org

ety of web-based projects, which include The Middle East Interfaith Blogger Network (www.mefaith.org), Free Kareem! (www.FreeKareem.org), Sexual Terrorism ([\[ism.org\]\(http://www.sexual-terror-ism.org\)\), and Media Students \(\[www.media-students.org\]\(http://www.media-students.org\)\). Esra'a discussed her work during The Atlas Experience, in Niagara-on-the-Lake which took place August 5-7, 2007. ●](http://www.sexual-terror-</p></div><div data-bbox=)



Save Darfour is one of the six new groups that formed during the Student Leadership Conference. Through their work they will promote liberty and the principles of the free society as solutions to violence.

الحرية

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation 2nd Annual Ibn Khaldoun Essay Contest

Atlas is holding its second annual Ibn Khaldoun essay contest which focuses on the relationship between free-market economic policies and freedom in Islamic societies. The topic for this year's contest will be Economics and Freedom in Islamic Societies.

Atlas will award the top three essays (US\$2000, US\$1,000, and US\$500) and two honorable mentions (US\$250 each). In addition, the winning entries will be posted on the Atlas website and in the Azad newsletter.

Atlas welcomes original entries in English or Arabic from individuals who are age 30 or younger. All submissions must be received on or before **November 15, 2007**. For contest guidelines and details visit the "At Atlas" section of the Atlas website (www.atlasUSA.org) or contact Sajid Anani (Sajid.Anani@atlasUSA.org). ●

Father-Daughter Teams at Atlas: A New Twist on Expanding the Atlas Family of Friends and Supporters

The Fathers of two Atlas staffers share their enthusiasm for the recent Liberty Forum

By Jo Kwong, Vice President of Institute Relations



Jo Kwong

Time and time again, you'll hear people refer to the "Atlas family." Usually, our "family" refers to the world-wide network of free-market think tank leaders. From the outside looking in, Atlas events such as the annual Liberty Forum gatherings

look much like family reunions filled with hearty and enthusiastic greetings shared among old friends.

This year, however, we've given a new meaning to the "Atlas family." The fathers of two of our staffers participated at this year's Liberty Forum!

Those of you who joined us in Philadelphia in April may have noticed the striking likeness between Elena Ziebarth (Atlas's director of Public Affairs) and her dad, Karl. You may also have noticed a very enthusiastic man, energetically conversing with Atlas's "ideas entrepreneurs" at every possible moment. That would be Tom Dyble, the father of Colleen (Atlas's director of Coalition Relations). Thanks to their close relationships and shared interests with their daughters, both Karl and Tom have become part of the Atlas family. Not only did they participate in the Liberty Forum, but over the years, both Tom and Karl have become avid contributors to Atlas.

In the Ziebarth case, the enthusiasm for free markets first flowed from father to daughter. Karl's long-term commitment to free-market ideas clearly had an impact on his children. Karl and I serve together on the board of The Philadelphia Society, where he commented to me:

It was an absolute delight when Elena called me one day to say she

was interviewing to be Leonard Liggio's assistant. I then told her a little of the background – that Atlas founder Antony Fisher figured out how to beat the system in England after the war by raising chickens and eggs, became one of the very few self-made millionaires in that sad time, and ultimately decided to dedicate his fortune to educating people on the way the free market builds a free and just society. His firm belief, that the free market is ultimately the only way for poor people to dig themselves out of the ghastly bondage of the collectivist, communistic, statist regimes in the third world, was nearly unique in the time. I also told her that I knew many of the Atlas folks personally, and that they got more bang for the buck than most think tanks. Fisher's great insight was that the small-scale, targeted support of people who were determined to fight for freedom themselves in their own land was far more effective than all the government programs in the world.

Karl and his wife, Gisela, have raised not one, but two daughters for the cause! Not only has Elena worked at Atlas since January 2002, but her sis-

ter, Viktoria, worked at the **Heritage Foundation** (Washington, DC) from 1997 to 2002. She, too, was in Philadelphia with her dad. Karl and Gisela first attended the Atlas Liberty Forum in Chicago in April 2004 and have attended many Atlas events since then. They have become enthusiastic donors and supporters of Atlas. As Karl says:

If you, too, believe that the key to lifting millions of people out of poverty is by advancing freedom, personal and economic, then I encourage you to join me in partnering with Atlas. The Liberty Forum each year, and the regional meetings held around the world, are of simply transcendent importance in connecting people, brave people, who may think they stand alone, with the great world outside. What they gain is not only practical techniques of communication and analysis, but the resources to further their own ideas in their own societies. If you haven't attended the Liberty Forum or one of the other venues where you can meet Atlas's international partners first hand, I highly encourage you to do so.

In Colleen's case, her enthusiasm



Atlas's Elena Ziebarth (left) and her father Karl Ziebarth at the recent events in Philadelphia



Tom Dyble (left) celebrating with his daughter, Atlas's Colleen Dyble (right) after she was recently awarded a masters degree in International Commerce and Policy from George Mason University. (Photo courtesy of Juli Dyble)

for Atlas and its mission was spread to her father, who wanted to learn more. And thankfully, he liked what he heard! Colleen's invitations brought Tom to two Liberty Forums (so far) and the inaugural Atlas Experience. The more Tom learns about Atlas, the more committed he becomes. So much so that he joined the Atlas Club (contributors who donate more than \$1,000 a year), and has been exploring ideas to share the Atlas story with other potential donors:

My daughter Colleen, using her contacts in the Atlas family, keeps me informed on the stories behind, and often beyond, our news's incomplete coverage. As an Atlas Club member, I was invited to the Atlas Club Briefing and the reception for the Templeton Freedom Award winners while attending the 2007 Liberty Forum. At these gatherings, I met intellectual entrepreneurs and liberty activists who are real participants in world events. From them I learned about the actual operation of the Millennium Challenge program in Ghana, the impact of Hugo Chavez on freedom in Latin America, the role of the liberty movement in ending the Cold War, and the purpose behind the Polish translation of Human Action by Ludwig von Mises. Thanks

to Atlas my frustrations are turning into insights.

Having attended an Atlas Liberty Forum, I am now part of the world freedom movement. My personal challenge is to stay connected with members of the Atlas family that I met in Philadelphia. As part of my effort to stay in touch, I attended The Atlas Experience and plan to attend next years Liberty Forum. If you are curious about the future of the world, consider joining Karl and me at the next meeting of the Atlas (Dad's) Club.

You may remember reading my tribute to my own mother (*Highlights, Spring 2006*). She, too, accompanied me to many free-market programs, from Atlas events to Mont Pelerin Society meetings. I had no idea how these programs impacted upon her at the time, but when she died last year, she remembered Atlas in her own small way. Her donation is now funding new programs at the **Lion Rock Institute** in her homeland, Hong Kong.

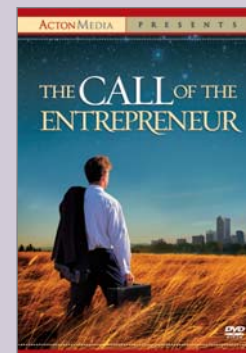
As you build your own family ties, please remember the Atlas family. We're here to welcome you at every step of the way and we invite you to join us on many different levels . . . by participating in our international pro-

grams – both in the U.S. and abroad – to funding ideas entrepreneurs to leaving your own legacy.

Thanks, Karl and Tom – for your daughters . . . and for your dedication to Atlas! ●

The next Atlas Club Briefing will be November 6, 2007 in Washington, DC, prior to the 4th Annual Freedom Dinner at the Willard Intercontinental Hotel. If you would like to become an Atlas Club member and participate in the next Atlas Club Briefing please contact Alexis Serote at Alexis.Serote@atlasUSA.org or 703.934.6969.

The Acton Institute: The Call of the Entrepreneur



A merchant banker. A failing dairy farmer. A refugee from communist China. One risked his savings. One risked his farm. One risked his life. Why do their stories matter? Because how we view entrepreneurs—as greedy or altruistic, as virtuous or vicious—shapes the destinies of individuals and nations.

Reverend Robert Sirico, author of *The Entrepreneurial Vocation*, joins Michael Novak, George Gilder, and other experts in exploring how entrepreneurs shape our world.

"The Call of the Entrepreneur" was created by **Acton Institute**, which has won Atlas's Templeton Freedom Awards in the categories of Free Market Solutions to Poverty (2007), Student Outreach (2005), as well as Ethics and Values (2004).

This film, which is not yet available to the public, offers a terrific opportunity to teach people about entrepreneurship, wealth creation, and virtue. Atlas is so enthusiastic about this message that Jo Kwong, vice president of Institute Relations, has offered to visit interested individuals or organizations and present an advanced preview of this 60-minute documentary. If you are interested, please email Jo Kwong at jo@atlasUSA.org or call (703) 934-6969. ●

Network News



New Publications from Fundación IDEA

Fundación IDEA (Mexico) published several reports in recent months: *Targeting Rural Development Programs in Guerrero*, suggesting a plan for rural development; *Basic Education in Mexico: Diagnosis, State Rankings, and Public Policy Recommendations*, providing state-level rankings of education quality; *Proposals for an Accountability System in Basic Education*, recommending practical short- and long-term policy recommendations for increasing Mexico's accountability for the educational achievement of its students; and *Modernizing the Mexican Postal Service*, proposing an economically efficient, politically feasible solution to problems with the Mexican postal service. This project was awarded an honorable mention in Atlas's Templeton Freedom Awards.

Instituto Liberdade Celebrates Tax Freedom Day 2007 in Brazil

On May 26, 2007, Brazil celebrated the official day that the average Brazilian has worked enough to pay his tax obligations, according to calculations from the Brazilian Tax Planning Institute. Brazilians will work longer to pay taxes to the government (146 days) than they will for food, clothing, and housing combined. The majority of the population has no knowledge of the high tax burden acquired in daily life. To raise awareness, **Instituto Liberdade** (Brazil) put together a town-wide program. The program included a tax awareness walk on the streets, theater presentations, and debate about fiscal issues. During the celebration, stores sold products tax-free and Instituto

Liberdade donated copies of *The Adventures with Jonathan Gullible* to 2,600 local children in K-12. Accountants, tax lawyers, and entrepreneurs unanimously pointed out that the tax burden is a deterrent to economic growth in Brazil. In 2006, it represented 39.72 percent of the GDP.



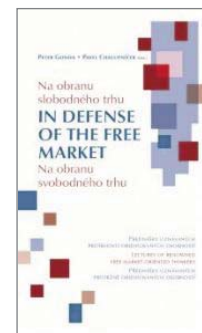
During Brazil's Tax Freedom Day 2007, children and adults alike were educated and made aware of the heavy tax burdens imposed on them by the government.

Entrepreneurship Classes in Rural China

Each summer **Education Advancement Fund International** (Hawaii) runs an entrepreneurship class for rural people in Jishou, Hunan, China. This program runs with the help of the Windown Foundation, which sent two teachers this year. EAFI provides small loans for two rural small businesses coming out of the class, plus travel support for the two teachers every year. These classes teach rural students business skills and assist them in putting together a business plan. They hope to continue to reach more places in rural China. Kate Zhou of EAFI says, "I see this training as not just economic empowerment but also value and idea investment to help the poor to gain independence and self-esteem so that the local officials cannot walk all over them." They continue to search for Chinese and English speakers interested in teaching these classes throughout China.

Independence Institute Celebrates U.S. Supreme Court Victory in *Davenport v. WEA*

On Thursday, June 14, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Davenport v. Washington Education Association* that states may create laws granting extra protections to public-sector workers who want to be asked first before the union can spend their money on political causes. Evidence of the **Independence Institute's** successful efforts to notify union member teachers of their rights to receive political refunds was included in 2006 briefs filed in the *Davenport* case. "We're thrilled at the Supreme Court's strong decision for free speech and common sense, and hope it opens the door for rulings that protect the rights of members and non-members alike," said Jon Caldara, president of the Independence Institute (Colorado). **The Evergreen Freedom Foundation** (Washington) worked with Colorado school teachers to create an online video highlighting this injustice.



In Defense of the Free Market

Conservative Institute of M. R. Stefanik (Slovakia), in cooperation with **Liberalni Institut** (Czech

Republic), has published its first economic book, entitled *In Defense of the Free Market*. The book consists of the lectures given by world-renowned economists in Bratislava, Slovakia, at CEQLS seminars (Conservative Economic Quarterly Lecture Series) and in Prague, at Liberalni Institute events. The presentation of the book took place June 28 at the summer CEQLS seminar with Michael Novak, the 'godfather' of the book. Part of the

financing for the book was from CI's prize money after receiving an honorable mention in Atlas's Templeton Freedom Awards.

Sell the Tiger to Save It

An international symposium, "Sell the Tiger to Save It," was held on April 19. It was organized by *the boss*, a magazine in Nepal, and **Liberty Institute** (India). The symposium debated the failure of traditional methods of conservation, and encouraged students to look at a different perspective. Panelists contested that endangered species could be saved if commercialization of the species was introduced.



Panelists at the "Sell the Tiger to Save It" conference promoted the idea that commercialization of different animal species would ultimately help protect them.

Globalisation Institute Expands into Brussels

The **Globalisation Institute** (GI, United Kingdom), set up at the beginning of 2005, is moving to Brussels, capital of the European Union. The GI recently had its report on microfinance launched by Conservative Party leader David Cameron. This success ensured that Institute personnel would be regulars on British TV and radio. In this move, the GI will be building upon its noted success at influencing policy thinking in the UK. The Institute has found its London location to be a limitation. Many Brussels-based European policymakers have commented that while they admire the Institute's output from afar, they would value having access to the Institute's thinking and events in Brussels itself. As Britain's trade policy is now decided in Brussels, the GI decided that the next stage of its expansion would be to open an office there by September 2007.

Society for Quality Education President Recognized for Literacy Work

The **Society for Quality Education** (SQE, Canada) president, Malkin Dare, was one of six women honored for Volunteering in Education and Literacy by the Zonta Club of Kitchener-Waterloo. Dare devised SQE's *Stairway to Reading* remedial program which is available on the SQE's website (www.societyforqualityeducation.org, click on Reading Program) for free download as a service to parents and teachers.



Promoting Ideas of Freedom in Turkey for 15 years

This year, **Association for Liberal Thinking** (ALT, Turkey) celebrates its 15th anniversary. ALT celebrated with a Freedom Dinner honouring Mustafa Erdogan and Can Paker. Before ALT's establishment, there were no institutionalized efforts to introduce and promote classical liberal ideas in Turkey. With more than 150 books, its twelve-year-old academic quarterly, *Liberal Thought*, regular training programs, and a network of more than five hundred libertarian intellectuals from all around the country, ALT acts as the center for freedom defenders in Turkey. ALT has recently partnered with Atlas in training young intellectual entrepreneurs in the Middle East. ALT brought potential intellectual entrepreneurs from the region to its offices for two four-day workshops in order to inspire other new groups to achieve ALT's success.

Panama -The Hong Kong of Latin America

The **Lion Rock Institute**, based in Hong Kong, hosted Carmina Valdizan, co-founder of the **Fundacion Libertad de Panama**, who gave a fascinating overview of the growth of the Panama Canal. The Canal's expansion is dramatic - but is it sound? The event focused on the future economic impact of the Canal on Panama and the rest of the world. This event entitled, "Panama - The Hong Kong of Latin America," took place July 9, 2007.



Carmina Valdizan of Fundacion Libertad de Panama spoke in Hong Kong to an audience of shipping, ports, and bank employees on the future of the Panama Canal.



The Association for Liberal Thinking staff celebrates 15 years of promoting the free society.

Directory

Below are the names and web addresses (where applicable) of institutes mentioned in this quarter's Highlights. Visit the Think Tank Directory at www.atlasUSA.org for more details on the larger network of market-oriented think tanks with which Atlas works.

- Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty (www.acton.org)
- Adriatic Institute for Public Policy (www.AdriaticInstitute.org)
- American Islamic Congress (www.aicongress.org)
- Association for Liberal Thinking (www.liberal-dt.org.tr)
- Cato Institute (www.cato.org)
- Center for Liberal-Democratic Studies (www.clds.org.yu)
- Center for Vision and Values, Grove City College (www.visandvals.org)
- Conservative Institute of M.R. Stefanik (www.institute.sk)
- Educare Trust (www.educaretrust-india.org)
- Educational Fund International (www.yifei.org)
- Evergreen Freedom Foundation (www.effwa.org)
- Federalist Society (www.fed-soc.org)
- Free Society Institute (www.fsi-institute.si)
- Fund for American Studies (www.tfas.org)
- Fundação Irmão José Otão, FIJO (www.fijo.org.br)
- Fundación IDEA (www.fundacionidea.org.mx)
- Fundación Libertad y Democracia, FULIDE (www.fulide.org.bo)
- Fundación Libertad de Panama (www.fundacionlibertad.org.pa)
- Globalisation Institute, GI (www.globalisation.eu)
- Hellenic Leadership Institute (www.hli.gr)
- Heritage Foundation (www.heritage.org)
- IMANI Center for Policy and Education. (www.imanighana.com)
- Independence Institute (www.izi.org)
- Institute for Humane Studies, IHS (www.theihs.org)
- Institute of Political Studies, Catholic University of Portugal
- Institute of Economic Affairs (www.iea.org.uk)
- Instituto de Estudos Empresariais, IEE (www.iee.com.br)
- Instituto Juan de Mariana, IJM (www.juandemariana.org/en/)
- Instituto Libertad (www.il-rs.org.br)
- Instituto de Ciencia Política, ICP (www.icpcolombia.org)
- International Republican Institute, IRI (www.iri.org)
- Liberální Institut (www.libinst.cz)
- Liberty Institute (www.libertyindia.org)
- Lion Rock Institute (www.lionrockinstitute.org)
- Polish Society of Economists, TEP (www.olympus.edu.pl)
- Polish Foundation in support of Local Democracy (www.frdl.org.pl)
- Project: Poland
- Scientific Research Mises Center (www.liberty-belarus.info)
- Society for Quality Education, SQE (www.societyforqualityeducation.org)
- State Policy Network, SPN (www.spn.org)
- TaxPayer's Alliance, TPA (www.taxpayeralliance.com)

Update your think tank information!

If you are connected to a public policy institute or think tank, please visit Atlas's Think Tank Directory (www.atlasUSA.org) and click on "Think Tank Directory" in the left sidebar) to make sure that your information is correct and visible to the public. If you do not see your institute listed or if updates need to be made, please contact Cindy Cerquitella (cindy.cerquitella@atlasUSA.org) as soon as possible.

SAVE THE DATE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4	5	6	7	8	9	10



Francisco Flores, former president of El Salvador (1999-2004), will give the keynote address at the **4th Annual Freedom Dinner on November 6, 2007**. During his presidency, El Salvador achieved the highest rate of poverty reduction in the region, a substantial increase of macroeconomic stability, a new monetary regime, and the lowest interest rates and inflation in the last 25 years. His presidency brought positive changes to El Salvador after the troubled decades of dealing with the communist guerilla movement and disastrous socialist policies in the 1980s.



FREEDOM DINNER

at the
Willard Intercontinental Hotel
 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20004
washington.intercontinental.com

GENERAL RECEPTION 6:30PM (BALLROOM FOYER)
BANQUET DINNER 7:00PM (BALLROOM)
Individual Ticket: \$300 Table of 8: starting at \$2,500
Attire: Business & Cocktail

For more information about sponsorship opportunities as well as ticket and table prices for the 2007 Freedom Dinner, please contact Atlas at 703-934-6969 or events@atlasUSA.org or check the Atlas website, www.atlasUSA.org