



**Citizens for
Global Solutions**, Minnesota
Promoting global unity since 1947

May, 2017

Visit our website: <http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org>

OUR VISION: We envision a future in which countries work together to abolish war, protect universal human rights and freedoms, foster sustainable development, and solve related problems facing humanity that no country can solve alone. This vision requires the involvement of informed world citizens to create and maintain effective democratic global institutions that will supplant the law of force with the rule of law while respecting the diversity and autonomy of national and local communities.

OUR MISSION: We are a membership organization working to build political will, promoting global citizenship and a new spirit of sharing, and devising initiatives to promote our vision. We undertake our mission by organizing educational events, communicating global concerns to public officials, collaborating with globally engaged organizations, and disseminating proposals to reform and strengthen the United Nations and other international institutions, including the creation of new agencies when necessary.

World Premiere: THE WORLD IS MY COUNTRY Minneapolis April 23, 2017 Sponsored by CGS Minnesota



from left: Craig Rice, Programmer Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival; Arthur Kanegis, Producer/Director; Jordan Byrne, Film Editor; Melanie Bennett Associate Producer.

Review by Joe Schwartzberg

Not long ago, I, along with hundreds of others in Minneapolis and Rochester, had the privilege of viewing one of several showings of *The World Is My Country*, the amazing story of Garry Davis .who died in 2013 at the age of 91 (and whom I was fortunate enough to know). A bomber pilot in World War II, a war in which he lost his elder brother, Garry was, for a time, consumed with a desire for revenge. But, viewing films of the devastation he inflicted on non-military targets near Berlin, Garry experienced an epiphany. He recognized the unmitigated evil of the legal institution of war itself and concluded that the fundamental cause of wars was the division of the world into many sovereign

states, in virtually all of which national citizens were taught the righteousness of their own country and the shortcomings of others. Why not, he then reasoned, eliminate war completely, by doing away with separate nations and establishing a single world nation, one in which all human beings would be equal world citizens?

Of course, the idea of a single world state was far from new. Sages have spoken and written of it for millennia. But Garry was a man of action. Most of the film deals with the extraordinary series of daring exploits that characterized his life. Gary's politically public career commenced with his giving up his American passport in 1948, followed shortly by his interruption of a meeting of the UN General Assembly (then situated temporarily in Paris) to declare his world citizenship. That dramatic move rapidly ignited a worldwide response. Before long, his followers - both ordinary folks and numerous luminaries (e.g. Einstein and Eleanor Roosevelt) - numbered in the millions. Happily, Garry had an excellent sense of PR, and he made sure that many of his successes (and frequent travails) were filmed and archived. Otherwise, the making of *The World Is My Country* would not have been possible. Garry was also a remarkable raconteur and narrated much of the script.

Go see the film if you have an opportunity to do so. Better yet, arrange to have the film shown to your favorite group of political activists, or potential activists...

...How to access and help The World Is My Country

by Dick Bernard, CGS Mn Vice-President

"The World Is My Country" is still in preparation, thus the availability is still limited. A good starting point is this website: <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-world-is-my-country-peace--3#/>. A contact portal is at <https://www.theworldismycountry.com/>. Tell film Producer Arthur Kanegis that CGS Minnesota sent you! A 3-min video of Apr 23-29, 2017 can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/214847423>. The film is very nearly complete, and very expertly done. Hundreds of us were privileged to see it played on three dates during its World Premiere at the Twin Cities International Film Festival. (<http://mspfilm.org/>).

Anyone who feels there is a better way than war to solve problems should see this film. The audiences in Minneapolis and Rochester were extraordinarily attentive. The film grabs audiences from teenage to elder, and is available for events such as film festivals and private groups. A real need and priority is to raise funds for ultimate full release. This film includes a great deal of rare (and thus very expensive) archival footage, including of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. You are encouraged to learn more and to get actively involved, including financially. Filmmaking is expensive and independents like depend on support from people like us.

Shawn Otto's "THE WAR ON SCIENCE. Who's Waging It; Why It Matters; What We Can Do About it."

By Dick Bernard, CGS-MN Vice President

Forty Twin Citizens gathered on World Law Day on May 1 to hear Shawn Otto discuss his thought provoking book, whose title explains itself.

The 514 page volume, endorsed by nine impressive and well known persons, is a "meat and potatoes" rather than a "rocket science" text, the thirteen chapters filled to the brim filled with history that we have all experienced, but rarely seen presented in a form that is made to order for discussion in book clubs.

I read the book not long after its public release a year or so ago. It is a 'page-turner', best devoured one chapter at a time. Those at Gandhi Mahal on May 1 only got a summary.

In this time in our history, where the greatest investment by advocates for one cause or another is often the establishment of pure 'us-vs-them' 'win-lose' 'right-wrong' 'this-is-the-truth' positions, the War On Science nicks all points of view quite equally, including the science community itself.

Shawn Otto is a serious man on a serious mission. His book is a personal gift to anyone who seeks to understand. The Eleanor Roosevelt quotation on the address panel of this issue of the newsletter heads chapter 13, "Truth and Beauty".

To buy the book, which won the 2017 Minnesota Book Award for non-fiction, general, <https://www.shawnotto.com/>. You won't regret it.



THIRD THURSDAY GLOBAL ISSUES FORUM

Free and open to the public

Hennepin Ave. United Methodist Church,

511 Groveland Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017, 6:45 – 8:45pm

"Global Refugee Crisis"

Presenter: **Daniel Wordsworth**

Daniel Wordsworth serves as President and CEO of the American Refugee Committee (ARC), an international humanitarian aid agency that works with refugees around the world to help them take back control of their lives. In 2012 ARC was awarded the Peter F. Drucker award for Non-Profit Innovation in recognition of its work with the Somali Diaspora globally. Daniel has written numerous publications on children and poverty.

2017 CGS-MN Annual Meeting & Dinner

"Russia: The New Cold War" / Todd Lefko

Hennepin Ave. United Methodist Church (Gallery)

511 Groveland Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Thursday, June 15, 2017

- ❖ 6:00pm: Light Hors d'oeuvres and Punch
- ❖ 6:30pm: Dinner Served
- ❖ 7:15pm: Business Meeting
- ❖ 7:30 – 9:00pm: Keynote Speaker



DINNER: \$30 per person; \$15 for students and those with limited income Reservations must be received no later than Monday, June 5th.

Reservations may be paid for at the event if they are submitted by June 5th to Dennis Dillon, (address below) Contacts: dennis.dillon@msn.com, or Gail Hughes, hughe038@umn.edu, (612)237-9819.

Russia and the United States have entered a new form of the Cold War. Autocratic leadership by President Putin and increasingly by President Trump have produced new issues, many of which have existed from the past century. What are the implications of Russian actions in Ukraine, Crimea, Western elections and the Middle East? Is Russia capable of democratic governance? Are Russian and American interests diametrically opposed, producing another period of potential nuclear conflict? The choices of Putin raise questions on the world role of the United States, as well as the long-term potential of Russian influence with a damaged economy and governmental systems threatened by historical forces. How we approach and resolve these issues will impact the coming years and world events.

Todd Lefko is President of the International Business Development Council, an import-export firm, and writes for *Rossiske Vesti*, a Russian political newspaper and *Rusya-Al Youm*, the Russian Arabic Television channel for the Middle East. He has taught urban affairs, political science, international relations, political philosophy, political campaign management, leadership, organizational development and public administration and sociology at the university level, and has lectured at universities in Russia, China, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.

CGS-MN Annual Meeting & Dinner 2017 Reservation Form

Please reserve _____ places for (indicate names of those who will attend):

_____ My check for _____ is enclosed.

Please send check, payable to "Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota," to
Dennis Dillon, 210 W. Grant St., Apt. 414, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota

(formerly the World Federalist Association)

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All issues archived at

<http://www.globalsolutionsmn.org/>

Believe in yourself. You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you stop to look fear in the face...You must do that which you think you cannot do....The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

Eleanor Roosevelt, quoted at p. 413 of The War on Science, by Shawn Otto

Join CITIZENS FOR GLOBAL SOLUTIONS, MINNESOTA

If you believe in the goals of our chapter, please consider becoming a member by making an annual tax deductible donation. This is your opportunity to invest in strengthening a Minnesota organization that is truly international in impact, bringing effective solutions to problems that affect every one of us.

Suggested donations: \$10 for students, \$30 for individuals, \$40 for couples

Contributions in any amount will be welcome: more if you can, less if you are short of funds.

Name _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Our newsletter is available on-line at our website or U.S. mail. Circle which you prefer.

*Please make checks payable to "Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota" and mail to
Dennis Dillon, 210 W. Grant St., #414, Minneapolis, MN 55403*

Citizens for Global Solutions, Minnesota is a 501c3 non-profit organization;

Our Board: Dr. Gail Hughes, President; Dick Bernard, Vice-President; Nancy Dunlavy, Secretary; Dennis Dillon, Treasurer; Roxanne Abbas, N. John Borgen, Margaret Esslinger, Walid Issa, Kristi Rudelius-Palmer, Dr. Bharat Parekh, Dr. Joseph Schwartzberg, Maryam Yusefzadeh

Join us: Suggested donations: \$10 students, \$30 individuals, \$40 couples.

Contact: Dick Bernard, dick_bernard@msn.com or 6905 Romeo Road, Woodbury MN 55125-2421, 651-334-5744