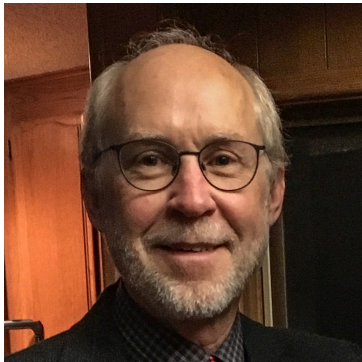




World Affairs Council *of the* Monterey Bay Area

The Passport Newsletter

April 2023



Update on Turkey: Between Earthquakes and Elections

Scott Kilner

**Retired Foreign Service Officer and Former
U.S. Consul General, Istanbul**

**Friday, April 28, 2022
Hilton Garden Inn**

[Download mail-in form](#)

[Register online for this event](#)

Not long ago, the United States saw Turkey as a uniquely democratic Moslem-majority country and a model for the Islamic world. In sharp contrast, today most U.S. observers view the country as our most problematic NATO ally, dominated by the increasingly authoritarian President Erdogan. Against the backdrop of recent devastating earthquakes, Turkish citizens will go to the polls on May 14th to elect both the next President and a new parliament. What are the chances that Erdogan's 20-year-reign will end? How is the aftermath of the earthquakes expected to affect the vote? Our speaker will address these and other questions, putting this complex, important country in context.

Scott Kilner is a retired American diplomat who speaks Turkish and served four times in Turkey over the course of his 32-year Foreign Service career. His last assignment was as Consul General in Istanbul from 2010-2013. Previously he had served as Economic Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, as Political-Economic Officer in Adana, and as Vice Consul in Istanbul.

Apart from Turkey, Mr. Kilner served in Afghanistan, East Germany, France, Italy, and Austria, as well as in several assignments in Washington. He also speaks Italian, German and

French and is the recipient of multiple State Department awards. He is currently the President of the Foreign Service Association of Northern California.

Location

Big Sur Room
Hilton Garden Inn
1000 Aguajito Road,
Monterey, CA

Menu

Caesar Salad: Hearts of Romaine with Shaved
Parmesan, Herb Croutons, Cherry Tomatoes
and Caesar Dressing

Freshly Baked Bread
(Bread and Butter)

Agenda

11:15 am: Registration
11:45 am: Luncheon
12:30 pm: Speaker

Grilled Chicken Caponata Topped with a
Bounty of Roasted Eggplant, Green Olives,
Capers & Roasted Tomatoes over Creamy
Polenta & Sauté of Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetarian Alternative: Grilled Portabella
Mushrooms Topped with a Bounty of Eggplant,
Green Olives, Capers & Roasted Tomatoes over
Creamy Polenta & Sauté of Seasonal
Vegetables

Tiramisu

Tickets

\$36 for Members
\$41 for Guests

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Vaccination Requirements

All those attending WACMB in-person events must show proof of full Covid-19 vaccination, including a booster.

To prove your vaccination status, you can present either your vaccination card or your State of California QR code. You only need to present such proof once. Your documentation will be noted, and that box will be automatically checked for future meetings.

For the time being, no auditors will be permitted to attend any WACMB in-person meetings. This is to ensure that every person in the room has been vaccinated and boosted.
Thank you for your cooperation with our efforts to keep our members healthy!

Welcome Our New Board Member!



We are pleased to announce the addition of Michael Ipson to the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area's (WACMB) Board of Directors. Michael will also link the Cal Alumni Club of Monterey County with WACMB. He has spoken at WACMB luncheons, and he has taught numerous courses at California State University Monterey Bay's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).



Michael Ipson is a retired international banker. He started his career at Chemical Bank, working in Hong Kong and Beijing in corporate banking, correspondent banking, and loan syndications. From 2005 to 2010, he worked for International Finance Corporation (IFC), the private sector arm of the World Bank assigned to Beijing, supporting efforts to develop the private sector in China, Mongolia, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Pakistan, the Middle East, and Africa. Thereafter he served on the boards of financial institutions in which IFC had invested in China, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. Before beginning his career in banking, he was a Ph.D. candidate at Harvard University in History and East Asian languages focusing on China and Vietnam. He earned his BA in History at UC Berkeley and his MA in East Asian Studies at Stanford as well as an MBA at DePaul University.

Michael Ipson is active in the Coalition for Asian Justice, established in 2021. The Coalition is determined to promote public education about the contributions Asians make to American communities and protect Asians against verbal and physical attacks. He is pleased to support the WACMB programs, which promote greater understanding of U.S. international policies and the insightful analysis of world affairs.



Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2023 Academic WorldQuest National Competition

On Saturday, February 11, 2023, the WACMB held a local Academic WorldQuest competition among county high school teams. Academic World Quest (AWQ) is a team game testing high school students' knowledge of international affairs. The mission of Academic WorldQuest is to close the gap between American students and their international counterparts in their knowledge of world history, geography, and current events; and prepare the next generation to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

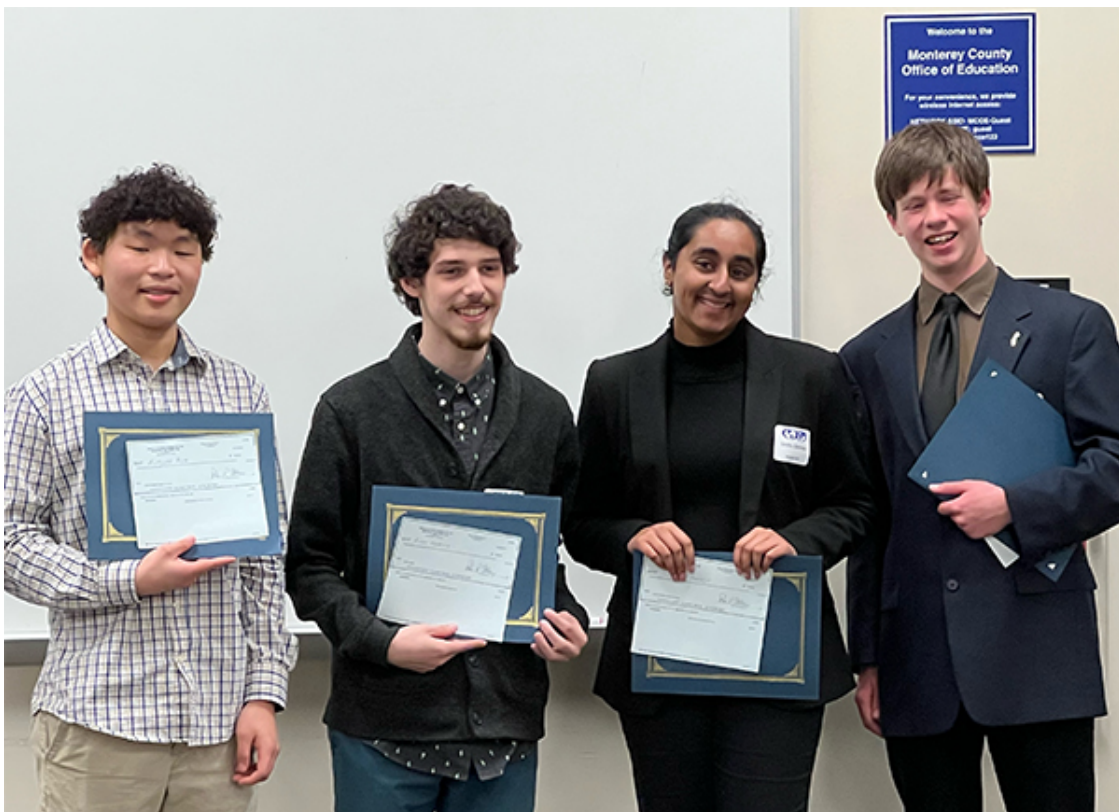
We are pleased to announce that the Monterey High School Academic WorldQuest team has advanced to the [Carlos and Malú Alvarez 2023 Academic WorldQuest National Competition!](#)

Each of Monterey High School's four team members worked together to answer questions on six topics: Securing the Future of the World's Wildlife, Combating Global Food Insecurity, Supply Chains, Autocracy vs. Democracy, Climate Change, and Outer Space.

Using funds raised through MCGives!, our local chapter of WACMB is sending these students and their coach, William Pace, to Washington D.C. to compete at the national level on April 28th and 29th, 2023. During one of the breaks during their contests, Mr. Pace stated, "It has exposed them to subject areas that may have been new to them. It allowed them to engage in a collaborative effort that built teamwork and comradery. It was a great experience."

At the national level, the Monterey High School team will have the opportunity to network with and compete against other teams representing different chapters of the World Affairs Council. In addition to the previously mentioned subjects, these teams will answer questions about other significant global issues, including economic sanctions, atrocity prevention, and current events.

We are proud to have them represent our county and wish them the best of luck in Washington D.C.!



Monterey High School Academic WorldQuest team from left, Eunwoo Kim, River Valdivia, Sindha Gokaraju, and Taylor Boothe | Photo by Linda Dilger



Come join the conversation!

Now that the 2022 Great Decisions discussion series has been completed, the OLLI Discussion Group will take its usual seasonal hiatus until the fall.

However, the [WACMB Discussion Group](#) will keep the conversation going. The group plans to meet once a month beginning in early May. Topics will often dovetail with those covered in the WACMB Luncheon or Dinner lectures, but may sometimes address other world affairs-related topics of interest.

WACMB Discussion Group meetings will be held online via Zoom, facilitated by Boyd Haight and Linda Dilger. If you are interested in participating in the group, please send an email to discussiongroup@wacmb.org and let us know so you can receive the Zoom link. Come join the conversation!



Join Us!

When you join the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area, you become part of an organization of thoughtful and engaged global citizens who seek to learn more about contemporary world affairs. You can see benefits provided to the public by the Council, and the additional benefits for members, on our web page at <https://www.wacmb.org/membership/>

Please join us at an upcoming event or discussion group and consider becoming a member of the Council or renewing your current membership.

Our Regards,



Judith Glickman

President of The World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area

[Join, Renew, Donate](#)

This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area (WACMB). WACMB is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion, and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax-exempt 501 (c) (3) organization, EIN-770301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups, and student scholarships.

Corporate and institutional support for the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area is provided by
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Postgraduate School *Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey *Castle Rock Wealth Management
*Horan & Lloyd Law Firm *Cal Alumni Club of the Monterey Peninsula