

GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSION GROUP
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KATONAH VILLAGE LIBRARY
November 12, 2013

10:15 A. M. – Noon

Foreign Policy Implications of Energy Independence

Topic Leaders: Tyler Beebe & Charles Kimball

AGENDA

10:15: Kickoff

- Welcome and Introduction of New Participants
- Spring Meeting Dates, Subjects & Topic Leaders
- Briefing Book Orders
- Topic Leader Presentation & Discussion

CHAPTER MOTTO - "DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITHOUT FONDNESS FOR DISPUTE OR DESIRE FOR VICTORY" – BEN FRANKLIN

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND TOPICS

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| January 7, 2014 | "Breach of Trust," a discussion Andrew Bacevich's new book of the same name regarding America's worldwide military commitments.
Topic Leader: Charles Kimball |
| January 21, 2014 | China's Foreign Policy
Topic Leaders: Tyler Beebe |
| February 11, 2014 | Climate Change and Food
Topic Leader: Ken Krieger |
| March 4, 2014 | Israel and the United States
Topic Leader: Tyler Beebe
Special Guest: Professor Dov Waxman, CUNY |

- March 18, 2014 **Japan and the Far East**
Topic Leader: Charles Kimball
Special Guest: Devin Stewart, Carnegie Council
- April 1, 2014 **Islamic Awakening**
Topic Leader: Fred Piker
- April 15, 2013 **United States Constitutional Convention**
- April 29, 2014 **International Human Trafficking: Women's Rights and Foreign Policy**
Topic Leader: Ann Marie Karl
- May 13, 2014 **Turkey's Challenges**
Topic Leaders: Mike and Barbara Kornfield

TODAY'S TOPIC

"Energy Independence" is clearly a hot topic in the media but could prove to be an elusive goal depending on a wide range of factors. The optimists project independence within a decade, while the skeptics think it may never happen. US foreign policy will surely be strongly influenced by the outcome as dependence on foreign energy sources is either lessened or, in the best case, eliminated entirely. At this session Charlie Kimball will discuss the many variables that will determine whether or not we achieve independence. Tyler Beebe will then look at the implications for US foreign policy if and when partial or total independence becomes a reality.

SUGGESTED READINGS

Books:

- "A Declaration of Energy Independence", by Jay Hakes, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Hoboken, NJ, 2008
- "Gusher of Lies -- The Dangerous Delusions of Energy Independence", by Robert Bryce, Public Affairs, New York, 2008

Websites:

- Energy Information Administration Website (eia.gov) "How dependent are we on foreign oil?"

- Domestic and international energy forecasts from the EIA: eia.gov/forecasts/aeo and [ieo](http://eia.gov/forecasts/ieo).