



Welcome to the [Council of Women World Leaders'](#) e-Newsletter. The second half of 2009 was a busy period for the Council and we are pleased to share some highlights with you.

During the past several months we welcomed two new Council members: President **Dalia Grybauskaitė** of Lithuania and Prime Minister **Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis** of Haiti; we hosted women leaders as part of our **Madeleine K. Albright Women's Voices at the Aspen Institute Series**; we joined with the World Economic Forum and with the International Center for Research on Women to discuss this year's Gender Gap Report; and we developed a new graduate fellowship program, the **Environmental Policy Graduate Fellowship Program**.

Recent Events

The World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Report 2009

On October 30, 2009, the Council featured a panel discussion with [Global Gender Gap Report 2009](#) co-author Saadia Zahidi, Director, Head of Constituents at the World Economic Forum, Geeta Rao Gupta, President of the International Center for Research on Women, and Laura Liswood, Secretary General of the Council. The panelists discussed key findings of this year's report, which measures the gap between men and women in four critical areas in over 130 countries.



Support the Council

The Council depends on tax-deductible contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations who share our commitment to promoting good governance through the empowerment of women leaders worldwide.

Your support is crucial to helping us achieve our mission.

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(202-736-2920).



New Council Members

In the fall of 2009, the Council welcomed its two newest members.

Dalia Grybauskaitė



The Honorable Margot Wallström at the Aspen Institute



On October 13, 2009, the Council hosted a luncheon with Margot Wallström, Vice President of the European Commission, in a discussion on the violence against women and girls used as a weapon of war. Vice President Wallström was joined by Honorable Ann Veneman, Director of UNICEF and other distinguished leaders to discuss recent [UN Security Council resolutions](#) condemning violence against women and prescribing policies to combat it. Attendees provided action recommendations in order to implement lasting solutions to the enduring violence against women and girls in conflict zones.

Womenomics Book Talk at the Aspen Institute



On October 6, 2009, as part of the [Madeleine K. Albright Women's Voices at the Aspen Institute Series](#), the Council welcomed Katty Kay, Washington Correspondent for BBC World News America, and Claire Shipman, Senior National Correspondent for ABC news, for a book talk on [Womenomics: Write Your Own Rules for Success](#). In *Womenomics*, Kay and Shipman argue that women have the ability to reach their ideal work-home balance. The discussion was moderated by Aspen Institute President and CEO Walter Isaacson.

Newly Released

WHO Launches "Women and Health: Today's Evidence Tomorrow's Agenda" Report

The Council, within the framework of the [Ministerial Leadership Initiative \(MLI\)](#), works closely with the WHO to raise global awareness of this recently published report. The "[Women and Health: Today's Evidence Tomorrow's Agenda](#)" report calls for urgent action, both within the health sector and beyond, to improve the health and lives of girls and women, from birth to old age.



In 2010 the Council is launching its [Environmental Policy Graduate Fellowship Program](#), a new addition to our longstanding Graduate Fellowship Programs. The Environmental Policy Graduate Program places students from top-tier masters programs of environmental studies in the United States in the offices of women ministers, government leaders, and heads of international organizations. To work at the highest levels of

President Dalia Grybauskaitė was inaugurated on July 12, 2009, and is Lithuania's first female head of state.

Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis



Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis served as Prime Minister of Haiti from September 2008 to November 2009, and was Haiti's second female prime minister.

For additional information on members of the Council, please visit our [website](#).

Environmental Policy Graduate Fellowship Program

Upcoming Events and Programs

President Dalia Grybauskaitė - Keynote Address at the Aspen Institute

In March 2010 the Council will welcome Council member President Dalia Grybauskaitė of Lithuania to speak on the topic of the world economic crisis, the political risks and new opportunities presented within this new global environment.

Closing the Gender Gap: The Business Case for Organizations, Politics and Society

In the fall of 2010 the Council of Women World Leaders and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government will co-host a conference on the business case for closing the gender gap in organizations, politics, and society. Researchers from academia, business, and politics will present their cutting-edge findings on the tangible benefits associated with promoting women's participation and leadership in all segments of society. Heads of state and government, ministers, civil society leaders, and CEOs will be invited. The goal of the conference and the resulting initiative is to provide decision-makers with the tools and knowledge necessary to enact change within their organizations.

Council in the News

- Council members Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, President Mary Robinson and Vice President Margot Wallström spearheaded a climate initiative and urged "climate justice" at the [Road to Copenhagen Conference](#).
- President Mary Robinson was awarded the [U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom](#).
- Council member President Vigdís Finnbogadóttir received [The Global Passion Award](#).
- Council member Prime Minister Kim Campbell launched the new [Global Leadership](#) website.
- Council Secretary General [Laura Liswood](#) chaired the Gender Gap Council meetings at the World Economic Forum's Summit on the Global Agenda in Dubai. Ms Liswood will attend the 2010 Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos.

national and international policymaking bodies allows Fellows to witness firsthand the ways in which leadership in environmental issues is manifested.

This program is made possible through the generous contribution of the Henry Luce Foundation.

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