



The Global Affairs Program of the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School The World Stage and White Paper Series – Brochure

What is the Global Affairs Program?

The Global Affairs Program is the first and only program in the Harvard Institute of Politics focused exclusively on global affairs. Situated on its twin foundational pillars of **intellectual inquiry** and **pre-professional support**, GAP seeks to **prepare and give voice to the next generation of diplomats and global leaders**. GAP offers unique programming designed to provide students with informed, diverse, and inclusive experiences that reflect perspectives from all corners of the world. GAP is centered around its two speaker series, **Diplomatic Dialogues**, which brings together former and current ambassadors and diplomats in high-level discussions to share their experiences from their illustrious careers and insights on current politics, and the **World Stage**, which connects students with regional experts through informal roundtable conversations to broaden perspectives and discuss recent developments in the world of global affairs. As part of the World Stage series, each regional team also produces a comprehensive, accessible **White Paper** published through GAP and partnering centers. Committed to helping students navigate careers in diplomacy and international relations, GAP also hosts **career events, workshops, and trips** with professionals, consulates, and embassies, while also connecting members with experts in global affairs through our **Mentorship Program**.

Facts About Our World Stage Speaker Series

This Fall, GAP will continue to host its speaker series the *World Stage*, featuring prominent figures in global affairs, including renowned professors, diplomats, and public servants specializing in international relations and politics. The series will explore a diverse range of subjects, including global politics, international development, and current events in geopolitics. With each event organized by students with specific regional expertise and interests, the World Stage aims to have events covering all 7 continents throughout the semester. Throughout the last academic year, GAP hosted 10 successful World Stage events, drawing 20+ distinguished speakers and 500+ attendees. This series is designed to connect students with regional experts through informal round-table discussions, offering a platform to broaden perspectives, delve into recent developments in global affairs, and explore professional pathways in diplomacy and international relations.



Through its biannual **White Paper Series**, GAP provides students with a semester-long opportunity to research a regional issue of their choice and produce a comprehensive, accessible report. Along the way, members receive structured support through discussion events, skill-building workshops, and weekly check-ins that foster both intellectual growth and collaboration. The program culminates each semester in the **GAP Colloquium**, where students present their work to fellow program members and partnering Centers, engage with leading scholars, and build meaningful professional connections. Each paper will also be published in our end-of-semester **GAP Journal** and through partnering centers. By uniting rigorous inquiry with public engagement, GAP empowers students not only to deepen their academic expertise but also to influence conversations and solutions that extend well beyond the campus.

Logistics:

Time: Mondays 6pm and Wednesdays 6pm

Location: IOP's Study Group Room L-166 and L-163, Littauer Building, Harvard Kennedy. Both rooms fit 50 people, but events can be moved if necessary.

Audience: The events are focused on undergraduates but open to anyone in the IOP, HKS, HLS or broader Harvard community.

Format: 1 hour conversation — 30 minute discussion between speaker(s) and student moderator(s), and a 30 minute open Q&A with the audience.

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