



Highlights

A Quarterly Newsletter for the Atlas Network / Spring 2004

Record Attendance at Atlas Liberty Forum

On April 28-29, Atlas held its most successful Liberty Forum to date, attracting 224 participants from 40 countries and introducing more than three dozen new intellectual entrepreneurs to the free-market think tank network.

Atlas began holding its annual Liberty Forum in 2001, as a lead-in to The Heritage Foundation's Resource Bank. Together, the meetings have become one of the year's best networking and learning opportunities for market-oriented leaders from all over the world. Perhaps even more than that, many participants remarked that the Liberty Forum boosted their spirits, as they meet scores of freedom champions from around the world. Frances Johnson (International Property Rights Working Group, Washington, DC) remarked: "This is the most amazing gathering of international free-market ideas entrepreneurs that I have been to."



Frances Johnson is pictured with her husband Gordon Johnson during the Liberty Forum reception.

The inspiring tone of the meeting was apparent from early on, leading Linda Whetstone – daughter of Atlas's late founder Sir Antony Fisher – to remark at her table during the opening lunch, "If my father was here, he would be absolutely delighted!"

The highlights of the formal program are recounted in this article, but they are not the only successes of the meeting. Behind the scenes, participants that previously did not know one another were finding new ways to collaborate. One fruitful result was the formation of the latest in a series of "regional resource banks" with Atlas's encouragement.

Liberty Forum also generated a great deal of interest in specific Atlas programs. For instance, the winners of the Templeton Freedom Awards program were recognized at Liberty Forum, and several representatives of winning institutes were featured as session speakers, including: Alberto Mingardi (**Istituto Bruno Leoni**, Italy), Leon Louw (**Free Market Foundation**, South Africa), Ugnius Trumpa (**Lithuanian Free Market Institute**), Cristian Larroulet (**Libertad y Desarrollo**, Chile), Martin Chren (**Hayek Foundation**, Slovakia), Parth Shah (**Centre for Civil Society**, India), Ozlem Caglar Yilmaz

(**Association for Liberal Thinking**, Turkey), and Michel Kelly-Gagnon (**Montreal Economic Institute**, Canada).



CCS's Parth Shah, FMF's Leon Louw and LFMP's Ugnius Trumpa

Larry Reed of the **Mackinac Center for Public Policy** (Michigan) devoted his luncheon address to Atlas's International Freedom Corps (IFC) program, for which he had recently visited China, Korea and Vietnam. (Reed's report on his IFC scouting trip is available on the Atlas Web site at www.atlasusa.org/reports/Reed_Asia.php and his Liberty Forum speech is at www.mackinac.org/article.asp?ID=6636).

The evening keynote address on globalization was given by Fred Smith of **Competitive Enterprise Institute** (Washington, DC), doing an impressive job of substituting at the last minute for Stephen Goldsmith (former Indianapolis mayor and Bush advisor, and current Harvard professor) who was prevented from attending by travel complications.

See **Liberty Forum**, p.4

Inside

Fisher Awards.....	3
The Bahamas.....	5
Spotlight on the Philippines.....	6
Instituto Liberdade (Brazil)	8



Atlas Economic Research Foundation

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation works with think tanks and individuals around the world to advance a vision of a society of free and responsible individuals, based upon private property rights, limited government under the rule of law and the market order. Atlas is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is supported solely by donations from individuals, foundations and corporations.

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Atlas News

Atlas Reception Celebrates Templeton Freedom Award Program Winners

On May 3, 2004, Atlas hosted a reception at the National Press Club in Washington, DC to honor the winners of the first annual Templeton Freedom Awards program. Kris Mauren (**Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty**, Michigan), Leon Louw (**Free Market Foundation**, South Africa), Ugnius Trumpa (**Lithuanian Free Market Institute**), Barun Mitra (**Liberty Institute**, India), Martin Chren (**Hayek Foundation**, Slovakia), Parth Shah and Mana Shah (**Centre for Civil Society**, India), Ozlem Caglar Yilmaz (**Association for Liberal Thinking**, Turkey), Michel Kelly-Gagnon (**Montreal Economic Institute**, Canada), Peter Schaefer (**Instituto Libertad y Democracia**, Peru), Carolina Bolivar and Rosa Rivas (**Instituto Cultural Ludwig von Mises**, Mexico), Boris Begovic (**Center for Liberal-Democratic Studies**, Serbia), Aurelio Concheso (**CEDICE**, Venezuela) and Virginia Gentles (**Fraser Institute**, Canada) represented 13 of the 21 winning institutes. Atlas president, Alex Chafuen, remarked that just as Sir John Templeton revolutionized the world of investments and the world of philanthropy, he now wants, with these awards to help revolutionize the world of economic education. For more information on the Templeton Freedom Awards program, please visit the Atlas website at www.atlasUSA.org.

Atlas and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation Host Conference on Employment and Federalism

On April 21-23 in Miami, Florida, the **Friedrich Naumann Foundation** and Atlas brought together experts from three different continents to discuss employment issues and labor law. Participants compared the labor systems in the United States, New Zealand, Argentina, Spain and Germany to discover how labor regulations affect employment and economic growth. Speakers included Maurice McTigue, the former Minister of Employment of New Zealand; Dirk Niebel, labor markets spokesperson from the Free Democrat Party of Germany; Patricia Bullrich, former Minister of Labor in Argentina; Dr. Charles Baird of University of California-Hayward; and Donald Devine, former head of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.



Patricia Bullrich (Argentina) and Javier Martínez Arévalo from Círculo de Empresarios (Spain).

Atlas Co-hosts Event on Colombia

On Tuesday April 27, 2004, **Verdad Colombia**, **Instituto de Ciencia Política** (Colombia), The Heritage Foundation and Atlas co-hosted the event “Beyond Plan Colombia,” to assess Plan Colombia’s progress and what remains to be done. Plan Colombia is the name given to the US government’s course of action in helping Colombia fight narco-terrorism. Speakers included Ambassador Luis Alberto Moreno; former presidential advisor Jaime Ruiz (author of Plan Colombia); former minister Fernando Londoño; former vice minister Rafael Nieto; the director of Inter-American Dialogue, Michael Shifter; the director of the Colombian program at Georgetown University, Miguel Ceballos; the Director for Latin America at the Heritage Foundation, Steven Johnson; the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Robert B. Charles; Miguel Posada, President of Verdad Colombia President; and Rafael Merchán, the Executive Director of Instituto de Ciencia Política.

Human rights and international humanitarian rights, national security, and demobilization of illegal combatants were also discussed. Sebestyen Gorka, the director of the **Institute for Transitional Democracy and International Security** (Hungary), gave the keynote speech on double standards as the European response to Colombian terrorism.

PERC and CIEN Win Fisher Awards

On Wednesday, April 28, 2004 the Atlas Economic Research Foundation presented its 2004 Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Award to the **Property and Environment Research Center (PERC)** of Bozeman, Montana, at Atlas's annual Liberty Forum in Chicago.

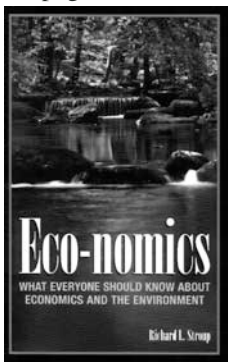
Each year, the awards honor Atlas's founder, Antony Fisher. Fisher believed that well researched publications, geared towards the "educated lay person," provide an important tool for teaching people about the virtues of free markets, individual liberty, and rule of law.



Richard L. Stroup accepts the Fisher Award at Atlas's Liberty Forum in Chicago.

According to reviews by a prestigious team of judges, the 2004 winning nomination, *Eco-nomics: What Everyone should Know about Economics and the Environment* (Cato Institute, Washington, DC 2003) fit Fisher's vision perfectly. This slim volume, written by PERC Senior Associate Richard L. Stroup, offers a readable and accessible explanation of how ecological problems can be resolved privately and voluntarily. The four chapters of the 91-page monograph address 10 key principles about economics, property, and environmental policy, providing a framework for developing sound environmental policy.

The publication is patterned after another highly successful book, *What Everyone Should Know about Economics and Prosperity*,



written by James D. Gwartney and Richard Stroup, which has been translated into 15 languages. Similarly, *Eco-nomics* is a perfect candidate for foreign translations through Atlas's international network. Its message crosses all cultures in its straight-forward observations about human action and the environment.

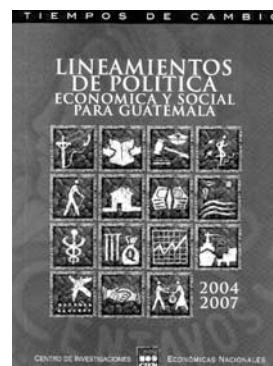
As one judge commented, "In public policy debates there is very often a bias against economic reasoning. Many believe that the economic point of view is nothing other than defending the interests of rich people and capitalists. The careful reader of *Eco-nomics* will learn that this is not the case. He should learn that economics and ecology are the same sides of the same coin."

Judges for this year's award were: Donald Boudreaux (George Mason University, Fairfax, VA), Alejandro Chafuen (Atlas), Maurice McTigue (Mercatus Center, Arlington, VA), Christian Watrin (former Mont Pelerin Society President, Germany), and Carl-Johan Westholm (Secretary of Mont Pelerin Society, Sweden). This panel of judges reviewed nominations from institutes that were established since January 1, 1999 – a category which included the PERC publication.

Nigel Ashford (Institute for Humane Studies, Arlington, VA), Brian Crowley (Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, Canada), and Bridgett Wagner (Heritage Foundation, Washington, DC) served on a second judges panel that reviewed nominations from institutes that are five years old or less. In light of the award's ruling criteria – to enhance public understanding of the free society – the judges decided not to make an award for the younger institutes this year.

For the second year in a row, however, Atlas Economic Research Foundation presented a special

Fisher Award for Best Spanish-Language Publication. This year, the Guatemalan think tank **Centro de Investigaciones Económicas Nacionales** was recognized for its publication, *Lineamientos de Política Económica y Social 2004-2007*. This guide to current public policy and economic issues in Guatemala is given to newly-elected governments in Guatemala, so they are exposed to possible market-oriented solutions. First published in 1990 – with updated versions created in 1995, 1999, and now 2004 – *Lineamientos* is based firmly on the ideas of individual liberty, private property, and a market economy operating under the rule of law.



The Fisher Awards reflect Atlas's international institute network, drawing nominations from Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Georgia, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Lithuania, Nepal, New Zealand, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, UK, and USA. For additional details, visit the website at www.atlasUSA.org



CIEN's Maria Isabel Bonilla.

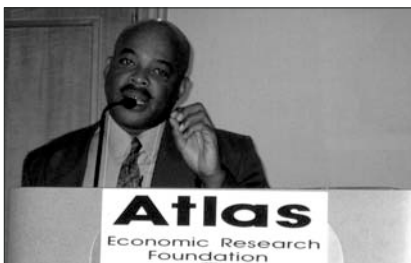
Atlas Liberty Forum continued from page 1

In keeping with past Liberty Forums, one half of the program was devoted to sessions on think tank strategies and the other half to issues in a particular region. In addition to the TFA winners mentioned above, June Arunga (**Inter Region Economic Network**, Kenya) and Helen Disney (**Stockholm Network**, UK) gave presentations within the panels on “The Freedom Movement’s Next Generation” and “Communication Strategies,” respectively.



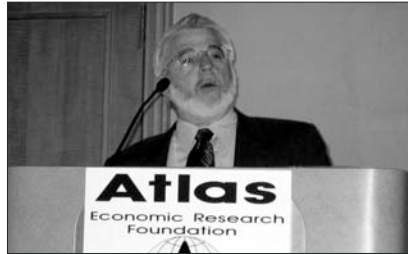
June Arunga

The second day of the program was devoted to policy discussions of how to expand free trade in the Americas. Allan Gotlieb (Donner Canadian Foundation) reviewed the impact of NAFTA after ten years, judging it a success on the terms on which it was created. He suggested that policy-makers should build upon NAFTA to further integrate the North American countries as a community of laws.



Rigoberto Stewart

Rigoberto Stewart (**INLAP**, Costa Rica) explained that the anti-trade viewpoints of many Latin Americans



Fred Smith

are based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the policy question. The public must learn that free trade benefits *consumers*. As long as trade debates are seen as solving “production needs,” they will be biased toward protectionism. Fred Smith (CEI) continued on this theme stressing the need for efforts at popularizing trade among the people, so progress can be made while bypassing world governing bodies that are beholden to narrow interests. Cristián Larroulet (LyD) offered the Chilean experience in unilateral reductions of barriers to trade as a model for other nations to follow.

During the final session of the 2004 Liberty Forum, Juan Carlos Botero (Colombia) discussed a new study he co-authored, showing that labor standards in the U.S. actually tend to be lower than in other countries. This runs contrary to rhetoric used by U.S. labor leaders to justify blocking free trade agreements until there is a “level regulatory playing field.” Joe Olson (Amerisure Insurance Companies) provided an informative overview of the importance of the insurance industry to the prospects for increased international trade, and the necessity of a stable legal climate for its proper functioning. Finally, Margaret Tse (**Instituto Liberdade**, Brazil) discussed the special case of Brazil, which in recent years has undermined the advance of trade agreements in the Americas. (For more on Tse’s Instituto Liberdade turn to p. 8.)

“What an exhilarating gathering – the best ever! Most impressive were the number of young leaders from the far corners of the world. Congratulations to the entire Atlas team. The Atlas Liberty Forum continues to grow in size and importance.”

– Bridgett Wagner, *The Heritage Foundation* (Washington DC)

“I would like to express my gratitude for the wonderful opportunity to take part in the Atlas Liberty Forum. I had a unique chance to meet many outstanding people. I am very much looking forward to starting fruitful cooperation with Atlas and your partners. I believe there are many things we can do together to promote ideas of liberty and free market in Belarus.”

– Jaroslav Romanchuk (Belarus)

“I had a lot to learn from all the speakers – everyone was very interesting. Thanks also for your help in introducing the Resource Bank Europe; many people came to see me to have more information about this project.”

– Sophie Buttigieg, *Institute for Economic Studies-Europe* (France)

“The opportunity to attend the Atlas Liberty Forum has fundamentally shifted the outlook for the Lion Rock Institute of Hong Kong. The lessons learned and connections made are proving invaluable in advancing our mission of promoting economic freedom in Hong Kong. Furthermore, the genesis of an Asian network arising from that meeting will provide support and create liberty for the citizens of all our nations.”

– Andrew Work, *Lion Rock Institute* (Hong Kong)

“Let me tell you how impressed I was with this year’s Liberty Forum, one of the best ever from Atlas.”

– Paul Harberger, *Francisco Marroquin Foundation* (California)

Atlas and Nassau Institute Partner on Successful Workshop in Bahamas

With a population around 300,000 and an economy that is very dependent on the tourism industry, The Bahamas presents an interesting case for would-be reformers.

Its problems are not insurmountable, if policy-makers can muster the courage to promote logical free-market reforms. This was the message received by 82 attendees of *The Global Challenge and the Need for Reform*, a conference co-hosted by Atlas and The Bahamas' local think tank, the **Nassau Institute**, on Saturday, April 4, 2004.

In his opening remarks, Atlas CEO Alejandro Chafuen suggested that "Small nations can play a wonderful leadership role. The Bahamas can look to the experiences of Hong Kong, Estonia, and Ireland among others who have prospered tremendously, despite fewer natural resources and more difficult pasts."

Rafael Barraza, former president of the El Salvador Central Bank, showed how his war-ravaged nation became prosperous after adopting measures to stabilize the economy, restoring price signals, and opening to trade. Roberto Brenes, founder of the **Fundación Libertad Panamá**, offered his country's experience as another model for The Bahamas, although he cautioned that gradualism is often necessary for implementing reforms. Hillary Deveaux (acting director, Bahamas Securities Commission) and Robert Witajewski (chief of mission, U.S. Embassy, Nassau) offered Bahamian and U.S. perspectives about the prospects for free-trade agreements that will have important implications for The Bahamas' economy.

At lunchtime, Maurice McTigue (former Minister of Finance of New Zealand) explained the reforms he helped enact in New Zealand during 1984-1994, a period during which

the country reversed course dramatically away from socialism and toward capitalism.

In other discussions, Professor James Gwartney made a compelling case for the connection between economic freedom and prosperity, based on his research for the *Economic Freedom of the World Report*, an ongoing cross-country study that was initiated by the Fraser Institute to quantify levels of economic freedom throughout the world.

responsibility for the decisions of common citizens, which was met with skepticism among most of the audience.

The final panel, "When Castro is Gone: Can the Bahamas Compete,?" detailed the trends in tourism from Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace (director-general of tourism, The Bahamas), a more general assessment of how Cuba might evolve after Castro from Marc Wachtenheim (**Pan American**



Nassau Institute founder Joan Thompson is pictured with Sir John Templeton who received the Adam Smith Award from the Association for Private Enterprise Education the day after the Atlas/Nassau workshop. The Nassau Institute's staff also surprised Thompson with the first Nassau Institute Freedom Award

Julian Francis, governor of the Central Bank of the Bahamas, also suggested potential reforms to improve The Bahamas' competitive position among other nations.

Michael Walker (**Fraser Institute**, Canada) and John Goodman (**National Center for Policy Analysis**, Texas) provided cautionary tales about Canadian healthcare and other countries' experiences with nationalized healthcare. Sir William Allen, former Bahamas Minister of Finance, advocated the need for government to assume greater

Development Foundation, Washington DC), and broader observations about the conflict between capitalism and central planning from Alberto Martinez Piedra (**Institute for World Politics**, Washington DC).

The conference, the largest Nassau Institute event since its founding in 1995, clearly shows that a local market exists for "raising the level of the ideas debate" in The Bahamas, as Nassau's president and founder Joan Thompson suggested at the meeting's outset.

Spotlight on the Philippines: A Conversation with Ellen Sandig Cain and Bienvenido Oplas



by Priscilla Tacujan

As an Atlas International Freedom Corps fellow, I had a special opportunity to make a return visit to my native country, the Philippines, during the summer of 2003. I went to help Atlas find institutional partners and intellectual entrepreneurs that could help turn the tide against protectionism and populism in the Philippines. It was a sentimental journey, filled with both frustrations at what went wrong and hopes at what yet could be done to help the country move forward. Indeed, with so much unutilized capital – both human and natural – the cause of advancing freedom in the Philippines is urgent. It will entail strengthening weak institutions, implementing the rule of law by limiting the powers of government, and empowering individuals towards enlightened self-interestedness and assertion of their rights. At first glance, the odds do not look good. The Left, it seems, has won the intellectual debate.

But during my fellowship, I met a number of young Filipino scholars who are intellectually curious, energetic, and convinced that they better the Philippines by promoting individualism, free trade, and open competition. Two individuals, with this passion and these convictions, are Ellen Sandig Cain (Foundation for Economic Freedom, or FEF) and Bienvenido (“Nonoy”) Oplas, Jr. (Minimal Government, Inc.). Atlas brought them to the U.S. as visiting fellows in April/May 2004, to help them gain skills and perspectives that will be useful to their organizations in the Philippines. We sat down for this interview during their stay.

Q. Let’s begin by discussing how your institutes got started.

Nonoy: We in “Minimal Government” started out as adventurous guys who got together to climb mountains and volcanoes in the mid-90s, and then as co-discussants in a Yahoo discussion group. Now, we are professionals and small entrepreneurs. We just created Minimal Government in the last few months. Our objectives are very brief and clear: small government, small bureaucracy, small taxes, and economic liberalization. The expanded principles and general advocacies are contained in our basic document, “The Minimal Government Manifesto.”

Ellen: *The Foundation for Economic Freedom was established in 1996 when the protectionist call for oil price roll back was loudest. The founders of FEF banded together to turn the tide of public opinion, as well as convince policy-makers, that it would be wisest to let the market be. Almost all FEF’s fellows either have their own consultancy work, teach full time, are very sought after in public discourse, are media columnists, or serve in key gov-*

ernment posts in the Philippines.

Q. What are your goals and what programs are you implementing to achieve them?

Ellen: FEF aims to improve the economic literacy of Filipinos to enable them to critically decide on development issues affecting the country; expose economic inefficiencies of government, business, and industry through public education programs; and, present alternative economic policies to government decision-makers; and influence policy makers in government, in business and in business through the dissemination of well-grounded research.

Nonoy: Minimal Government is just beginning its programs. At this stage, we are concentrating on a public education program; the construction of our website, www.minimalgovernment.org; the development of community-based forest management program in Coron, north Palawan; and finding ways to popularize the theory and practice of “free-market environmentalism.” I see opportunities to mobilize taxpayers and the private sector to sup-

port tax cuts, shrinking government, and economic liberalization. We will encourage the formation of similar organizations – say, Filipinos for Tax Reform – to help bring attention and resources to this cause.

Q: What do you think are the biggest challenges to the success of your organization?

E: *After the second EDSA revolution that ousted President Joseph Estrada in 2001, many of the FEF Board of Directors joined the government. FEF’s president, Mr. Alex Magno, is on the Board of Directors of the Development Bank of the Philippines. Also, at that time, due to a reduction in funding, FEF’s staff dropped from 11 to 2 part-timers: a bookkeeper and me. Since then, FEF’s activities have involved a few ad-hoc advocacy programs. I’d say our biggest challenge is to develop a full-time staff that complements the high-profile status of FEF’s roster of Fellows.*

N: We see our organization principally as a movement, secondarily as a think tank. Or a think-tank and action-tank at the same time. To launch a “minimal government

movement,” our organization does not need be at the center of the movement, just one of the many organizations and institutions which unite and coalesce around this purpose. Our first challenge is to get on the map and give the movement intellectual ammunition through scholarly research papers.

Q: How do you assess the political and economic environment of your country in terms of receptiveness to free market ideas?

E: *Many of the country’s policies are already market-oriented. The Philippines is committed to dismantling trade barriers in accordance with the World Trade Organization (WTO), and to the privatization and liberalization of its major utilities. However, these liberalization and privatization policies are currently floundering due to political pressure to maintain low prices (below the cost of production).*

N: Around 10% of our 83 million population (as of end-2003) are working or studying in foreign lands, and appreciating the beauty of freer mobility of goods, services, capital, technology and people. Many of those based in the country are unhappy about a wasteful government bureaucracy, ridiculously high tax rates, a complicated tax system, and corruption-prone tax administration. The noisy minority who oppose free markets appear to be “loud” only because the free-market taxpayer are not as organized.

E: *Exactly. There is a need for a voice loud enough to enlighten Filipinos on the bankruptcy of protectionist policies and to inhibit policy makers to enact and pursue these policies at the expense of the public.*

Q: How can promoting free market ideas in the Philippines help shape the political and economic environment in Southeast Asia and the Pacific?

N: If free market ideas gain more prominence in the Philippines, it will

be easier to implement freer trade in the region through Asean Free Trade Area (AFTA), Asean-China Free Trade Area (FTA), Asean-Japan Economic Partnerships Agreement (EPA), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and various bilateral arrangements. Economic liberalization will slowly seep into the political domain, leading to political liberalization and democratization.

E: *I firmly believe that – if the Philippines can fight poverty through market-based policies, free from political manipulations, and achieve victory in dismantling terrorist lairs in Mindanao – there will be enormous positive spill-over effects not only in Asia but also the rest of the world.*

Q: Can Atlas play a role in promoting free-market thinking in your country and the rest of Southeast Asia and the Pacific?

E: *One of my favorite books, The Tipping Point by Malcolm Gladwell, describes a phenomenon where ideas – usually taking a much longer time to get the attention and interest of people – can spread like wildfire through a combination of the right elements. One of these elements has been likened to the famous Paul Revere. Atlas through its fellowship program and its efforts to string together like-minded individuals plays this kind of role. By pursuing its mission, Atlas will not only promote free-market thinking in the Philippines, Southeast Asia and the Pacific; it will be responsible for the germination of free-market think tanks run by individuals who are true-believers of Hayekian principles.*

N: I recommend that Atlas continue promoting free-market thinking throughout Southeast Asia and the Pacific by (a) continuing and expanding the IFC program, (b) supporting free market movements, and not just free market think tanks, and (c) helping us network with more free market groups, from conservative libertarians to ultra-libertarians.

Minimal Government

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Mission: Minimal Government promotes small government, small bureaucracy, small taxes, and economic liberalization through the mobilization of taxpayers and the general public, the creation of like-minded organizations, and political party building.



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Mission: The Foundation for Economic Freedom (FEF) pursues fundamental reforms towards a freer market in the Philippines through advocacy. It envisions a well-functioning free-market society that promotes equity in opportunity and civic responsibility as social virtues; is based on a market-oriented and sustainable economic regime; values efficiency in an interdependent global economy; and, aims for economic growth through the development of its people.

Instituto Liberdade – Brazil

Institute Spotlight

In Brazil, the principles of a free society face substantial opposition among many politicians, magistrates, scholars and media who follow the ideas of Marx and Gramsci.

Within the judiciary, “alternative magistrates” are subverting the rule of law, obstructing the work of the police, supporting private property invasions for a “social cause”, and allowing unconstitutional actions to take place. Many teachers in the public education system are effectively brainwashing children to believe that democracy brings unequal distribution of power, business people are not trustworthy, and profits are evil and should be prohibited along with the capitalist system. The word “neo-liberal” in Brazil has been associated with American institutions and policies, and therefore – in the language of most of the Brazilian intelligentsia – free-market ideas are considered part of an “imperialist” threat to the social order of the country.

Against this back-drop, the Instituto Liberdade (IL-RS) has its work cut out. Headquartered in the city of Porto Alegre in the state Rio Grande do Sul, IL-RS promotes the principles of individual rights, limited and representative government, and respect for private property, contracts, and free enterprise.

The institute is engaged in long-term work to improve the field of ideas. It carries out studies and

research; it edits books and publications; it organizes courses, workshops, colloquia, debates, seminars and conferences; and it promotes its libertarian ideas among opinion leaders in the government, academia, media, and civil society. Instituto



Liberdade is supported solely by voluntary contributions of individuals, private enterprises, and other think tanks. It currently employs a staff of three, while also benefiting from a Board of Directors, composed of entrepreneurs and academics who work on volunteer basis.

Some of Instituto Liberdade’s key programs include: the Colloquia Instituto Liberdade, which gather together 6 to 8 simultaneous multidisciplinary groups of ten to twelve participants, each group to debate texts and essays about Classic Libertarian ideas; the Course of Law and Economics for Magistrates, which provides prosecutors, state and federal judges tools for applying economic analysis to Law, thus showing the relation between society’s boundary rules/legislation and its prosperity; and, the Open Library

Project, which works to donate around 12,000 books, of 145 different titles among the classic collection, to 80 public and community centers libraries in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul. Instituto Liberdade also sponsors many lectures and meetings with national and international speakers, about current issues of the civil society, usually a one-day event. Instituto Liberdade collaborates frequently with other Brazilian institutes, such as **Centro Interdisciplinar de Ética e Economia Personalista (CIEEP)**, **Núcleo de Estudos Visconde de Mauá (NEVM)** and **Fundação Irmão José Otão (FIJO)** from the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul.

Instituto Liberdade began as the Instituto Liberal do Rio Grande do Sul, a regional institute created in 1986 as part of a Brazilian network called “Institutos Liberais,” after the creation of the first Instituto Liberal in Rio de Janeiro by Donald Stewart.

As of May 11, 2004, the Instituto Liberdade has operated under its new name and a new statutory constitution and as a separate entity from the original Brazilian network. It retains the same libertarian philosophy (and adherence to the Austrian School of Economics) as in the past, but also has broadened its Statement of Principles to advocate support for the Rule of Law, the decentralization of government, the free market economy, cultural freedom and the libertarian individualist ethic.

The name change has been discussed for more than a decade, as the word “Liberal” in Brazil has become a political, or partisan, expression. It therefore does not represent the main objectives of the think tank, which are to play an educational role in civil society, fostering debate and other exchanges of ideas.



Instituto Liberdade’s Margaret Tse (right) is pictured with Alex Catharino de Souza (center) and Marcia Xavier Brito (left) from CIEEP (Brazil) at the recent Heritage Resource Bank in Chicago. Instituto Liberdade and CIEEP co-host a program on Management and Edification of Human Capital for Think Tanks

Institute Publications

The Mystery of Capital,
Translated Into Mongolian

Former Mongolian Prime Minister Elberdorj Tsakhia has recently translated Hernando de Soto's *The Mystery of Capital* into Mongolian, thanks to an Atlas-administered grant. Elberdorj, an ally of Atlas in starting the fledgling **Liberty Center** (Mongolia), believes that the translation of De Soto's book will introduce Mongolians to the notion of titled property rights and encourage them to legalize their properties that otherwise operate only within an underground black market. Offering guidelines on how to simplify procedures for application of titles, the book aims to reform bureaucratic regulations and obstacles to the exercise of property rights. In a country where only 3% of the population of 2.5 million can speak and understand English, this translated version will surely be handy and useful.



Pakistan Institute Publishes New Translation of Schoolland's *The Adventures of Jonathan Gullible: A Free Market Odyssey*

The **Alternate Solutions Institute** (Pakistan), has published and translated "The Adventures of Jonathan Gullible: A Free Market Odyssey" by Ken Schoolland into

Urdu. Urdu is a language that is spoken throughout South Asia, including Pakistan. This modern fable has so far been published in 29 languages of the world, Urdu being the 30th. In understandable terms, it explains to local readership the principles of market economy and property rights. Dr. Khalil Ahmad, president of ASI, translated the book, with the hope that it would give new directions to the discussion of welfare state in Pakistan.

The Economic Burden of Health in Kenya

Published by the **Inter Region Economic Network** and edited by James Shikwati, *The Economic Burden of Health in Kenya* explores the incidence of diseases in Kenya and the related barriers to health care. Generally, the major cause of morbidity and mortality in the country

is attributable to preventable vector borne diseases. Malaria, respiratory related diseases, parasitic infections, and diarrhea are the major diseases that afflict the Kenyan population. HIV-AIDS has also become one of the major causes of high morbidity and mortality. The general social and economic factors that impact on health care in Kenya have led local and international activists to point to intellectual property rights over medicines rather than government ineptitude as the main barrier to healthcare and drug access. The link between health care and economic

prosperity indicate that countries that are wealthier tend to be healthier. The urgency of empowering people economically as a lasting solution to tackling health care is well illustrated in this book.

New Publication from a Colombian Think Tank

Andres Mejia-Vergnaud, general director of **Instituto Desarrollo y Libertad** and an active ally of Atlas in promoting free-market ideas in Colombia, has recently published a book, *Maestros de la Democracia Moderna*, a collection of classical liberal ideas mined from the lives and works of Adam Smith, F.A. Hayek, de Tocqueville, Bastiat, Hume, Locke, among others. The author believes that vigilance in defending freedom springs from one's knowledge of the philosophical roots of liberty and democracy.

PRI's Index of Leading Environmental Indicators, 9th Edition

The **Pacific Research Institute** has recently published the 9th edition of its annual *Index of Leading Environmental Indicators*. This study provides an analysis of the key environmental trends observed throughout 2003, including air quality, water quality, toxic substances, and species conservation, with a special section on public land management. Since its launching nine years ago, the *Index* has proven to be an indispensable resource for lawmakers, media, and the public. An online version of the study and a press kit are available on PRI's website.

Atlas, The Sutherland Institute and the International Freedom Education Foundation invite you to:

Communicating the Ideal of Liberty

August 13-14, 2004 • Salt Lake City, UT

Keynote speeches from Foster Friess (Brandywine Fund, Delaware) and Atlas's Leonard P. Liggitto

Session topics:

- Developing an Ethical Basis for the Communication of Liberty in a Diverse and Divided World
- Successful Think Tank Efforts to Communicate the Message of Liberty to Skeptical Audiences

Registration Fee: \$100

For more information contact Atlas at 703-934-6969 or visit www.atlasUSA.org

Network News

LFMI Founder Ranks Among Ten People Who Have Changed Lithuania

The Lithuanian Free Market Institute is proud to announce that its founder and chair of the board, Elena Leontjeva, was named one of the most highly influential people to have changed the course of Lithuania's directions towards free-market reforms. Other recipients are former Presidents of the United States and the Soviet Union, Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev; Lithuanian Cardinals Vincentas Sladkevicius and Audrys Juozas Backis; diplomat Stasys Lorozaitis; poet Justinas Marcinkevicius; former heads of state Vytautas Landsbergis, Algirdas Brazauskas and Valdas Adamkus; and EU Commissioner Gunter Verheugen.

Hernando de Soto Awarded the Friedman Prize for Liberty

On May 6, 2004, the Cato Institute (Washington, DC) presented Hernando de Soto with the Friedman Prize for Liberty at a ceremony in San Francisco, CA. Named after Nobel laureate Milton Friedman, the prize with its \$500,000 cash award is given every other year to an individual who has made a significant contribution to advancing human freedom. Cato's president Ed Crane, explained "Hernando de Soto embodies what the Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty is all about... Everyone talks about helping the world's poor. This is a man who figured out how to do it." Atlas is very pleased to have de Soto and his institute, **Instituto Libertad y Democracia** (Peru), as our ally for over 20 years. Atlas recently awarded ILD the Templeton Freedom Prize for Free Market Solutions to Poverty. Atlas president, Alex Chafuen noted, "Like Adam Smith, De Soto is a master at bringing all the

best contributions of economics and other social sciences to his work... By understanding that ideas, unless packaged and marketed appropriately, can't bear fruit, Hernando de Soto and his institute are serving as a role model for think tanks and policy makers around the globe."

Ceremony in Argentina for Templeton Freedom Award Recipient, Fundación Libertad

Atlas president, Alex Chafuen, traveled to Rosario, Argentina to present **Fundación Libertad** with the *Templeton Freedom Award for Institute Excellence* during a ceremony that took place on April 14, 2004. Fundación Libertad is one of 15 institutes to receive this award during the inaugural year of Atlas's *Templeton Freedom Awards Program*. During his remarks, Alex stated that very few groups in the world had the success of Fundación Libertad during its first 15 years of work. Gerardo Bongiovanni, general director of the foundation, thanked the Atlas and Templeton Foundations, welcomed the award but recognized how much their institute still needs to improve. The event attracted government officials, various media outlets, as well as businessmen and Foundation supporters.

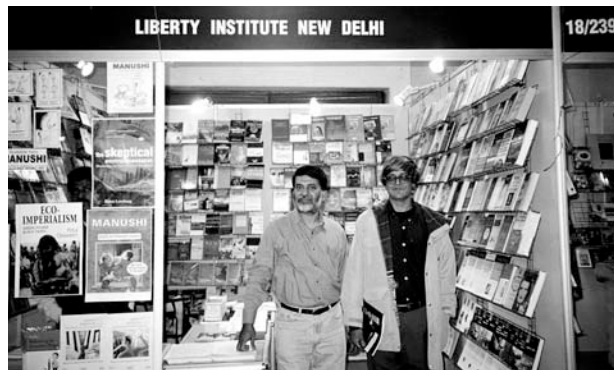
Civitas' New Model of Education

The *Tablet* has published an article by Nicholas Pyke on the new "independent school" model that

Civitas is pioneering in the United Kingdom. Civitas, a right-of-centre think tank is engaged in a nationwide experiment in education wherein parents are given the choice to send their children to the New Model School for around £1,000 a term. It is a great deal of money to most people, but Civitas says it already has enough takers to press ahead. Civitas began exploring the idea of launching an independent school, based upon a grant from Atlas's Health & Welfare Program, which paid for a feasibility study in 2001.

Liberty Institute's Book Fair, A Big Success

The Liberty Institute's Book Fair, held in New Delhi recently, was a great success. As in previous book fairs, it brought like-minded, free-market thinking individuals together, both from the academe and the media. Local publishers and distributors had taken interest as well. Among the titles being considered for local publication are *In Defence of Global Capitalism* by Johan Norberg from Timbro/Cato, *Economic Freedom Index* from Fraser Institute, *Index of Economic Freedom* of Heritage Foundation, *Mystery of Capital* by Hernando de Soto, *Future of Economic Liberalism* by David Henderson (IEA), *Eco-Imperialism* by Paul Driessen, and *The Joy of Economic Freedom* by David Henderson (Hoover).



Barun Mitra (Liberty Institute) with Indian economist and columnist Bibek Debroy (right) at the book fair.

Classifieds

The classified ads below are a sample of those posted on the online Free Market Classifieds, hosted by Atlas. To post your own ad, or to see more, visit the Classifieds at www.atlasUSA.org

IBL Conference on Globalization and Trade

On April 17th, the Istituto Bruno Leoni (Italy) organized a conference on “Trade, Not Aid: Globalization, Development, and Freedom,” with the purpose in mind of informing the Italian public that it is free trade, not aid, that benefits the poorest of the world. Milan’s Palazzo delle Stelline was the venue of the conference. Panel participants included Thompson Ayodele, Director of the **Institute for Public Policy Analysis** (Nigeria); Father Piero Gheddo, a Catholic missionary with the PIME (Pontificio Istituto Missioni Estere); political philosopher Professor Carlo Lottieri, IBL Head of Academic Affairs; Ugnius Trumpa, President of the Lithuanian Free Market Institute of Vilnius. The widow of Bruno Leoni, Silvana Leoni, and his daughter, Didi Leoni, also attended the conference.

Begovic on “Corruption in the Serbian Judiciary”

The **Center for International Private Enterprise** (Washington, DC) and Atlas sponsored a lunch talk on “Corruption in the Serbian Judiciary,” featuring Boris Begovic of the **Center for Liberal-Democratic Studies**, on May 5th, 2004 in Washington, D.C. Currently, CLDS is conducting a survey and in-depth interviews on the judicial experience of both litigants and court officials in Serbia. These results provide information on the extent of corruption in the Serbian judiciary as well as the specific mechanisms of that corruption. They also provide a solid ground for formulating effective policies aimed at combating corruption in the Serbian judiciary. An audio recording on the talk and the power point presentation are available through the CIPE website.

Public Policy Analyst Position Available at the Pacific Research Institute

The Pacific Research Institute (California) seeks a Public Policy Analyst for Business and Economic Issues. The candidate must have excellent research and interpersonal communication skills; the ability to work under the Director of Business and Economic Issues as part of a team; knowledge of public policy issues and economics; and, a strong commitment to limited government. Previous work in public policy is a plus. A BA required; Master’s degree in Economics, Public Policy or a related field preferred. This is a research-intensive position with an emphasis on California issues. Duties will include: writing studies and op-eds; speaking with print, radio and television reporters; addressing civic groups and donors; meeting with legislators; some administrative responsibilities. Interested candidates should submit a resume and writing samples to: Lawrence J. McQuillan, Director of Business and Economic Studies, ATTN: Public Policy Analyst Position – B & E, Pacific Research Institute, 755 Sansome Street, Suite 450, San Francisco, CA. 94111. Fax: (415) 989-2411. E-mail: lmcquillan@pacificresearch.org.

Economic Freedom of the World 2004 – Call for Papers

If you have a paper that you would like to present at the Economic Freedom of the World Conference (Oct.19-20) that focuses on Sub-Sahara Africa either directly or through situations elsewhere that contain parallels for Africa, please contact Amela Karabegovic of the Fraser Institute (Canada): e-mail:amelak@fraserinstitute.ca; tel.:(604)688-0221 Ext.563. The submission deadline is July 31, 2004. The conference will be held in Cape Town, South Africa.

School Libraries in Iraq in Need of Books and other Materials on Free Market Ideas

The Atlas Economic Research Foundation invites think tanks and public policy institutes within the freedom network to donate books and other publications on market ideas to school libraries in Iraq. Since we’re in the business of promoting ideas, what better way to spread the principles and virtues of free-market capitalism! Omar Altalib, a friend of Atlas, is organizing the project. Below is his contact information: Omar H. Altalib Education Specialist Advisory Office to the Ministry of Education Baghdad, Iraq Cell Phone: (914) 822-4845 altalibo@orha.centcom.mil Mailing address: CPA - Ministry of Education APO, AE 09316 USA

Cato Institute Seeks Director of Foundation Relations

The Cato Institute seeks an experienced fundraising professional to manage its relationships with charitable foundations. The ideal candidate will share the Institute’s commitment to individual liberty, free markets & limited government and have at least five years experience in nonprofit fundraising or equivalent business experience. Candidates must possess excellent interpersonal, oral and written communications skills. Those with a solid knowledge of foundation fundraising and grant writing will receive preference. Travel is required. Salary will be dependent on experience and skills. For more information, please contact Ray Dorman Vice President for Development Cato Institute 1000 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001 RayDorman@Cato.org Please – no calls.

Directory

Below are names and Web addresses (where applicable) of institutes mentioned in this quarter's *Highlights*. Visit the Freedom Directory at www.atlasUSA.org for more details on the larger network of market-oriented think tanks with which Atlas works.

Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty

(www.acton.org)

Alternate Solutions Institute (www.asinstitute.org)

Association for Liberal Thinking (www.liberal-dt.org.tr)

Association for Private Enterprise Education

Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (www.aims.ca)

Cato Institute (www.cato.org)

CEDICE (www.cedice.org.ve)

Center for International Private Enterprise (www.cipe.org)

Center for Liberal-Democratic Studies (www.clds.org.yu)

Centre for Civil Society (www.ccsindia.org)

Centro de Investigaciones Económicas Nacionales

(www.cien.org.gt)

Centro Interdisciplinar de Ética e Economia Personalista

(www.ciepp.org.br)

Circulo de Empresarios (www.circulodeempresarios.org)

Civitas: Institute for the Study of Civil Society

(www.civitas.org.uk)

Competitive Enterprise Institute (www.cei.org)

F. A. Hayek Foundation – Slovakia (www.hayek.sk)

Foundation for Economic Freedom

Free Market Foundation (www.freemarketfoundation.com)

Friedrich Naumann Foundation (www.fnstusa.org)

Fundação Irmão José Otão

Fundación Libertad – Argentina (www.libertad.org.ar)

Fundación Libertad – Panamá (www.fundacionlibertad.org.pa)

INLAP (www.inlap.org)

Institut Économique de Montréal (www.iedm.org)

Institute for Economic Studies – Europe

Institute for Humane Studies (www.theihs.org)

Institute for Public Policy Analysis (www.ippanigeria.org)

Institute for World Politics (www.iwp.edu)

Instituto de Ciencia Política (<http://fcs1.fcs.edu.uy/icp/>)

Instituto Cultural Ludwig von Mises (www.icumi.org.mx)

Instituto Desarrollo y Libertad (www.inteligenciaeconomica.com)

Instituto Libertad y Democracia (www.ild.org.pe)

Instituto Liberdade (www.il-rs.com.br)

Inter Region Economic Network (www.iren.org)

International Freedom Education Foundation

Istituto Bruno Leoni (www.brunoleoni.it)

Liberales Institut (www.libinst.ch)

Libertad y Desarrollo (www.lyd.com)

Liberty Center – Mongolia

Liberty Institute (www.libertyindia.org)

Lion Rock Institute

Lithuanian Free Market Institute (www.freema.org)

Mackinac Center for Public Policy (www.mackinac.org)

Mercatus Center (www.mercatus.org)

Minimal Government (www.minimalgovernment.org)

Mont Pelerin Society (www.montpelerin.org)

Nassau Institute (www.nassauinstitute.org)

National Center for Policy Analysis (www.ncpa.org)

Núcleo de Estudos Visconde de Mauá

Pacific Research Institute (www.pacificresearch.org)

Pan American Development Foundation (www.pdf.org)

Property and Environment Research Center (www.perc.org)

State Policy Network (www.spn.org)

Stockholm Network (www.stockholm-network.org)

The Fraser Institute (www.fraserinstitute.ca)

The Heritage Foundation (www.heritage.org)

The Philadelphia Society (www.townhall.com/phillysoc)

The Sutherland Institute (www.sutherlandinstitute.org)

Verdad Colombia (www.verdadcolombia.org)

Calendar

This is a sample of the event listings available on the Freedom Calendar on the Atlas Web site (www.atlasUSA.org).

The Slovak Seminar on the Free Society: **4th Annual Summer Institute**

June 25-July 4, 2004

Bratislava and Spiss, Slovak Republic

Atlas, FIL: Europe-America: **Challenges for the 21st Century**

June 30, 2004

Madrid, Spain

Accuracy in Academia: **Conservative University 2004**

July 16-17, 2004

Washington, DC, USA

ISIL: **World Conference**

July 21-26, 2004

Rotorua, New Zealand

Unión de la Juventud Bolivia: **Bolivia in XXI Century**

August 5, 2004

New York, NY

Atlas, Sutherland, IFEF: **Communicating the Ideal of Liberty**

August 13-14, 2004

Salt Lake City, UT, USA

Mont Pelerin Society: **2004 General Meeting**

August 14-19, 2004

Salt Lake City, UT, USA

The Progress & Freedom Foundation: **The Aspen Summit**

August 22-24, 2004

Aspen, CO, USA