



Citizens for  
Global Solutions

# CONGRESSIONAL Candidate Questionnaire

# 2012

## Citizens for Global Solutions Political Action Committee

Please return the signed Questionnaire Response Form via fax, mail to the address listed below, or fill out online at [www.globalsolutions.org/pac](http://www.globalsolutions.org/pac).

In today's interconnected world, no country can effectively pursue its interests without the support and cooperation of others. From the environment to genocide to nuclear proliferation, challenges we face today require all nations to work together. The United States has a strong bipartisan tradition of working with other countries and institutions to address the world's most pressing issues multilaterally. Working with others is in America's self-interest.

**Citizens for Global Solutions** believes that international cooperation is essential to build a safer, more secure world. This requires global institutions that uphold the rule of law and respect the diversity and autonomy of nations and local communities.

**Citizens for Global Solutions** is a membership organization that strategically promotes U.S. engagement with international organizations to solve global problems. The organization educates Americans about our global interdependence; communicates global concerns to public officials; and develops proposals to create, reform and strengthen international institutions such as the United Nations.

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# Citizens for Global Solutions

## 2012 Congressional Candidate Questionnaire Response Form

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Prepared By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Manager: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State/District: \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read the attached 2012 Candidate Questionnaire Background Information.  
(Note: Candidate must sign below)**

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please Print)*

Candidate Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete, print, sign and return this form via fax or mail to the below address.**

**Write additional comments in the boxes provided**

**OR**

**Fill out our online candidate questionnaire at [www.globalsolutions.org/PAC](http://www.globalsolutions.org/PAC).**

Thank you for your interest in Citizens for Global Solutions and your commitment to responsible U.S. global leadership. The questions below will help voters and Global Solutions PAC better understand your views and policy interests. We appreciate your timely and thoughtful response. Click on headers for background information (available on Page 6). If you have questions or need more information, please contact Melissa Kaplan, Deputy Director of Government Relations, at 202-546-3950, ext 105. You can complete the 2012 Congressional Questionnaire online at [www.globalsolutions.org/pac](http://www.globalsolutions.org/pac) or you can fill out the attached form and fax or mail the signed questionnaire to the address below:

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## Senate and House Candidate Questions

### THE U.S. ROLE IN THE WORLD

1. *What role do you believe the U.S. should play in the world today?*

2. *Under what circumstances would you authorize the President to take military action?*

### GENOCIDE PREVENTION

3. *Will you support legislation directing the U.S. government to develop a comprehensive plan for prevention of genocides and atrocities around the globe?*

Yes     No

### PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS FROM MASS ATROCITIES

4. *Will you support efforts of the U.S. government to protect civilians in situations where their own countries are either unable to do so or are deliberately subjecting their own civilians to genocide or crimes against humanity, working within international law and through the U.N. system and the U.N. Security Council?*

Yes     No

5. *Will you support the call for the U.S. and other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to voluntarily refrain from the use or threat of a veto regarding situations involving ongoing genocide, crimes against humanity, or war crimes?*

Yes     No

**THE UNITED NATIONS: U.S. LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

6. *Do you support the full and timely payment by the U.S. of its funding obligations to the U.N. and the U.N. special fund for peacekeeping operations?*

Yes     No

7. *Will you support providing the necessary personnel, logistical support, and equipment to U.N. peacekeeping missions when the U.S. government supports such action through the U.N. Security Council?*

Yes     No

**INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS: THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

8. *Will you support continued U.S. engagement with the U.N. Human Rights Council?*

Yes     No

**RULE OF LAW AND JUSTICE: THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**

9. *Will you support greater U.S. cooperation with the International Criminal Court (ICC) in situations where it is in the U.S. interest to bring to justice perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity?*

Yes     No

10. *Will you support the continued U.S. participation as an observer in the ICC's governing body (known as the Assembly of States Parties)?*

Yes     No

11. Do you support Senate accession and U.S. ratification of the Rome Statute, which would make the U.S. a full state party to the ICC?

Yes     No

**DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE: SMALL INVESTMENT YIELDING LARGE RETURNS**

12. With very strong pressures to severely cut almost all budgets except defense, foreign assistance is often one of the first things targeted for reductions. Do you support protecting international assistance from disproportionate cuts compared to other portions of the U.S. budget as an investment in future security and prosperity?

Yes     No

**Senate Candidate Questions (optional for House candidates)**

**NUCLEAR WEAPONS: COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY**

13. Do you support Senate accession and U.S. ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)?

Yes     No

**U.N. CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA: PRO-U.S. MILITARY, AMERICAN BUSINESS AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT**

14. Will you support Senate accession and U.S. ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)?

Yes     No

**HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN GLOBALLY: THE TREATY FOR THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN**

15. Will you support Senate accession and U.S. ratification of the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), also known as the Treaty for the Rights of Women?

Yes       No

**General Questions: Senate and House Candidates**

16. Have you made public statements, written articles or taken formal positions on any of the issues covered in this questionnaire or on any other foreign policy, national security, or military intelligence issues? If so, please attach or provide reference.

Yes       No

17. If offered, would you accept the endorsement of Citizens for Global Solutions for election?

Yes       No

18. If offered, would you accept a contribution from Global Solutions PAC?

Yes       No

# Citizens for Global Solutions - Political Action Committee

## 2012 Congressional Candidate Questionnaire Background Information

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Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire and return your responses so that your views and policy perspectives can be shared publicly with voters. The 2012 Congressional Candidate Questionnaire includes questions on the following topic areas:

- THE U.S. ROLE IN THE WORLD
- GENOCIDE PREVENTION
- PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS FROM MASS ATROCITIES
- THE UNITED NATIONS: U.S. LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS
- INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS: THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL
- RULE OF LAW AND JUSTICE: THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
- DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE: SMALL INVESTMENT YIELDING LARGE RETURNS
- NUCLEAR WEAPONS: COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY
- U.N. CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA: PRO-U.S. MILITARY, AMERICAN BUSINESS AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT
- HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN GLOBALLY: THE TREATY FOR THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

## Senate and House Candidates

### THE U.S. ROLE IN THE WORLD

In today's interconnected world, no country can effectively pursue its interests without the support and cooperation of others. From the environment to genocide to nuclear proliferation, the global problems we face today require all nations to work together.

The United States has a strong bipartisan tradition of working with other countries and institutions to address the world's most pressing problems multilaterally. Working with others to solve global problems is in America's self-interest. A 2009 World Public Opinion poll demonstrated that over 61% of those Americans polled support a collaborative approach in world affairs. This follows a 2006 Knowles poll where 75% of Americans agreed "the U.S. should do its share in efforts to solve international problems together with other countries." Congress has a role to play in fostering international cooperation in all matters of national security, economics, human rights, and other global issues.

### GENOCIDE PREVENTION

Over the past two decades, atrocities in Rwanda, Yugoslavia, and Darfur have brought renewed focus on genocide—the planned, organized, and intentional killing of certain civilian groups. The death toll during the last century from genocide was very high. During the Holocaust, approximately 6 million Jews and others were exterminated; in Cambodia, between 1.7 and 2 million people were killed over four years in the 1970s. In the 1990s up to 200,000 people were murdered in Bosnia and up to 1 million people were killed in just 100 days in Rwanda. Over the last several years, mass killings have occurred in Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Sri Lanka. Not enough has been done globally to prevent genocide.

In 2008, the Genocide Prevention Task Force, co-chaired by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen, issued a report entitled "Preventing Genocide: A Blueprint for U.S. Policymakers," that laid out recommendations for a comprehensive U.S. government plan to prevent genocides. Albright stated, "We believe that preventing genocide is possible, and that striving to do so is imperative both for our national interests and our leadership position in the world." In August 2011, President Obama issued a directive that calls for establishing an Atrocities Prevention Board to help formulate U.S. policy on genocide prevention.

Preventing genocide is entirely possible. U.S. leadership is critically important for the international community to make genocide prevention a priority and support consistent, preventative measures to protect innocent lives.

## PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS FROM MASS ATROCITIES

The 21st century has already been punctuated by genocide and crimes against humanity. The protection of civilians from widespread violence remains a challenge for international peacekeepers.

In 2005, all U.N. member states unanimously endorsed the concept of Responsibility to Protect (R2P), which states that the international community must respond when a country fails to protect its civilian population from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, or crimes against humanity. When any member of the U.N. Security Council uses its implicit or explicit veto power to prevent a response in cases of genocide or mass atrocities, that country is failing to live up to its endorsement of the Responsibility to Protect and delaying action on crucial humanitarian crises, including ongoing and imminent mass atrocities.

As a permanent member of the Security Council, the United States should set the example with the other four permanent members to undertake efforts to improve the effectiveness of the U.N. Security Council's response to mass atrocities. The 2008 Genocide Prevention Task Force chaired by former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen explicitly recommends that the United States and all permanent members of the U.N. Security Council refrain from use of their veto in situations where genocide or mass atrocities are threatening to occur. There are several actions that the U.N. Security Council can take to help prevent genocide or mass atrocities, such as authorizing economic, diplomatic, and military sanctions, as well as the use of military force to resolve disputes. The United States should implement the recommendations of the Genocide Prevention Task Force.

## UNITED NATIONS: U.S. LEADERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS

The U.S. helped establish the United Nations to prevent war and supported the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to protect all people. The United Nations stands as the one place where the entire world comes together to promote the rule of law, protect human rights, end poverty, meet the threat of global terrorism, and move toward a safer, more secure world. A 2011 Better World Campaign public opinion poll found that 85% of voters believe that the U.N. is an important organization in which the U.S. should maintain an active role, and 60% favor paying U.N. dues in full and on time.

Today, the United Nations plays a crucial role in the protection of civilians globally with 16 U.N. peacekeeping operations deployed in Africa, Europe/Eurasia, and the Middle East. The United Nations has fostered international cooperation and obliged nations to behave with increasing responsibility. The U.N. has made major strides in reducing the mortality rates for malaria and HIV/AIDS, provided over 1.6 billion people with potable drinking water, and increased access for children to primary education.

According to an independent report by the RAND Corporation, the U.N.'s peacekeeping and nation-building capacity is by far the most effective in the world. A General Accountability Office (GAO) study found that a U.N.-led peacekeeping mission is eight times more cost-effective than a similar U.S.-led mission. The U.S. alone cannot and should not bear all the costs of maintaining the world's peace and security.

In 2009, the U.S. signaled its commitment to paying U.N. dues on time by paying the majority of the arrears. Now that we have finally paid our back dues, it is still vitally important that the U.S. continue to pay its dues on time so that it can continue to promote American interests through engagement with the U.N. Furthermore, Congress should not place conditions on payment of dues to the U.N. If the U.S. imposes such conditions, it sets a poor precedent that could lead other countries to decide to do the same, thus undermining the U.N.'s payment structure and operations. Congress must pass legislation annually that pays U.N. dues, on a timely basis, without caps and conditions.

Additionally, although the U.S. has agreed to be assessed 27% of peacekeeping dues annually by the U.N., Congress has placed a 25% cap on U.S. peacekeeping contributions. Congress usually lifts this "peacekeeping cap," but it should be permanently eliminated.

## INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS: THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The U.N. Human Rights Council (HRC) was established in 2006 as an inter-governmental body composed of 47 member states that helps advocate for human rights throughout the world. Since becoming a member of the HRC in 2009, the United States has leveraged its HRC membership to help reform the body and become a leading voice on key human rights issues. The U.S. has encouraged countries with stronger human rights records to run for membership on the HRC and helped defeat the candidacies of countries with tainted human rights records (such as Iran).

By engaging with the HRC, the U.S. has exposed countries with dismal human rights records, such as North Korea, Syria, and the Sudan. The U.S. has also supported work by independent experts and Special Rapporteurs on human rights, including the Rapporteur focused on human rights violations in Burma. As a member of the HRC, the U.S. is working to accomplish many important goals including to help counter anti-Israel bias. The HRC is not a perfect body, but by having a seat at the table, the U.S. can strengthen the HRC from within and help advance human rights issues throughout the world.

## RULE OF LAW AND JUSTICE: THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

The promotion and protection of human rights and the prosecution of individuals who perpetrate the most heinous crimes form a cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy that is strongly supported by Americans. The International Criminal Court (ICC) was established to investigate and prosecute individuals who are accused of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. It is the only permanent international court capable of trying individuals accused of these crimes in the event that national courts are incapacitated, ineffective, or are unable or unwilling to ensure justice.

The ICC is playing an important role in bringing criminals to justice for committing mass atrocities in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Darfur/Sudan, the Central African Republic and Kenya. The ICC recently issued arrest warrants for Libya's Muammar Gaddafi and Sudan's Omar al-Bashir, citing evidence of crimes against humanity committed by these leaders. In addition to such cases, the ICC has helped countries like Afghanistan and Colombia to strengthen the rule of law and democratic governance within their own borders and put all parties – including government leaders, rebel groups, drug lords and warlords – on notice that the rule of law applies to everyone.

In a 2010 Chicago Council on Global Affairs Poll, approximately 70% of Americans stated that the United States should ratify the International Criminal Court treaty. Recently, the U.S. participated as an observer at the 2010 ICC Review Conference in Kampala, Uganda, where the United States along with 37 states parties, pledged to strengthen the Rome Statute (the treaty establishing the ICC). Participating in events like the review conferences gives the U.S. the ability to influence the ICC's development; advance core American values such as accountability, due process, and rule of law; and support efforts to bring to justice the world's worst criminals.

## DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE: SMALL INVESTMENT YIELDING LARGE RETURNS

Milestones in development can be achieved when impoverished countries and donor governments work together. Educational development assistance helped send an additional 34 million African children to school for the first time between 1999 and 2006. Increases in global health resources have helped almost three million HIV-positive people receive life-saving antiretroviral medicine and has delivered 70 million bed nets to protect families from malaria. Although the battle against HIV/AIDS continues, the United States program PEPFAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, has tested almost one million people for HIV/AIDS and has supported almost one million orphans throughout the world.

At the 2000 United Nations Millennium Summit, the United States and 188 other heads of state and governments committed to realize the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The MDGs seek to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and establish a global partnership for development. Echoing the American dream, the goals are designed to help people lift themselves out of poverty and become productive and valuable members of their communities.

In a world where poverty anywhere threatens prosperity everywhere, foreign assistance is a vital tool for translating our moral beliefs into practical actions, restoring the vision of the U.S. as not only a global leader but a global partner, and

realizing our long-term foreign policy goals. While polling has shown most Americans believe the amount of the federal budget spent on foreign aid is approximately 25%, and they believe that it should be about 10%, in reality the United States devotes less than 1% of its budget to development assistance. For Fiscal Year 2012, the President's budget requests \$1.125 billion for the Millennium Challenge Corporation. This critical funding will allow the U.S. to assist children in the poorest countries to access education, ensuring they can participate in the global marketplace; foster global food security through sustainable agriculture; expand goodwill and inspire service by increasing the size of the Peace Corps; and stabilize post-conflict states.

## **Senate Candidates (optional for House Candidates)**

### **NUCLEAR WEAPONS: THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY**

President Eisenhower sought a comprehensive test ban of all nuclear weapons. In 1963, President Kennedy made progress toward this goal by signing the Limited Test-Ban Treaty; however, efforts toward a more comprehensive test ban continued. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) would prohibit "any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion." The CTBT would help curb the spread of nuclear weapons, prevent nuclear arms competition, and establish a global monitoring network that includes on-site inspections to improve capabilities to detect and deter cheating.

Reflecting the grave importance of limiting nuclear testing, the United States was the first nation to sign the CTBT after it was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in September 1996. But the U.S. Senate has not yet ratified CTBT. In order for the treaty to go into effect, 44 countries operating nuclear reactors need to ratify it. U.S. ratification could help persuade the last remaining countries to ratify this vital treaty. To date, the CTBT has been ratified by 154 nations, including Canada, Australia, Russia, China, Great Britain, and France. In December 2010, the U.S. signaled its commitment to nuclear weapons reduction when the Senate ratified the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START). It is important to build off of this momentum and ratify CTBT.

### **U.N. CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA: PRO-U.S. MILITARY, AMERICAN BUSINESS, GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT**

The U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is a set of rules for the use of the world's oceans, which cover 70% of the earth's surface. Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama have urged Senate action to ratify UNCLOS. There is widespread support for UNCLOS from diverse organizations including the American Petroleum Institute, the World Wildlife Fund, AT&T, PEW Environmental Group, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Already 162 countries have ratified UNCLOS. U.S. ratification will strengthen global support for maritime laws and protection of the planet and all people.

UNCLOS benefits the American military, American business, and the global environment. The U.S. military is a strong advocate of UNCLOS because the treaty will protect its ability to navigate on and fly freely over the oceans. In the absence of the treaty, the U.S. relies on customary law that can change as the practices of nations change. UNCLOS will protect the claims of U.S. business firms to mineral resources in the oceans and give the U.S. an opportunity to provide better management for the sensitive Arctic environment adjacent to U.S. boundaries. The treaty protects offshore fishing, deep-sea mining and navigation, while conserving the ocean's resources for future generations and providing special measures to save endangered whales, salmon, and other marine animals.

UNCLOS provides the framework for nations to address concerns and disputes, and it strengthens state sovereignty over the enforcement of resource management and environmental regulations in each state's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) up to 200 miles offshore. The United States would be the single largest beneficiary of UNCLOS because it has the largest EEZ in the world.

The United States has a lot at stake. The U.S. is one of five Arctic Coastal States and has important economic interests in the region. In recent years, the Arctic icecap has been melting at a more rapid rate; this phenomenon has enabled there to be more commercial traffic along these emerging waterways, which in turn is causing even greater degradation of the region's delicate eco-system. As commercial use of the Arctic waterways increases, the U.S. has more to gain from UNCLOS through enforcement of the EEZ that extends from the U.S. borders. UNCLOS will help protect U.S. interests in terms of managing traffic along the Arctic waterways, defending claims to the resources found within the EEZ zone, and enforcing environmental protections in the region.

There are additional benefits to be gained from U.S. ratification of UNCLOS. For example, China is pushing to dominate access to the South China Sea. One-third of the world's shipping travels through its waters, and it is believed to hold huge oil and gas reserves beneath its seabed. However, without the legal framework provided by UNCLOS, the U.S. is at a disadvantage to address unreasonable claims on marine territory. China also has a major stake in the race for rare-earth minerals, used in hybrid automobiles and mobile phones, and supplies about 95% of the world market. Researchers have recently discovered high concentrations of rare-earth elements in the Pacific Ocean. Extraction of these resources would be regulated by UNCLOS's International Seabed Authority (ISA). If the U.S. joins the treaty, it would have a veto-wielding seat at the ISA's executive committee. If the U.S. does not ratify UNCLOS, American businesses may be hard pressed to compete for these resources.

Since 1983, the U.S. has been in voluntary compliance with the UNCLOS treaty, and thus, accession would not result in any changes to current U.S. domestic or foreign policy. Ratification of UNCLOS would provide the U.S. government, the U.S. military, American businesses, and environmental protection advocates important safeguards and leverage to protect U.S. interests.

## HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN GLOBALLY: THE TREATY FOR THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is a landmark agreement for protecting and promoting women's human rights. While 187 nations have ratified CEDAW, the United States is one of only six countries that have failed to do so, including Sudan, Somalia, Iran, and two small Pacific Island nations. Ratification of this treaty would continue America's proud bipartisan tradition of promoting and protecting human rights.

Every day women around the world are denied equal access to human rights, including education, political participation, and the right to be free from violence. CEDAW has broad support from over 200 U.S.-based advocacy organizations, including the AARP, the American Bar Association, the YWCA, and The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights. Ratifying CEDAW strengthens the U.S. as a global leader in standing up for women and girls around the globe.