The International Affairs Fellowship Program is designed to advance the professional development of outstanding Americans between the ages of 27 and 35. The fellowships seek to bridge the gap between thought and action in foreign policy by supporting both a variety of policy studies and active exposure to policymaking. The distinctive character of the program lies in the contrasting experiences it provides at the juncture of policy research and policy formulation. Thus, it encourages academics and others from the private sector to serve in a policy-oriented environment through operational experience in public service. Conversely, it permits government officials on leave to study key issues in a scholarly atmosphere free from operational pressure. These fellows are posted to various institutions for up to one year.

The International Affairs Fellowship in Japan, sponsored by Hitachi, Ltd., enables participants to expand their intellectual and professional horizons by working and living in Japan. Fellowships are intended for American citizens between the ages of 27 and 45. The program seeks to cultivate American understanding of Japan and to strengthen communication between emerging leaders of the two nations.

The Council organizes an annual conference in New York featuring the current class of fellows.

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Thomas J. Bollyky, Debevoise & Plimpton LLP. Placed in Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, Asia-Pacific and Pharmaceutical Policy Division.


Mala N. Htun,* New School for Social Research. Placed in University of Tokyo, Institute of Social Science.

Frank Jannuzi,* Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. Placed in Keio University and Institute for International Policy Studies.


Nita Rudra, Graduate School of International and Public Affairs, University of Pittsburgh. Placed in World Bank, Social Policy Program, Social Development Department.


Asako Maria Toyoda,* Villanova University. Placed in Japan Bank for International Cooperation.


* International Affairs Fellow in Japan, sponsored by Hitachi, Ltd.