



## **Announcing the 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize Shortlist:**

Five Books in Contention for Prestigious Global Book Prize

For Immediate Release: **March 9, 2021 (Toronto and Washington):** Sara Charney, Chair of the Lionel Gelber Prize Board, announces the shortlist for the 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize:

- ***Killer High: A History of War in Six Drugs*** by Peter Andreas
- ***Twilight of Democracy: The Seductive Lure of Authoritarianism*** by Anne Applebaum
- ***Trade Wars are Class Wars: How Rising Inequality Distorts the Global Economy and Threatens International Peace*** by Matthew C. Klein and Michael Pettis
- ***Isolationism: A History of America's Efforts to Shield Itself from the World*** by Charles A. Kupchan
- ***War: How Conflict Shaped Us*** by Margaret MacMillan

"These five books tell powerful stories about war, democracy, and inequality, three of the biggest challenges of our rapidly changing world. All deeply researched and argued, they signal that the world that we are going towards is very different than the world we left behind," said Sara Charney, Chair of the Lionel Gelber Prize Board.

This year's shortlist was selected by Jury Chair **Janice Gross Stein** (Toronto) in collaboration with Jurors **Cameron Abadi** (Berlin), **Her Excellency Mrs. Janice Charette** (London), **Francis J. Gavin** (Washington), and **Yascha Mounk** (Washington).

The winner of the 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize will be announced in mid-April and be celebrated during a virtual event, hosted by the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy and Foreign Policy magazine in early May.

**The Lionel Gelber Prize Podcast Series** will feature all five of this year's finalists in conversation with jury chair Janice Gross Stein. Listen to the full conversations on the [Gelber Prize website](https://www.gelberprize.org/) or via your audio streaming platform beginning on March 16, 2021.

The Lionel Gelber Prize, a literary award for the world's best non-fiction book in English on foreign affairs that seeks to deepen public debate on significant international issues, was founded in 1989 by Canadian diplomat Lionel Gelber. A cash prize of \$15,000 is awarded to the winner. The award is presented annually in partnership with the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy and Foreign Policy magazine.

For further information, please visit: [munkschool.utoronto.ca/gelber/](https://munkschool.utoronto.ca/gelber/)

To arrange an interview, please contact:

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## **Jury Comments, Author Biographies and Publisher Information**

***Killer High: A History of War in Six Drugs*** by **Peter Andreas**, published by Oxford University Press

**Jury Comment:** “War enables drugs and drugs enable war. Peter Andreas tells the symbiotic story of the intertwining of drugs and war throughout history. In a dramatic narrative that sweeps through history, he rewrites the history of war through the lens of tobacco, caffeine, opium, amphetamines and cocaine. Drug consumption sustained soldiers on the battlefield and war enabled the global supply chains for drugs. *Killer High* is a compelling read for students of military history who all too often see war as a strategic activity and miss its unintended consequences that linger long after the fighting is over.” —The 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize Jury



**Peter Andreas** is the John Hay Professor of International Studies at Brown University, where he holds a joint appointment between the Department of Political Science and the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs. Andreas has published ten books, including *Smuggler Nation: How Illicit Trade Made America*. He has also written for publications such as *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Guardian*, *Harper's*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *Slate*, *The New York Times*, and *The Washington*

*Post*. A graduate of Swarthmore College and Cornell University, he lives with his family in Providence, Rhode Island. (Photo: Rythum Vinoben)



***Twilight of Democracy: The Seductive Lure of Authoritarianism*** by **Anne Applebaum**, published by Signal / McClelland Stewart

**Jury Comment:** “In the 1980s, young activists across Central Europe fought for democracy. Today, some of these activists continue to fight for democracy, while others have become

authoritarian leaders or propagandists intent on destroying the institutions they once helped to build. In this engrossing meditation, Anne Applebaum paints an intimate portrait of those who have turned their back on democratic values. This is riveting, if scary, reading for anyone who wants to understand what is going on in countries from Poland to the United States.” —The 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize Jury

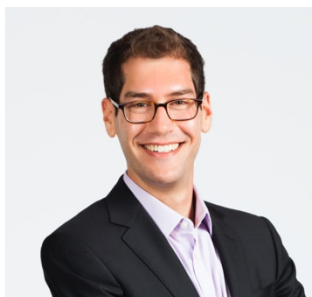


**Anne Applebaum's** 2018 *Atlantic* article “A Warning from Europe” inspired this book and was a finalist for a National Magazine Award. After seventeen years as a columnist at *The Washington Post*, Applebaum became a staff writer at *The Atlantic* in 2020. She is the author of three critically acclaimed and award-winning histories of the Soviet Union: *Iron Curtain*, *Red Famine*, winner of the Lionel Gelber Prize, and *Gulag*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize.

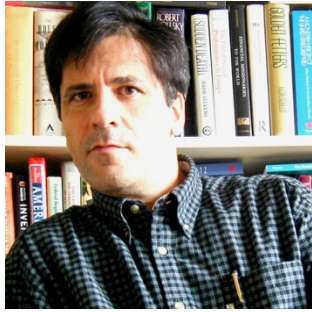


***Trade Wars are Class Wars: How Rising Inequality Distorts the Global Economy and Threatens International Peace*** by **Matthew C. Klein and Michael Pettis**, published by Yale University Press

**Jury Comment:** “Matthew Klein and Michael Pettis tell the gripping story of how economic policies have generated inequality both within and between states and created global tensions and political polarization. *Trade Wars are Class Wars* combines political and economic analysis with sharp history to argue that domestic policies that advantage the rich at the expense of workers produce not only strife at home but also deepen international rivalries. This book speaks powerfully and directly to one of the biggest challenges of our times.” —The 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize Jury



**Matthew Klein** is the economics commentator at *Barron's*; he previously wrote on economics and finance for the *Financial Times*' Alphaville blog and co-hosted the Alphachat podcast, and has worked for *Bloomberg View* and *The Economist*. His writings have also appeared in the *New York Times* and *The National Interest*. Before entering a career in journalism, Mr. Klein worked at the Council on Foreign Relations. He received his B.A. in History with distinction from Yale University in 2009.



**Michael Pettis** is a professor of finance at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management, and is a senior fellow for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He is the author of *The Great Rebalancing: Trade, Conflict, and the Perilous Road Ahead for the World Economy* (Princeton, 2013) and *The Volatility Machine: Emerging Economics and the Threat of Financial Collapse* (Oxford, 2001). He is also writes a widely read monthly column for the Carnegie Endowment on China's financial

markets.



***Isolationism: A History of America's Efforts to Shield Itself from the World*** by Charles A. Kupchan, published by Oxford University Press

**Jury Comment:** "The Trump administration's foreign policy was often recklessly conceived, poorly planned, and amateurish in execution. One thing it was not, however, was an aberration, as Charles Kupchan elegantly demonstrates. He tells an important story of the many ways that Americans have shown their inclination to avoid entanglement in global politics. The book's greatest distinction, however, is its clear-eyed crafting of a sustainable U.S. strategy that respects Americans' diffidence and idealism without sacrificing their commitment to international order." —The 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize Jury



**Charles A. Kupchan** is Professor of International Affairs in the School of Foreign Service and Government Department at Georgetown University, and Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. From 2014 to 2017, Kupchan served in the Obama administration as Special Assistant to the President on the National Security Council. He also served on the National Security Council during the Clinton administration. He is the author of *The End of the American Era* (Knopf), *How Enemies Become Friends* (Princeton), and *No One's World* (Oxford). (Photo: Kaveh Sardari)



***War: How Conflict Shaped Us*** by Margaret MacMillan, published by Allen Lane, an imprint of Penguin Canada

**Jury Comment:** "War! What is it good for? Margaret MacMillan offers a tour de force of how humanity has been shaped by warfare throughout history. She takes us on a journey that begins with early evidence of war found in a skeleton from 3300 BC to modern times. MacMillan weaves in the work of philosophers, artists and poets who have been shaped by

and shape our understanding of war. War is not only a struggle for power or resources, but also a powerful engine for innovation and progress. A must read for anyone who wants to understand the many ways that war has shaped us over time.” —The 2021 Lionel Gelber Prize Jury



**Margaret MacMillan** received her PhD from Oxford University and is now a professor of international history at Oxford, where she is also the warden of St. Antony’s College. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature; a distinguished fellow of the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto; a senior fellow of Massey College, University of Toronto; and an honorary fellow of Trinity College, University of Toronto, and of St. Hilda’s College, Oxford University. Her published works

include *The War That Ended Peace: The Road to 1914*, a *New York Times* Notable Book; *Dangerous Games: The Uses and Abuses of History*; *Nixon and Mao: The Week That Changed the World*; *Women of the Raj: The Mothers, Wives, and Daughters of the British Empire in India*; and *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World*, which won the Samuel Johnson Prize, the PEN Hessel-Tiltman Prize, and the Duff Cooper Prize and was a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice.

