

For Immediate Release:

Lionel Gelber Prize Announces Its Shortlist

The World's Top Five Books on International Affairs Released Today

February 13, 2012 (Toronto and Washington) Sara Charney, chair of the Lionel Gelber Prize Board, today announced the shortlist for the 2012 Lionel Gelber Prize.

The shortlisted books are:

- [*A World on Fire: Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War*](#) by Amanda Foreman, published by Random House
- [*Berlin 1961: Kennedy, Khrushchev, and the Most Dangerous Place on Earth*](#) by Frederick Kempe, published by G. P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin Group (U.S.A.)
- [*Deng Xiaoping and the Transformation of China*](#) by Ezra F. Vogel, published by Belknap Press/Harvard University Press
- [*George F. Kennan: An American Life*](#) by John Lewis Gaddis, published by The Penguin Press/Penguin Group (U.S.A.)
- [*On China*](#) by Henry Kissinger, published by The Penguin Press/Penguin Group (U.S.A.)

The five-person prize jury selected their shortlist from their previously-announced [longlist](#) of ten titles, all of which were written in English and published in 2011.

Jury Chair George Russell remarked: “The essence of international relations is how we deal with the changing realities of power: often, the rise and fall of nations and state systems. This year’s extraordinarily strong list of Lionel Gelber Prize finalists deals with this fundamental issue around the globe and throughout modern history. Taken together, the books, by an extremely gifted and knowledgeable group of authors, almost amount to a post-doctoral course on the topic at the center of the Prize.”

About the Lionel Gelber Prize: The Lionel Gelber Prize is 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. It was founded in 1989 in the memory of Canadian diplomat Lionel Gelber (1907 – 1989). A prize of \$15,000 is awarded to the winner. The award is presented annually by the Lionel Gelber Foundation, in partnership with *Foreign Policy* magazine and the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto.

Key Dates: The winner of the 2012 Lionel Gelber Prize will be announced via press release on Monday, February 27. The winner will receive their award and deliver the annual Lionel Gelber Prize free public lecture on Thursday, March 15, 2012, at The Vivian and David Campbell Conference Facility, at the Munk School of Global Affairs in Toronto, Canada.

About the Prize Jury:

George Russell, Jury Chair, is the executive editor of Fox News, the U.S. cable news network. He was formerly the president and editor of *Time* magazine in Canada. He is the co-author of *Eyewitness: 150 Years of Photo-journalism*.

Gaynor Lilian Johnson Ph.D., is currently Reader in International History and Member of the University of Salford's European Security Research Centre. A specialist in the history of the British Foreign Office, she is a member of the editorial board of *Diplomacy and Statecraft* and book reviews editor of *The International History Review*.

Daniel Paul Henninger is deputy editor of *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial page. His column, "Wonder Land," appears in the Journal and on *OpinionJournal.com* each Thursday. Mr. Henninger shared in *The Wall Street Journal's* 2002 Pulitzer Prize for the paper's coverage of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. He was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in editorial writing in 1996 and 1987 and won the Gerald Loeb Award for commentary in 1985.

Russell Roberts is a professor of economics at George Mason University and a research fellow at the Hoover Institution. He has written three novels that teach economic ideas for people who are not economists, including *The Price of Everything: A Parable of Possibility and Prosperity*. He has also collaborated on two rap videos starring John Maynard Keynes and F. A. Hayek to teach economics to high school and college students, and hosts the award-winning weekly podcast *EconTalk*.

William Thorsell is currently Associate Senior Fellow, Massey College, University of Toronto, and Distinguished Visiting Fellow, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto. After more than 10 years as editor-in-chief of *The Globe and Mail* in Toronto, Mr. Thorsell was appointed Director and CEO of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto in August, 2000. He was invested into the Order of Ontario in January 2008 and also invested as Chevalier, Order of Arts and Letters, in France in 2010.

Author Interviews Online: Robert Steiner, director of the Fellowships in Global Journalism at the Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, has conducted separate interviews with each of the shortlisted and longlisted authors for the 2012 Lionel Gelber Prize. Click [here](#) to access those conversations.

Media Enquiries:

June Dickenson: (647) 477-6000 / junedickenson@cogeco.ca
Elana Rabinovitch: (416) 275-5418 / elana@propagandaink.ca

www.utoronto.ca/munk/gelber/
www.twitter.com/gelberprize
www.facebook.com/gelberprize