

***Tucson***  
***Committee on Foreign Relations***  
*(An Independent Committee)*

**MEETING NOTICE**

A TCFR event is scheduled for:

Thursday, September 18, 2014  
Skyline Country Club, 5200 E. St. Andrew's Dr., Tucson

Social Hour: 5:30

Dinner: 6:15

Speaker and Discussion: 7:00

**Dr. Thomas Volgy**  
will address the question:

**The Future of American Power and Status:  
Are We a Nation in Decline?**

Twenty-three years after the Cold War the United States, as the last super power standing, confronts a major debate about its role in the world. The fear of “declinism” has become a major theme in our political discourse. Can or should America play the role of global stabilizer? How do we decide our national interests at a time of convulsive, transitional changes around the globe and after more than a decade of war and economic weakness at home?

Is America really in decline or are other centers of power, including allies, more assertive of their own national interests in a messy, multipolar, globalized world? By any measure, the U.S. is still the world's most powerful nation. Status may indeed be in decline, but is that because the world expects too much of us? Can or should the United States continue to assert itself in the roles of global policeman, banker, and defender of human rights? Are we overextended? Does nation building begin at home?

Our guide through this complex debate will be Dr. Thomas Volgy. He is professor of Political Science at the University of Arizona <http://www.arizona.edu/>, specializing in international politics, democratic processes, and domestic public policy. Dr. Volgy is also the executive director of the International Studies Association <http://www.isanet.org/>, the largest association of its kind

focusing on international politics. He served in public office from 1977 through 1991 as a member of the Tucson city council, and then as Mayor of Tucson.

After leaving public office, Volgy has been actively involved through the U.S. government with the training of government officials overseas in the areas of democratic political development and public policy. He also served as a member of the U.S. State Department delegation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) <http://www.osce.org/> conference in Prague, and has lectured on international politics and transatlantic relations for the State Department in Europe.

He has published dozens of articles in professional journals, and is the author and/or co-author of several books on international politics. He has also been honored by the University of Arizona with awards for teaching and distinguished public service.

## **Reservation and Dinner Arrangements**

**Reservations must be confirmed and paid for by September 15, we can make NO exceptions. Payment CANNOT be made at the table the evening of the event.**

**You may make your reservation as described below:**

- Visit <http://TCFR.org> or <http://www.tcfr.weebly.com>. Click on Events / September 18 and then click on "Click Here to Register" (lower-right corner).
  - You can make payment by PayPal, credit card or check.
  - If paying by check, make it to TCFR and send to our Secretary, Jack Binns, 4240 N. Larrea Ln., Tucson, AZ 85750.

Remember, payment and/or the check **MUST BE RECEIVED** at least 72 hours before event date. Note your meal choices on-line or if paying by check, on the green reservation card and return it in the enclosed envelope with a check payable to TCFR at \$37 per person.

### **MEAL CHOICES (\$37/person)**

Sole Provençal  
Filet Mignon  
Vegetable Moussaka

**Feedback and Questions:** Your Board of Directors invites feedback from members concerning speakers, meetings or other matters related to the Committee. Please pass your views to one of your Board members.