

ATLAS

ECONOMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

2009

YEAR IN REVIEW



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20 YEARS LATER, MORE WALLS TO TEAR DOWN

Two decades after one of the most liberating years in world history, there are still walls that silence people, walls that oppress, walls that threaten, walls that divide and discriminate – barriers erected

by governments to limit or steal each human being's right to life, liberty and property. When, in 1989, the spirit of peaceful revolution for the cause of freedom blanketed the world, courageous people filled town squares and said no to state control. They were demonstrating for the freedom to speak, travel, exchange goods, hold on to their earnings, and make their own decisions. Today, we must revive the spirit of these brave freedom-fighters – here in the U.S. where a soft socialism threatens to suffocate our prosperity and liberty, and in many countries worldwide that seem to have forgotten – or never experienced – the blessings of liberty.

For this purpose, the Atlas Economic Research Foundation develops and nurtures think tanks that can play a constructive role in the long-term public debate. Atlas is a catalyst to their success, by providing training and resources, and by providing a connection to a dynamic network of think tanks and talented individuals devoted to individual liberty.

The following pages of this Year in Review will highlight the exciting and ambitious efforts of some of the most effective intellectual entrepreneurs that have been supported by Atlas. You will also read about the innovative programs housed at Atlas which are creating a larger, more effective movement dedicated to America's founding principles of individual liberty, free markets, and rule of law.



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The Atlas Economic Research Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 that works with think tanks and individuals around the world to advance a vision of a society of free and responsible individuals, based upon private property rights, limited government under the rule of law and the market order.



Atlas vice president and director of the Atlas Global Initiative, Tom Palmer, introduces platforms for spreading classical liberal ideas in over 14 languages.



Anthony Livianos (Hellenic Leadership Institute, Greece) and Atlas vice president Jo Kwong discuss liberty in Egypt at the Atlas Club Briefing before the 2008 Freedom Dinner.



Atlas president Alex Chafuen (center) with Hiroshi Yoshida (right) and Masaru Uchiyama (left) of Japanese for Tax Reform, winner of the 2008 Templeton Freedom Award for Social Entrepreneurship.

For more than 15 years Atlas has supported my institute both financially and with priceless advice in promoting the ideas of freedom through think tanks. I remember very strongly when in 1997 Atlas helped me to organize a free market conference in Athens, Greece. That was a crucial year because seven years later, in 2004, political leadership that attended that two-day conference won the national elections and promoted the strongest free market policies since the 1970s. It also helped to create a new think tank culture among market oriented organizations in Greece. Thank you."

- ANTHONY LIVANIOS, HELLENIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

STANDING UP FOR THE IDEAS OF A FREE SOCIETY

At the end of the Cold War Francis Fukayama proclaimed an "end of history," yet it is clear that the battle of ideas continues, and that the future of individual liberty and free enterprise still requires eternal vigilance.

Big government has been on the march in 2009. Now more than ever, those who cherish freedom need to be engaged in the public debate, attract newcomers to the cause, and stand up for the ideas of a free society.

This is happening, and Atlas takes a great deal of pride in how much of this activity is driven by allies in the think tank network that has been cultivated over nearly three decades. As the next pages of this review explain, Atlas partners are having some of the most impact on the hottest policy topics (health care, energy) and most hostile countries (Zimbabwe, Venezuela).



Former Delaware Governor and Chairman of the National Center for Policy Research, Pete DuPont, on Capitol Hill promoting NCPA's "Free Our Health Care Now" campaign and petition, which received over 1.3 million signatures before it was presented to Congress.

“For too long, medical practitioners have ignored policy, but have been happy to complain when policy gets in the way of doing our jobs. The Benjamin Rush Society debates are just the sort of thing we need to get more involved in the policy debates that affect our careers, our patients, and our own lives.”

- James Scott, Dean of George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences and moderator of the GWU debate

FREEDOM OF CHOICE

The battle over healthcare policy is reaching new heights in the United States and at times it seems the principles of medical freedom are being ever-marginalized. Allies of Atlas are striving to make sure liberty's voice is heard among the din of misinformation and statist rhetoric. This includes established groups like the **National Center for Policy Analysis (USA)** (one of the first beneficiaries of Atlas support in the early 1980s), as well as new efforts such as the **Benjamin Rush Society**, a project incubated at the **Pacific Research Institute (USA)**. It aims to position medical schools the way the

Federalist Society has positioned U.S. law schools by holding debates between medical professionals and students at Columbia University, Harvard Medical School, George Washington School of Medicine, and others. Atlas senior fellow Deroy Murdock spoke at the BRS's October forum at Harvard, commenting: "We hope to find more Americans in medicine who share our views and deploy them – in their lab coats and with their stethoscopes – to advance medical innovation and limited-government, patient-centered health care reforms."

This spring, Atlas was able to connect two intellectual entrepreneurs devoting their careers to the cause of choice in medicine. Frequent public policy commentator for Chicago's **Heartland Institute**, Bart Madden, has been an Atlas supporter for years. Madden has been touring the nation this year introducing his proposal for an alternative track option within the FDA drug approval process, giving terminally ill patients the choice to take experimental drugs. After speaking on a panel at the 2009 Atlas Liberty Forum with Alphonse Crespo of **Medicine & Liberty** (Switzerland), the two are working to establish a center in Europe that will promote choice in medicine and create an environment where Madden's "Dual Tracking" can be adopted and serve as a model. They will not be alone. Already, efforts in Sweden by the think tank **Eudoxa**, led by fellow Liberty Forum panelist Waldemar Ingdahl, is working to promote access to unapproved drugs that has attracted the ear of over one hundred European health officials. The **Lithuanian Free Market Institute** has produced similar projects and the organization **Japanese for Tax Reform** has translated Madden's work.

ECONOMIC LIBERTY AND PROSPERITY

When President Obama began lauding Spain and its "green jobs" initiative as an example for the U.S. to emulate, the **Instituto Juan de Mariana** in Madrid found an opportunity.

It has authoritative research to present, and a charismatic actor-turned-Ph.D. economist in place as executive director to tout the results. Gabriel Calzada, who also serves as professor at Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, released a study in March of 2009 dispelling the myths about green jobs. IJM's *Study of the Effects on Employment of Public Aid to Renewable Energy Sources* found that for every one green job created by the Spanish government, 2.2 real jobs were lost in the private economy. The study also found that in the past decade, 9 out of every 10 green jobs created by Spanish government subsidies don't exist anymore. At 18% Spain now boasts one of the highest unemployment rates in the developed world.

While Obama toured the country promoting the Spanish model, Calzada was testifying to the House Energy and Commerce Committee on the real economic impact: higher residential electric bills, a burden on energy-intensive companies, and a slow economic recovery in Spain.

This summer, activists with the American Energy Alliance, buoyed by Calzada's findings, toured the U.S. determined to kill the Waxman-Markey energy bill that promises to deliver the same results as its Iberian counterpart. Coupled with Calzada's testimonies on the Hill this fall, liberty has representation.

Instituto Juan de Mariana is a 2009 Fisher Venture Grantee and was the winner of a 2008 Templeton Freedom Award for Special Achievement by a Young Institute.



Top: Gabriel Calzada (Instituto Juan de Mariana, Spain) testifying before the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming on September 24, 2009.

Bottom: Calzada (center) and his wife Karen and daughter Sara (left) joined by Mirsulzhan Namazaliev (Central Asia Free Market Institute, Kyrgyzstan) and Jamie Story (Grass-root Institute of Hawaii, USA) at The Atlas Experience in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada in August. Calzada gave a humorous presentation of his study's findings and the reaction of the global warming alarmists following its release.



Socialized property takes away what is yours. No to the Cuban Law: one of many campaign posters that appear in the subway stations, billboards, and newspapers in Venezuela to rally support for private property rights.



Atlas's Alex Chafuen congratulates Rafael Alfonso (left), chairman of CEDICE, as Mario Vargas Llosa applauds at CEDICE's 25th anniversary celebration.

CEDICE won Atlas's 2008 Freda Utley Prize for Advancing Liberty, a 2004 Templeton Freedom Award Grant for Institute Excellence, and a Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Award in 1992.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Long hailed as a voice of reason in Venezuela, **Centro de Divulgación del Conocimiento Económico** (CEDICE) bravely turned up the heat this year countering President Chávez's attempts to monopolize power and squash dissent. In March 2009, it launched a country-wide campaign against the government's take-over of private property using catch phrases like "No a la Ley Cubana" (No to the Cuban Law). Stark posters of naked Venezuelans (symbolizing the government's taking of everything but people's clothes) have appeared in subway stations, city walls and billboards, and in *El Nacional*, the country's most widely read daily. The message became so effective Chávez ordered criminal investigations and has banned the campaign.

In May, CEDICE's 25th anniversary celebration, co-sponsored by Atlas,

attracted over 800 participants and 100 international guests. Repeated verbal attacks and intimidation by the Chávez regime increased the turnout and created unprecedented media attention. Foreign think tanks, such as the **Cato Institute** in the U.S., and Mexican-based network, **RELIAL**, conducted back-to-back workshops in association with CEDICE. Just prior to the main event, Atlas organized a workshop, chaired by Alvaro Vargas Llosa of the U.S.-based **Independent Institute**, for editors of Latin American media outlets, many of which received Atlas's support to attend the conference.

The presence of high profile figures such as Peruvian author, Mario Vargas Llosa, former Bolivian president Jorge Quiroga, and think tank leader Cristián Larroulet of **Libertad y Desarrollo** in Chile added an important element of prestige and transparency, but also tension. Vargas Llosa and his son, the aforementioned Alvaro, were both detained at the airport and sternly told not to criticize the government.

Neither cooperated. Before hundreds of defiant liberals, the elder Vargas Llosa stated, "We don't want Venezuela to become a totalitarian communist state!" Following the event Chávez engaged Mario Vargas Llosa in a public tête-à-tête, using his state-controlled television as a mouthpiece to suggest the two should debate on air, to which the author enthusiastically accepted. How often does a dictator invite conversation over his policies? It was too good to be true however, Chávez quickly retracted his challenge.

TRANSPARENCY AND RULE OF LAW

In Croatia, insisting on the rule of law can be dangerous business. Natasha Srdoc, co-founder of the **Adriatic Institute** (Croatia), has spoken at Atlas events about the harassment and intimidation triggered by her work exposing corruption in her native Croatia. The government ordered an audit of the Institute to identify funding sources and activities. Other opposition journalists have mysteriously disappeared, or have wound up dead.

But Srdoc, officially an "enemy of the state," pressed on in 2009 writing and speaking about certain government official's penchant for money laundering, secret public-private contracts, embezzlement, and other kleptocratic tendencies. The work of the Adriatic Institute has had results. Prime Minister Ivo Sanader was pressured to resign as the extent of his abuse of power was exposed.

Since 2004, the Adriatic Institute has aimed to engage leaders and reach the general public with criticisms of the status quo by publishing a plethora of articles and regularly appearing on Croatia's broadcast media including a prime time television debate with the finance minister. The Institute further spotlighted Croatia's problems through international events, including Atlas programs, and briefings for elected officials in Europe and the U.S. This highly leveraged strategy augmented both external and internal pressures that directly contributed to Sanader's resignation in July of 2009, perhaps sparking Eastern Europe's new revolution.



Natasha Srdoc (Adriatic Institute, Croatia) works to tear down the remaining barriers to liberty in Croatia by exposing corrupt officials, promoting rule of law and open markets.

"The walls that remain in Croatia have destroyed the rule of law and dismantled the free society. The architects of the wall must be exposed for Croats to live free of fear and to rebuild our society."

- Natasha Srdoc, Adriatic Institute



FREE MARKET REFORM

In May, nine African think tanks in the Atlas network released *The Zimbabwe Papers: A Positive Agenda for Zimbabwean Renewal*, which proposes concrete policy measures to improve the dire conditions in that country.

The commissioners of *The Zimbabwe Papers* crafted a systematic approach to reform and released the papers to the media in early June. On June 9 *The Zimbabwe Papers* were presented to Morgan Tsvangirai, opposition

leader and Prime Minister in the power-sharing government, along with his top economic policy team and three of his cabinet ministers. The 79-page proposal sets out a comprehensive package for putting the derailed economy back on track. The commissioners stress the need for well-defined and legally secure transferrable rights to land, monetary reform, control of the state budget, and reduction of unemployment by easing barriers to entry to the labor market. Other key areas for reform include reduction of tariffs and other trade barriers (now among the world's highest), more efficient and accountable customs procedures, and cracking down on corruption.

The authors of these serious policy recommendations are committed allies and many are long-time beneficiaries of Atlas programs. The **IMANI Center for Policy & Education** in Ghana is a two-time winner of the Templeton Freedom Award. The Center also received a Fisher Venture Grant in 2008, and a grant to promote and distribute Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged* in 2007. IMANI and the Atlas Global Initiative are creators of *AfricanLiberty.org*, the continent's main online platform for writers who believe in peace, freedom, and prosperity. The site hosts content in English and Swahili, as well as access to material in French, Portuguese, and Arabic. Among the other commissioners of *The Papers*, Rejoice Ngwenya of the **Coalition for Market & Liberal Solutions** in Zimbabwe has been deeply involved in the Atlas network and an influential voice for human liberty in Africa. The **Law Review Project** and the **Free Market Foundation**, both of South Africa, have won Templeton Freedom Award first prizes for the Social Entrepreneurship and Solutions to Poverty categories, respectively. The Atlas Global Initiative works extensively with *The Papers'* commissioners to disseminate the ideas of classical liberalism and limited government to policymakers, students, and the general public throughout Africa.

The Papers have received significant ink and airtime in Africa and worldwide, appearing in the *Harare Tribune*, *Modern Ghana*, *Guardian Newspapers*, *CNBC Africa*, *Korea Times*, *Daily Times* (Malawi), *Financial24* (South Africa), *World News*, *BusinessDaily* (Kenya), *The Pioneer* (India), and others. They have also given intellectual ammunition to a campaign to boycott Nestlé Company over their association with First Lady Grace Mugabe's milk farm. *The Zimbabwe Papers* explain that freedom is a whole package, not merely an economic policy. They take an important step in making that message resonate with African leaders.



Top picture, left to right: Franklin Cudjoe (IMANI Center for Policy & Education, Ghana) and Mahamadou Sinte (Le Centre des Affaires Humaines, Burkina Faso), two commissioners of the *The Zimbabwe Papers*, with 2009 Think Tank MBA participant Adedayo Thomas (*AfricanLiberty.org*).

Bottom picture: Zimbabwean Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai took some time during his 2009 U.S. tour to read *The Zimbabwe Papers*, free market policy reform recommendations commissioned by nine African think tanks in the Atlas network.

“Zimbabwe has turned from Africa’s breadbasket into a basket case in less than a generation and we, as Africans, must recognize that the reason for this is the Government’s failed policies,”

- Temba Nolutshungu, *Free Market Foundation, South Africa*



TRAINING FUTURE LEADERS

Ezequiel Vázquez Ger (Instituto Acton, Argentina), Vanesa Colmegna (Fundación Iberoamérica Europa, Spain), Eleonora Coronel (Poder Judicial de la Nación, Argentina), Eduardo Cader-Pena (Asociación Democracia y Desarrollo, El Salvador).

The Atlas Think Tank MBA (TTMBA) is a two-week program that helps think tank leaders develop their strategic plans while getting a crash course in all aspects of running a think tank – including program planning and evaluation, fundraising, marketing, organizational structure, and financial management.

The Think Tank MBA program is not simply a seminar. Atlas senior fellow Rainer Heufers leads participants through interactive exercises and discussions, and then coaches them one-on-one as they develop business plans to prove their understanding of the concepts being taught. Participants learn from experts from the think tank network, such as fundraising and marketing gurus Bob Russell and Ann Fitzgerald, president of the **Foundation for Economic Education**, Lawrence Reed, **Acton Institute** executive director, Kris Mauren, and new media specialist from the **State Policy Network**, Nicole Williams.



Richard Durana of the Institute for Economic and Social Studies (Slovakia) and Atlas COO Brad Lips discuss business plans.



Greg Sindelar of the Texas Public Policy Foundation drafts notes on marketing strategy at the 2009 Think Tank MBA.



Left to right: Aman Mahrzai (Council on Afghan Relations, USA), Adedayo Thomas (AfricanLiberty.org), Atlas's Yiqiao Xu, Eduardo Cader (Asociación Democracia y Desarrollo, El Salvador), and Thobias Makoba (E-Fulusi Africa, Tanzania).

THINK TANK MBA CLASS OF 2009

- Michal Baran, Poland
- Jean Baugh, New Mexico
- Kofi Bentil, Ghana
- Steven Bowen, Maine
- Eduardo Cader, El Salvador
- Vanesa Colmegna, Spain
- Eleonora Coronel, Argentina
- George Chkikvade, Republic of Georgia
- Tuur Demeester, Belgium
- Richard Durana, Slovakia
- Federico Fernández, Argentina
- Nicholas Gafuik, Canada
- Ezequiel Vázquez Ger, Argentina

Bugra Kalkan, Turkey

Aman Mahrzai, California

Thobias Makoba, Tanzania

Shaka Mitchell, Tennessee

Mirsulzhan Namazaliev, Kyrgyzstan

Fábio Ostermann, Brazil

Armando Regil, Mexico

Samyukta Rupakheti, Nepal

Ivan Sadoski, Belarus

Battsetseg Shagdar, Mongolia

Greg Sindelar, Texas

Jamie Story, Hawaii

Adedayo Thomas, Nigeria

Carlos Omar Vargas, Ecuador

Separate group projects require TT MBA participants to work as a team and actually develop, implement, and evaluate campaigns in only a few days. The project that earned top rankings this year created a website, viral video and social networking campaign to highlight the freedom of speech issues at the heart of a recent controversy in which the Obama administration encouraged citizens to report to the White House any “fishy” commentary on health reform proposals.

There were also visits to DC-area think tanks such as the **Institute for Justice** and the **Cato Institute**, as well as special nighttime dinners and excursions designed to help create strong bonds among a group of participants that brought diverse backgrounds (21 countries were represented by the 28 participants) but similar aspirations to the program.

Although the real success of this program will only be discovered over time – as we see whether the participants can translate their learning into effective promotion of liberty back home – Atlas was gratified to get extremely positive feedback about the value imparted during these two weeks together.



“In young organizations we have plenty of passion but are in great need of the tools for building an effective and lasting organization committed to individual liberty. Atlas’ challenging TT MBA program gave me practical insights from leaders in the free market movement that will surely make me better prepared for the great task ahead.”

– Shaka Mitchell, Think Tank MBA Graduate

FREE ENTERPRISE TRAINING CENTERS

In 2009, Atlas funded the launch of four Free Enterprise Training Centers (FETC) around the world as part of a new cost-effective strategy for identifying and training new “intellectual entrepreneurs.”

By leveraging the talents of some of the most effective established think tanks in the Atlas network, Atlas can reach a larger audience – sharpening their understanding of free-market ideas and how think tanks can help advance liberty over the long-term. One of the think tanks working like a “satellite Atlas” via a FETC is the **Lithuanian Free Market Institute** (LFMI), which has a 19-year track record of effectively promoting sound public policies. Atlas’s grant to establish a center at LFMI has resulted in its new European Academy for Intellectual Entrepreneurs, discovering talented young people via an essay contest, scouting trips, internships and network resources. The most promising candidates receive further coaching, and practical training in an environment that fosters intellectual advancement with the goal of catalyzing the next generation of European free market think tank leaders. Similar efforts have been launched at the Free Enterprise Training Centers funded by Atlas at the **F. A. Hayek Foundation** (Slovakia), **Libertad y Desarrollo** (Chile), and the **Association of Liberal Thinking** (Turkey).



Elena Leontjeva, president of the Lithuanian Free Market Institute



The Centre for Civil Society in India won a Templeton Freedom Award for its School Choice Campaign which promotes choice in education using street theater performances.

REWARDING EXCELLENCE

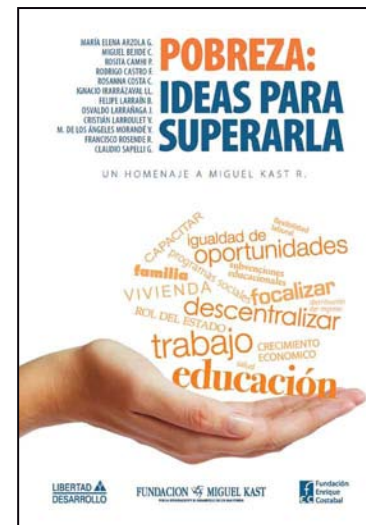
Part of the critical “catalyst” role that Atlas plays is executed by extensive awards programs that recognize and reward top-notch scholarship or advocacy. Each year, Atlas taps world-renowned experts from the media, academy, NGOs, and the private sector to serve as judges and identify the most effective think tanks promoting free markets, rule of law, and individual liberty. Atlas’s international awards are crucial for discovering new talent and staying informed of the great work of existing allies.



Pakistani women participating in a program offered by Templeton Freedom Award winner, Samasource (USA), that enables people in developing countries to find work opportunities via the internet.



For over two decades **The Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards** have recognized outstanding publications that enhance the public understanding of the free society from over twenty-five countries, spanning every continent. This year, as socialist dictators increasingly hamper prosperity in Latin America, the Chilean think tank **Libertad y Desarrollo** responded with a seminal book, *Pobreza: Ideas Para Superarla (Ideas to Overcome Poverty)*, aimed at getting the Latin world back on track by outlining how Chile was able to successfully reform its economy.



Following severe sanctions imposed by the Nixon administration in 1973 and the failed policies of Salvador Allende, the Chilean economy was crippled. Record inflation, zero foreign reserves, and a tanking GDP jeopardized the stability of the South American country. Enter: Hernan Büchi. As Undersecretary of the Economy (1979-80), Undersecretary of Health (1980-83), Minister of Planning (1983-84), Superintendent of Banks and Financial Institutions (1984-85) and Minister of Finance (1985-1989), Büchi, along with economist Miguel Kast (to whom the book is dedicated), was critical in transforming Chile into the dynamic market-oriented and free trade-based country that it is today by removing barriers to trade, privatizing state companies, and restraining an inflationary crisis through fiscal discipline and tight monetary policy.

Büchi sought to institutionalize the ideas that had turned Chile around so they would last beyond the reformers who enacted them. In 1990, he co-founded Libertad y Desarrollo (LyD), a policy shop devoted to promoting the virtues of individual liberty and limited government. In an effort to see the Chilean experience replicated by its neighbors, LyD published the Fisher Award-winning *Pobreza*, a collection of essays written by twelve star economists and social scientists, such as Libertad y Desarrollo executive director, Cristián Larroulet and Osvaldo Larrañaga of Universidad de Chile. *Pobreza* emphasizes the importance of growth, employment, education, and social programs, while underlining the key to improve the social conditions of the poor is a commitment by the government to support individual efforts toward economic growth.



Left to right: Jan Malek (PAFERE, Poland), Denise Couyoumdjian (LyD, Chile), Ana Yerro (Institución Futuro, Spain), and Jaroslav Romachuk (Mises Scientific Research Center, Belarus).

Other 2009 Fisher Award Winners:

- *The Moral Superiority of the Free Economy* by Michal Wojciechowski. Published by the **Polish-American Foundation for Economic Research and Education (PAFERE)**, Warsaw, Poland.
- *In Search of an Economic Miracle: Lessons for Belarus* by Jaroslav Romachuk. Published by the **Mises Scientific Research Center**, Minsk, Belarus.
- *Future Trends Magazine*. Published by **Institución Futuro**, Navarra, Spain.



Dorian & Antony
**Fisher
Venture
Grants**

Before establishing the **Institute of Economic and Social Studies (INESS)**, Slovakian Ph.D biochemist Richard Durana spent his time preparing sub-cellular vaccines against fungal diseases. When he wasn't in the lab, Durana was devoted to the work of Ludwig von Mises and the Austrian School of Economics. By 2006, the dour state of the Slovakian economy inspired Durana to leave the hard sciences for the dismal science and start a new free-market think tank.

In only three years, INESS has launched an extremely popular website educating the public on *The Price of the State* and publishes a highly-demanded manual of educational tools for high school and university instructors to teach public finance. INESS has quickly become the most cited economic think tank in the country and has logged over 1400 media appearances. For its achievements, Atlas recognized INESS with a Fisher Venture Grant in 2009.

The Dorian & Antony Fisher Venture Grants (FVG) program awards grants of up to \$100,000 to promising, young, classical liberal think tanks across the globe. Atlas created the FVG program to provide grantees with funding over a period of three years, during which time Atlas will be in frequent contact to help develop plans and to monitor performance. The 2009 class of Fisher Venture Grantees includes the **Centre for Political Studies** (Denmark), **Instituto Juan de Mariana** (Spain), **Samriddhi: The Prosperity Foundation** (Nepal), and the **Show-Me Institute** (Missouri, USA).

Z dr. **RICHARDEM DURANA**, dyrektorem Instytutu Analiz Społeczno-Gospodarczych w Bratysławie, rozmawia Tomasz Cukiernik, ekspert Instytutu Globalizacji.

Słowacja przegoniła Chiny

– W jaki sposób było możliwe osiągnięcie przez Słowację imponującego 14,1-procentowego wzrostu gospodarczego w 2007 roku? Rekordowe pod tym względem Chiny mogą się poszczycić zeszłorocznym wzrostem na poziomie „zaledwie” 11,4 procenta.

– Ten wzrost był możliwy dzięki zwiększeniu produkcji samochodów przez fabrykę KIA w połączeniu ze zwiększonymi dostawami papierosów (ponieważ 1 stycznia 2009 roku zostanie podniesiony podatek konsumpcyjny na papierosy) oraz – co typowe – większym popytem w czwartym kwartale roku. Ale z ogólnego punktu widzenia osiągnięcie to może być tłumaczone reformami poprzedniego rządu Mikuláša Dzurinda, który przeprowadził ważne zmiany podatkowe (m.in. wprowadzenie 19-procentowej stawki podatku liniowego oraz zlikwidowanie podatku od dywidend), zliberalizował kodeks pracy, a także wprowadził inne konieczne poprawki, które zachęciły zagranicznych inwestorów do wejścia na słowacki rynek.



Richard Durana

– Czy słowacka gospodarka rzeczywiście znajduje się teraz w tak dobrym stanie?

– Reformy przeprowadzone przez poprzedni rząd stworzyły tak solidne filary dla rozwoju gospodarczego, że mimo iż aktualny lewicowy gabinet Roberta Ficy powoli podważa sukces reform, to nadal istnieje powód do optymizmu w perspektywie średniookresowej.

– Czy wzrost gospodarczy przekłada się na życie przeciętnych ludzi?

– pomiędzy 2004 a 2007 rokiem spadło o prawie 8 punktów procentowych z 18,1 proc. do 10,3 proc. – a prognozy na 2008 rok przewidują jego dalszy spadek.

– Co było głównym czynnikiem tak znacznego spadku bezrobocia na Słowacji?

– Największe znaczenie dla zmniejszenia się bezrobocia miały inwestycje zagraniczne oraz działalność obcych i krajowych producentów, którzy zostali zachęceni niższym, 19-procentowym podatkiem liniowym i likwidacją podat-

– Oczywiście pomógł to zmniejszyć koszty transakcyjne przedsiębiorstw handlowych z zagranicznymi firmami, a także turystów. Jednakże przyjęcie euro będzie miało negatywny wpływ na oszczędności przeciętnego obywatela. Wprowadzenie tej waluty będzie prowadzić do presji inflacyjnej, ponieważ ceny nie będą mogły opóźnić się do cen europejskich poprzez umiastnienie się słowackiej korony (jak było do tej pory), ale jedynie poprzez swój rzeczywisty wzrost. Większa inflacja w połączeniu z niższymi poziomami opro-

Richard Durana of the **Institute of Economic and Social Studies** (Slovakia) interviewed by Tomasz Cukiernik of the **Globalization Institute** (Poland) in the Polish weekly, *Czas* (Times), about the record economic growth (14.1%) in Slovakia. Durana attributes the prosperity to economic reform under Mikuláš Dzurinda, including a liberalized labor code and a 19% flat income, corporate, and value added tax. This reform lead Steve Forbes to name Slovakia an “investor’s paradise.”



As the largest international prize program rewarding free-market organizations, the **Templeton Freedom Awards (TFA)** are named for the late investor and philanthropist, Sir John Templeton. The program was established in 2003 by Atlas with funding from the Templeton Foundation to help those who are making significant contributions to enhancing opportunity and prosperity. Each winner receives \$10,000.



Participants in the Egyptian Union for Liberal Youth attend weekly workshops on the meaning of liberalism and the principles of minimal state, free trade, and rule of law.

Working in a very difficult environment for the ideas of liberty, the **Egyptian Union of Liberal Youth (EULY)** is one of the youngest groups to win a TFA. In 2009, the Union undertook an ambitious and impressive range of projects to offer young Arabs an alternative to the repressive and violent dogma that attracts adolescents in the region. Ventures include an essay competition on the question “Why am I a liberal?,” monthly *Road to Liberty* Workshops covering the principles of classical liberalism, a wiki providing free-market literature, and regular screenings of historic political films. The essay contest has been publicized in the country’s five most popular newspapers, the largest universities, a popular youth radio station, and on two major political party websites. EULY was set up in 2007 with the help of Atlas’s Middle East Initiative grant.

2009 Templeton Freedom Award Winners

Free Market Solutions to Poverty

- New Economic School (Republic of Georgia)
- Free Market Foundation (South Africa)

Social Entrepreneurship

- Samasource (USA)
- Fundación Paraguaya (Paraguay)

Ethics & Values

- Conservative Institute (Slovakia)
- Globalization Institute (Poland)

Student Outreach

- Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (USA)
- Institute Invertir (Peru)

Initiative in Public Relations

- Centre for Civil Society (India)
- Institute for Information on the Crimes of Communism (Sweden)

Innovative Media Award

- Sam Adams Alliance (USA)
- Free to Choose Network (USA)

Award for Special Achievement by a University Based Center

- Center for Ethics and Entrepreneurship at Rockford College (USA)
- Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Universidad del Desarrollo (Chile)

Award for Special Achievement by a Young Institute

- Instituto Millenium (Brazil)
- Egyptian Union of Liberal Youth (Egypt)



Students enjoy the camaraderie of the 2009 Liberty Seminars in Lake Bohinj, Slovenia, made possible by the Vida Ribnikar legacy.



Left to right: Atlas's Alex Chafuen, Vida Ribnikar, and Borut Prah

In time, both the Ribnikars and the Prahs became generous supporters to Atlas.

During the 1980s, Borut encouraged Atlas to become an early pioneer in the global system of interconnected computer networks – what we know now as the world wide web. He believed that Atlas's international networking could be efficiently accomplished using software that IBM used to connect its employees all over the world. Thanks to Borut, Atlas became the first free-market group to have a computer billboard – a rudimentary precursor to internet and e-mail!

Borut, and his wife Nadine, were committed to supporting Atlas's efforts to reverse years of socialist indoctrination in Slovenia and Eastern Europe. They encouraged Vida to help Atlas expand its work in the region. With her first donation, Atlas sponsored young Slovenians to attend free-market training programs. Vida's continued support allowed Atlas to collaborate on programs, conferences, and publications with like-minded free-market partners such as the Law and Economics Center at George Mason University.

Vida Ribnikar especially valued efforts aimed at training the younger generations. She wanted them exposed to America's best free enterprise traditions and institutions. Her generosity enabled Atlas to sponsor education programs, seminars, and translations, provide training in free market economics, connect Eastern Europeans with allies in the Atlas network, and fund Slovenian projects and organizations working to expose the damage caused by collectivism.

One of her beneficiaries is Ljubo Sirc, Slovenian professor of economics and co-founder of the Centre for Research into Post-Communist Economies (CRCE) in London. Sirc was the first in Atlas's network to conduct annual conferences with scholars from the former communist countries to explore, research, and facilitate their transition to market economics.

Vida's generosity also enables Lovro Sturm, former Slovenian Minister of Justice, professor of law, and founder of the Carantania Institute, to teach the benefits of the free economy to students and teachers who were raised on socialistic ideology. Sturm continues to organize seminars for Slovenian teachers using DVD material provided by the Free to Choose Network's *FreeToChoose.org*.

Today, Vida's contributions allow Atlas to sponsor the annual Liberty Seminars for students from Eastern and Central Europe. In September, campers from Germany, Ukraine, Slovenia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Romania, Bulgaria, the United States, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, and Slovakia travelled to Lake Bohinj in Slovenia for week-long lectures and advanced study on the philosophical foundations of freedom and liberty in European transition countries. Renowned scholars leading the discussions included: Tanja Stumberger and Andrei Illarionov of the Cato Institute, Steve Pejovich (Texas A&M University, USA), Aleksandar Novakovic of the Serbian NGO Katalaksija, Bernard Brščić (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia) and Sirc from CRCE.

The Ribnikar's generous legacy gift to Atlas lives on today, helping Central and Eastern Europeans in the fight against socialist advances. For that, we are grateful – both to the Ribnikars and the Prahs.

Alejandro Chafuen is CEO and President of the Atlas Economic Research Foundation.

For a more detailed version of the Ribnikar and Prah stories, please see www.AtlasNetwork.org/NetworkNews

FUNDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SLOVENIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS

By Alejandro Chafuen

I'm grateful that totalitarians have failed at perfecting the art of coercion and tyranny. Despite the walls they build, and the chains they use to confine, some of their victims nonetheless escape and tell the stories. Such is the refreshing case of Bojan Ribnikar and Vida Ribnikar nee Pahernik.

As witnesses to the brutality of authoritarian rule in their home country of Yugoslavia, this wonderful couple served as shining examples of freedom fighters throughout their lifetimes. Thanks to their generosity, the next generation of free-market champions flourishes in Slovenia.

The Ribnikars and Paherniks came from two very productive and entrepreneurial families in Yugoslavia. They owned a variety of enterprises including newspapers, forestland, cement factories and vineyards. Their properties were the envy of socialists of all stripes. In the 1940s, the property of both families was expropriated, first by Hitler's National Socialists in 1941 and again in 1945 by Josip Tito's Commu-

nist Party of Yugoslavia. Both times, the Ribnikars were victimized and targeted because of their affinity for western capitalism.

Bojan and Vida married just before the war but rarely saw each other as Bojan hid from the Gestapo and Communist forces. In 1944, they successfully fled to Italy, both leaving their families in hiding.

In Italy Bojan completed a doctorate in Padua while Vida studied in Florence until they reunited in Rome to work for the Western Allies' press office. Sadly, their families were not as fortunate – both Bojan and Vida lost brothers to the war.

Bojan and Vida eventually settled in the Bay Area of California (by way of my home country, Argentina) where a wonderful set of relationships developed which eventually connected them to Atlas.

As fate would have it, the Ribnikar's neighbor was another Slovenian émigré named Borut Prah, who Bojan and Vida had met in pre-war Slovenia. Borut introduced them to his good friend, Antony Fisher, Atlas's founder. At the time, Fisher had set up shop in San Francisco, only a block from IBM, where Borut served as an executive. The proximity of offices and ideologies lead to the Ribnikars, Fishers, and Prahs becoming close friends and professional allies.



1 Bienvenido "Nonoy" Oplas Jr. (Minimal Government Thinkers, Philippines) and Xu Zhao (Unirule Institute of Economics, China) chat between sessions of a four-hour fundraising workshop for international think tank leaders at the Atlas Liberty Forum in Los Angeles. Nonoy and Xu are active networkers of classical liberals in Asia, using blogs, translations, and innovative web media to reach the masses.

2 Left to right: Atlas chairman Dan Grossman, Senior Fellow and Think Tank MBA facilitator Rainer Heufers, board member Curtin Winsor and Foundation for Economic Education chairman, Wayne Olson at The Atlas Experience.



3 Emmanuel Martin (bottom left), director of Atlas's French language platform UnMondeLibre.org, enjoys food and drink with European think tank leaders at the Atlas co-sponsored European Resource Bank in Marseille, France in August.

4 Jarolsav Romanchuk (Scientific Research Mises Center, Belarus) intensely focused at an Atlas workshop at the Liberty Forum.



CONNECTING THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT

Much of the value created by Atlas happens over email, the telephone, personal visits and private meetings. Atlas events provide an inspiring, invigorating opportunity to glimpse the power of the freedom movement that Atlas is so privileged to nurture.

The Liberty Forum is Atlas's premiere networking event. In 2009, the Forum was held in Los Angeles

and attracted nearly 300 participants from more than 40 countries, for the purpose of sharing ideas, learning strategies, and drinking in the rare camaraderie of peers who also dedicate their lives to the spread of liberty. Policy sessions, featuring experts from the think tank community, focused on the topics of Free Trade, Sound Money, Regulatory Reform, and Entrepreneurship. Training workshops taught best practices in the Use of New Media, Fundraising,

and Financial Management during Difficult Times.

In August, Atlas provided another exciting networking opportunity via its special, retreat-like "Atlas Experience" event in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Canada. In an intimate setting, friends of liberty recharged their batteries, developed new friendships, and shared ideas for more effectively promoting free-market reforms.

Atlas's final large event in 2009 takes place in November in Washington DC and builds around the Freedom Dinner, Atlas's annual celebration of the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. This year's dinner features master of ceremonies Walter E. Williams, distinguished professor of economics at George Mason University and the keynote address by Alan Charles Kors – one of the world's leading authorities on the Enlightenment, steadfast defender

of free speech and co-founder of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). The dinner is complemented by a two-day program that includes a conference featuring winners of the 2009 Templeton Freedom Awards as well as many freedom-fighters who were present when the Berlin Wall was torn down. Following the Freedom Dinner and conference, Atlas will hold an invitation-only training workshop for new think tank leaders to learn from

veterans of the Atlas Think Tank MBA and Templeton Freedom Awards.

For many international partners working in hostile areas, Atlas events offer a glimpse of the large family of like-minded individuals who are working for the same cause and re-energizes their efforts.



5 Atlas trustee Linda Whetstone (right) offers some wisdom to new think tank leaders Armando and Claudia Regil (Instituto de Pensamiento Estratégico Ágora A.C., Mexico)

6 Atlas board member Chuck Albers (right) greets new supporter John Laing at the Liberty Forum.



7 Liberty Forum Keynote Speaker and former President of Bolivia, Jorge Quiroga.

8 Left to right: Atlas board member Andrea Rich, keynote speaker Hon. Maurice McTigue (Mercatus Center, USA), and Atlas president Alex Chafuen at The Atlas Experience in Niagara, Canada.

9 Durra Elmaki, a student at American University, attends a fundraising workshop at Atlas's Liberty Forum in Los Angeles. Elmaki plans to start a think tank in the Sudan called the Nile Institute for Economic Studies.



EXPANDING THE AUDIENCE FOR LIBERTY

In January 2009, Atlas launched a new Global Initiative for Free Trade, Peace, and Prosperity by incorporating into its operations international programs developed at the Cato Institute and led by Tom G. Palmer, now Atlas vice president for international programs.

The staff of the initiative includes native speakers of more than a dozen languages, who work to expand the reach of the ideas of liberty -- new capabilities that multiply the opportunities for Atlas to identify and assist "intellectual entrepreneurs" who were otherwise inaccessible. New think tanks in a number of countries have been established and joined the Atlas family as a result.

For each language, Atlas maintains an active web-based platform, which is used as a brand for books, syndication of articles to the press, videos, "Freedom Schools" for students, and policy conferences for policy makers, entrepreneurs, and journalists.

What follows is a mere peek into the wide range of activities that Atlas has initiated in three vitally important parts of the world: Eurasia, Asia, and the Middle East. (The Atlas Global Initiative is also active in Europe, Africa, and South America; visit AtlasNetwork.org/globalinitiative for more details.)



InLiberty.ru blogger and Academy of National Economy (Russia) Fellow Vadim Novikov discussing "the tale of a slave," a case study from Robert Nozick's *Anarchy, State, and Utopia* with students at a seminar in Odessa, Ukraine.

EURASIA: RUSSIA AND THE COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER USSR



Atlas's Anna Krasinskaya, editor of the AGI Russian platform InLiberty.ru, discusses the challenge of promoting individual liberty in Eurasia.



Students at a conference on Property and Freedom in Ukraine.

The countries of the former Soviet Union are critical for the future of liberty. *InLiberty.ru*, Atlas's Russian brand, has been on the job. *InLiberty.ru* editor Anna Krasinskaya, in addition to editing the website, publishing several books, and working with the Russian-language media, organized a summer school in Odessa, Ukraine for students mainly from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and the Southern Caucasus. Krasinskaya also coordinated a fall Free-Market School in Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan (in conjunction with the newly formed **Central Asian Free Market Institute, CAFMI**), for students from the five Central Asian former Soviet Republics. Distinguished scholars Professor George Selgin and Professor Deepak Lal held seminars in Kyiv, Moscow, and St. Petersburg that were attended by former prime ministers and finance ministers, leading journalists, and hundreds of students. Lal promoted the Russian edition of his book *Reviving the Invisible Hand*, which was translated and published by *InLiberty.ru*.

Atlas expanded its reach into Ukraine when Palmer and colleague Peter Kaznacheev, *InLiberty.ru*'s first editor, visited Kyiv and brought two new groups into the Atlas network, the **Ukrainian Foundation for Support of Reform** and the **Property and Freedom Institute**, and into Central Asia when Palmer visited Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan and helped to establish CAFMI, which is now growing and working throughout the region, and is already assisting a new Atlas partner being established in Afghanistan.



Reinventing Civil Society by David Green (top) and *Reviving the Invisible Hand* by Deepak Lal (bottom) in Russian.

ASIA



Discussion of the role of economic freedom at the Akademi Merdeka Freedom Academy in Penang, Malaysia.



Shrawan Garg, Gurcharan Das, and Ved Pratap Vaidik collectively "launch" the Hindi website, Azadi.me, with the push of a button.



Mirsulzhan Namazaliev and Seyitbek Usmanov of the Central Asian Free Market Institute during the Fall Free Market School in Issyk Kul, Kyrgyzstan.

Atlas maintains a number of platforms in Asia, in Chinese (*Guominliyi.org*), Bahasa Indonesia/Malaysia (*AkademiMerdeka.org*), Vietnamese (*DoiMoi.org*), and Hindi (*Azadi.me*), and works closely with partner organizations throughout the region. The Atlas Global Initiative brought Jude Blanchette on board to manage institute relations in Asia. Blanchette is based in Beijing and travels to the region to assist Asian think tanks.

Guominliyi.org has cooperated with Chinese partners to introduce a series of books in Chinese (including, recently, David Boaz's *Libertarianism: A Primer*) and organized a week-long summer school in Huangzhou and lecture tours to Chinese law schools to promote improvements to the Chinese legal system and to build a "culture of law" in the country. Professor Andrew Morriss of the University of Illinois College of Law has worked closely with *Guominliyi.org* and a number of Chinese legal scholars on the project.

Blanchette joined Palmer in India to help the team working on *Azadi.me*, the Hindi project that was officially launched in August by leading Indian journalists Gurcharan Das, author of *India Unbound*, Shrawan Garg, editor of *Dainik Bhaskar* (India's largest circulation Hindi newspaper), and Ved Pratap Vaidik, political scientist and former editor of *Navbharat Times* and *PTI Bhasha*.

Those visits also sparked the China-India Citizens' Initiative, which seeks to promote free trade and peace between the two countries. The Central Asian Free Market Institute is also encouraging elimination of barriers to trade and travel throughout Eurasia and Asia.

MIDDLE EAST



Students at the Minbaralhurriyya.org (Arabic) conference in Harissa, Lebanon.

The Middle East has long been known for volatility and the scarcity of the ideas and policies of liberty. That is changing. Atlas maintains web-platforms in four Middle Eastern languages: Arabic (*Minbaralhurriyya.org*), Persian (*Cheragheazadi.org*), Kurdish (*Chiraiazadi.org*), and Azerbaijani (*Azadliqiragi.org*). Each has published books for local distribution, as well as articles to the media. Some of the books have already gone into multiple printings and are being used in university courses. *Cheragheazadi.org's* materials in Persian are distributed beyond Iran and are being printed in Afghanistan for that country's large Persian speaking population by the **Afghanistan Economic and Legal Studies Organization**, which was founded after Palmer's visit in 2009.

The most active of the three is *Minbaralhurriyya.org*, which publishes articles virtually every day in the Arab press, from Morocco to Saudi Arabia and Iraq, and held two summer schools in 2009, in Mahdiyya, Morocco and Harissa, Lebanon. In addition, *Minbaralhurriyya.org* organized the "Dialogue of Civilizations" in conjunction with the Alexandria Library of Egypt, which focused on peaceful coexistence among the world's cultures, and the "2009 Egypt Audit," a major conference in Cairo that was organized in conjunction with the think tank of the Egyptian cabinet and the **Fraser Institute** of Canada. Fraser scholars worked with Atlas's Nuh El Harmouzi, editor of *Minbaralhurriyya.org*, to provide a systematic audit of the policies of the Egyptian government and to make concrete recommendations for removing barriers to enterprise, trade, and economic improvement. The recommendations were presented, discussed, debated in Cairo by five Egyptian working groups, which then prepared a report to the government with their proposals.

The ideas of freedom are a necessary response to the ideas of coercion, of socialism, nationalism, extremism, and intolerance. The Atlas Global Initiative offers the alternative of peace, enterprise, freedom, and mutual benefit through trade in areas that are sometimes hostile to or unfamiliar with the ideas of liberty.



The Atlas Global Initiative takes a proactive approach to spreading liberty in languages that otherwise have limited access to classical liberal ideas. By publishing the works of thinkers like Adam Smith, J.S. Mill, Frédéric Bastiat in Chinese, Portuguese, Russian, Hindi and more than a dozen other languages, the gospels of freedom are reaching previously unfamiliar territory.

From left to right: *Capitalism and Freedom* by Milton Friedman (Persian), *Adam Smith - A Primer* by Eamonn Butler (Azerbaijani), *Libertarianism - A Primer* by David Boaz (Kurdish), and *Not A Zero Sum Game* by Manuel F. Ayau (Arabic).

SPECIAL ATLAS INITIATIVES

FREEDOM TO TRADE

Will the troubled world economy go from bad to worse? The answer to this question may hinge on whether free-market advocates can prevail over those who would undermine global trade with protectionist measures.

In March, Atlas launched a campaign, resulting in a petition signed by over 1,000 economists and think tank leaders, calling on governments of all nations to resist the temptation of raising barriers to trade. Working in cooperation with the London-based **International Policy Network**, the Freedom To Trade campaign has taken off in many parts of the world, being replicated in places like India, Central Asia, China, and Latin America. Atlas produced original videos explaining the relationship between trade, peace, and prosperity that have been translated into eleven languages. In September, it organized dozens of students from Latin America, China, the U.S., and Canada, to travel to the G-20 Summit in Pittsburgh to rally support for free trade and protest short-sighted economic nationalism.

Students protesting protectionism at the G-20 Summit in Pittsburgh in September.



SOUND MONEY

Can we escape from the current financial crisis by dropping dollars from a helicopter? To better understand the nature of the current crisis, Atlas launched a new Sound Money Project in 2009, which aims to revitalize think tank interest in an urgent topic that has been neglected for too long. An enlightened citizenship, aware of the problems involved with the state manipulation of money and credit, is the most secure barrier against the destruction of our assets.

The Project mobilizes organizations in the Atlas network and canvasses its ranks to discover and nurture the next generation of sound money experts. The Project has featured strategy sessions and discussions on the financial crisis and the role of money at the Liberty Forum, Atlas's International Thursday, and is planning an event to be held in early 2010 in Philadelphia. Atlas also launched a Sound Money Essay Contest with the goals of raising awareness of sound money as a key field of concentration and of identifying students with an interest in the field. In October, the Project created a Senior Fellowship for graduate students who can be articulate communicators for sound money policies in public forums, with economist Lawrence H. White of George Mason University as mentor.



Cato Senior Fellow Gerald P. O'Driscoll speaking on "The Financial Crisis and Attack on Sound Money" at the Liberty Forum in April. O'Driscoll, along with Lawrence H. White (George Mason University), Deepak Lal (University of California-Los Angeles), Peter J. Boettke (George Mason University) and others participated in the Atlas Sound Money Project's inaugural strategy session after the NYC Mont Pelerin Society meeting in March.

TEACH FREEDOM INITIATIVE

Several of Atlas's peer organizations are fighting back against the problem of ideological bias and political correctness on college campuses. Much of the attention has been on the restoration of "Western Civ" programs that were undermined by the shift to "culture studies" that barely disguised a leftwing agenda. Atlas's Teach Freedom Initiative (TFI) complements this work by helping "intellectual entrepreneurs" within universities who also defend free enterprise. In 2009, the TFI supported the launch and growth of academic programs along these lines at five different U.S. universities, and sponsored two conferences.

The goal of the conferences are to foster an exchange of ideas among those who can help reform higher education, by developing new programs and academic centers that celebrate free-market ideas.



In 2009, TFI hosted three conferences addressing the two key issues in promoting market-based solutions for society: how to teach sound economics and how academic centers could serve as conduits for classical liberalism. Jeff Sandefer (pictured) of the Acton School of Business delivered the keynote address at the Guatemala event on "Improving Students' Appreciation of Free-Market Thinking Through the Academy."

FUND FOR THE STUDY OF SPONTANEOUS ORDERS

An anonymous donor helped develop a forward-looking project at Atlas that encourages young scholars to apply the perspective of Austrian *methodological individualism*, which has greatly increased our understanding of free markets, to areas outside the realm of traditional economic study.

Atlas's Fund for the Study of Spontaneous Orders (FSSO) sponsored a conference on "Manifestations of Spontaneous Orders in Politics and Society," attracting scientists from several different fields (geography, economics, anthropology, political science) to discuss the ways different scholarly disciplines approach the question of orders, both spontaneous and consciously created. In September, the Fund presented its fourth Lifetime Achievement Award to Peter Berger, Professor Emeritus of Religion, Sociology, and Theology at Boston University. FSSO awarded recent Nobel laureate Elinor Ostrom and husband Vince with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2003 for their work pioneering the study of communal property rights. The Ostroms showed how groups of people — communities — can protect and preserve property rights without the heavy hand of government.

THE ATLAS MISSION

To discover, develop, and support 'intellectual entrepreneurs' worldwide who can advance the Atlas vision of a society of free and responsible individuals.

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SENIOR FELLOWS

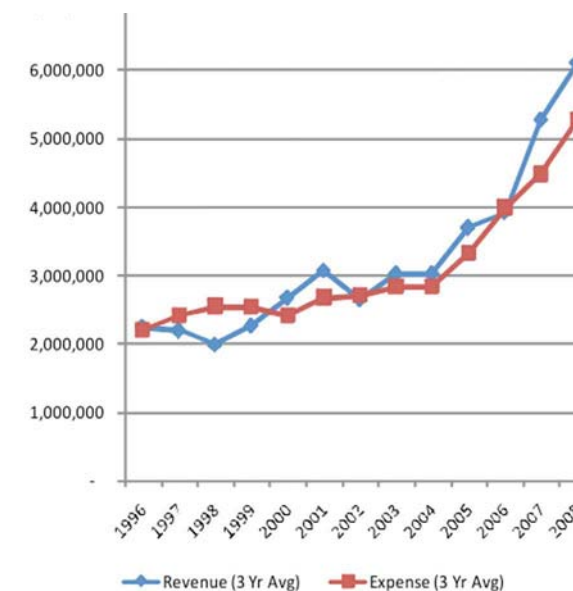
William Dennis
 Rainer Heufers
 Gabriel Sanchez-Zinny
 Deroy Murdock



ATLAS REVENUE AND EXPENSES

	2008	2007
Contributions	\$6,400,965	\$6,800,576
Other Income	\$280,156	\$131,379
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,681,121	\$6,931,955
Program Services	\$5,401,256	\$4,019,006
Management	\$379,132	\$304,356
Fundraising	\$458,694	\$408,917
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,239,082	\$4,732,279
Net Assets (End of Year)	\$5,609,596	\$5,168,557

ATLAS REVENUE AND EXPENSE TRENDS





Educate your children, educate yourselves in the love for the freedom of others, for only in this way will your own freedom not be a gratuitous gift from fate. You will be aware of its worth and have the courage to defend it.



- Joaquim Nabuco (1849-1910), Brazilian writer, diplomat, and abolitionist