Keck Center and Dreier Roundtable Joint Seminar
"Promoting Democracy Abroad: Perspectives from Practitioners and Experts"

About the Seminar
Promoting the establishment of democracy and rule of law abroad has long been one of the top foreign policy objectives of the United States. While alignment of strategic interests is a critical foundation of durable, cooperative, and friendly ties between the U.S. and other countries, such ties ultimately must rest on shared political values, accountable government, rule of law, and protection of human rights. Since the 1980s, the United States has invested enormous resources in promoting democracy and rule of law abroad. The National Endowment for Democracy, the umbrella organization of the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute, has become an influential actor in this international arena. Over the last three decades, those who have engaged in democracy promotion abroad, including the IRI and NDI, have accumulated rich practical experience in this field and, on several occasions, made a crucial difference. Amb. Green and Mr. Campbell will share with us their personal, on-the-ground experience and perspectives on the lessons learned in the promotion of democracy and rule in societies with complex and difficult political and socioeconomic conditions.

If the promotion of democracy is a key American strategic objective, leading authoritarian regimes have also developed strategies to counter this effort. Dr. Stoner and Prof. Pei, who have spent a considerable part of their academic career studying the spread of democracy in the post-Cold War era, will analyze how powerful authoritarian regimes, such as Russia and China, have learned to resist and frustrate the Western-led pro-democracy campaign around the world.

Schedule of Events
Location: Freeburg Forum (Kravis Center, LC 62)
2:30-3:00 PM
Panel One:
"How Does the U.S. Promote Democracy Abroad: Views from Two Veteran Practitioners"

Amb. Mark Green, President, The International Republican Institute (IRI)
Mr. Les Campbell, Senior Associate and Regional Director, The National Democratic Institute (NDI)
Moderator: Mr. David Dreier, Trustee of CMC and Board Member and IRI

3:15-4:15 PM
Panel Two:
"Beware Authoritarian Backlash: Challenge from Russian and China to Western Push for Democratization"

Dr. Kathryn Stoner, Senior Fellow, Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University
Prof. Minxin Pei, Professor of Government and Director of the Keck Center, Claremont McKenna College
Moderator: Mr. David Dreier