

# **The Institute for Policy Studies**

*Ideas into Action for Peace, Justice, and the Environment*

For more than four decades, IPS has transformed ideas into action for peace, justice, and the environment. The Institute has strengthened and linked social movements through articulation of root principles and fundamental rights, research and analysis on current events and issues, and connections to policymakers, academics, and activists at all levels. As a multi-issue think tank that has worked with the movements that shaped the late 20th Century, from Civil Rights onwards, we offer a cross-cutting analysis with a historical perspective.

## **Mission Statement**

The Institute for Policy Studies strengthens social movements with independent research, visionary thinking, and links to the grassroots, scholars and elected officials. Since 1963, we have empowered people to build healthy and democratic societies in communities, the U.S., and the world.

## **Major Areas of Work**

To facilitate long-term planning as well as rapid response to world events, IPS's projects are configured in three clusters, supported by an administrative and outreach cluster. However, we foster interaction and collaboration among all staff so that our research cuts across academic disciplines to a broad view of how the world really works.

### **Democracy and Fairness Cluster**

The projects of the Democracy and Fairness Cluster unite scholars, local activists, national advocacy groups, and policymakers to further democracy and economic justice in the United States. The [Progressive Challenge](#) works with over 200 progressive groups in pursuing the consensually created Fairness Agenda for America. Paths for the 21st Century is a collaborative research project seeking to define the economic, social, and political requisites for human decency over the next generation. The [Break the Chain Campaign](#) is an IPS-led coalition seeking to end the exploitation and abuse of thousands of domestic workers brought to the U.S. to work for diplomats, officials of international agencies, and others. The [Social Action and Leadership School for Activists](#) (SALSA) teaches the basics of organizing, management, communications, and other movement-building skills to hundreds of activists each year. IPS also participates in the [Democracy Action Project](#), a youth-led coalition to transform democracy.

### **Global Justice Cluster**

The international flow of capital is reshaping lives and the environment dramatically all around the world, with the world's poorest people paying the price for prosperity for the few. The Institute's Global Justice Cluster comprises three projects that collaborate with

activists and scholars throughout the world to generate alternatives to the current, corporate-led globalization. The [Global Economy](#) project offers broad analysis of free trade initiatives and their impacts, and serves as a watchdog on the world's wealthiest corporations. The [Sustainable Energy and Economy Network](#) (SEEN) examines the social and environmental consequences of public lending for fossil fuel projects. The [Ecotourism](#) project studies how ecotourism can aid sustainable and equitable development in the Global South, with a particular focus on certification initiatives. The New Voices on Globalization coalition, which includes IPS, works to increase the visibility of perspectives of a more diverse range of people in the anti-corporate globalization movement.

### **Peace and Security Cluster**

The projects of the Peace and Security Cluster seek to make the U.S. a more responsible global leader and global partner. [Foreign Policy In Focus](#) offers policymakers and journalists ready analysis of breaking world events. The [New Internationalism](#) project offers an unflinching progressive voice on UN and Middle East affairs. The [Drug Policy](#) project advocates a harm-reduction approach to the "War on Drugs" at home and abroad. The [Nuclear Policy](#) project examines U.S. management of nuclear weaponry, power production, and waste management. The [Letelier-Moffitt Human Rights Awards](#) recognizes champions of human rights in the name of two IPS staffers who were killed in 1976 by agents of Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet.