



Interested in world affairs but feel like you don't know enough to discuss them intelligently?

Join us in
GREAT DECISIONS 2008

Co-sponsored by
 The League of Women Voters of La Plata County and
 the Durango Public Library

Topic	Tuesdays 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.	Thursdays 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Iraq: endgame	January 22	January 24
European Union at 50	February 5	February 7
Talking to our enemies	February 19	February 21
Russia	March 4	March 6
U.S. defense & security policy	March 18	March 20
Latin America: shift to the left?	April 1	April 3
U.S.-China trade policy	April 15	April 17
Private philanthropy	April 29	May 1

**Twilight Room,
 Durango Recreation Center, 2700 Main Avenue
 Brown bag lunch**

Note: The order of topics in the briefing book may be different from the schedule shown above. Please follow the schedule.

Checks for \$19 for the briefing book should be made out to LWV of La Plata County and mailed with this form no later than December 28 to:
Pat Chatfield, 91 Pioneer Place, Durango, CO 81303

Questions: Pat Chatfield, 247-1692

More information about Great Decisions and the Foreign Policy Association at www.fpa.org

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Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

I plan to attend: _____ Tuesdays _____ Thursdays _____ It may vary

I would attend a Wednesday evening session at the Recreation Center as first choice if one were held. _____

Great Decisions 2008 topics

Iraq: endgame

A recurring question found in most public opinion polls and on the 2008 presidential campaign trail: What will be the end-game for the U.S. in Iraq? How will U.S. decisions about continued engagement affect Iraq itself, and the Middle East?

European Union at 50

Having reached the 50th anniversary of the great experiment in European integration, it is time to take stock of the united Europe. Has the integration of new members been successful? What does the debate on Turkey's membership say about the future of EU integration and its changing demographics?

Talking to our enemies

How the U.S. deals with international challenges often depends on how it engages with allies, as well as enemies. How should the U.S. deal with countries like Cuba, North Korea and Iran? What approach should the U.S. take with groups like Hamas and Hezbollah?

Russia

During his two terms as president, Vladimir Putin has attempted to remake Russia into a major, independent world power. Some of his recent policies have provoked concern in the U.S. and Europe. With a 2008 Russian presidential election expected, what course will Russia take?

U.S. defense & security policy

The U.S. military is adopting new policies and methods for defending the U.S. and its interests abroad. What should U.S. priorities be? How should its forces be structured and deployed to meet new security challenges?

Latin America: shift to the left?

What factors have prevented the U.S. and Latin American countries from forging a strong relationship? What challenges confront U.S. policy in Latin America? Can the U.S. offer an alternative to the influence of left-leaning leaders like Venezuela's Hugo Chavez?

U.S.-China trade policy

Recent product safety scares have thrown the spotlight on the enormous role China plays in supplying products to the U.S. Could the large and growing trade imbalance with China have an adverse effect on the U.S. economy? What role does the undervalued Chinese currency play?

Private philanthropy

Billionaire Warren Buffet's June 2007 pledge to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation prompted headlines about the size of the gift and the impact it could have on global education and health initiatives. Can private donors be more effective than governments in tackling world problems?

Please note specific titles and topic order are subject to change

2008 Great Decision Topics
League of Women Voters of La Plata County - www.lwvlaplata.org