



Political Affairs Internship Weekly Tracker

Max Kurzweil

Start Date: February 3, 2025

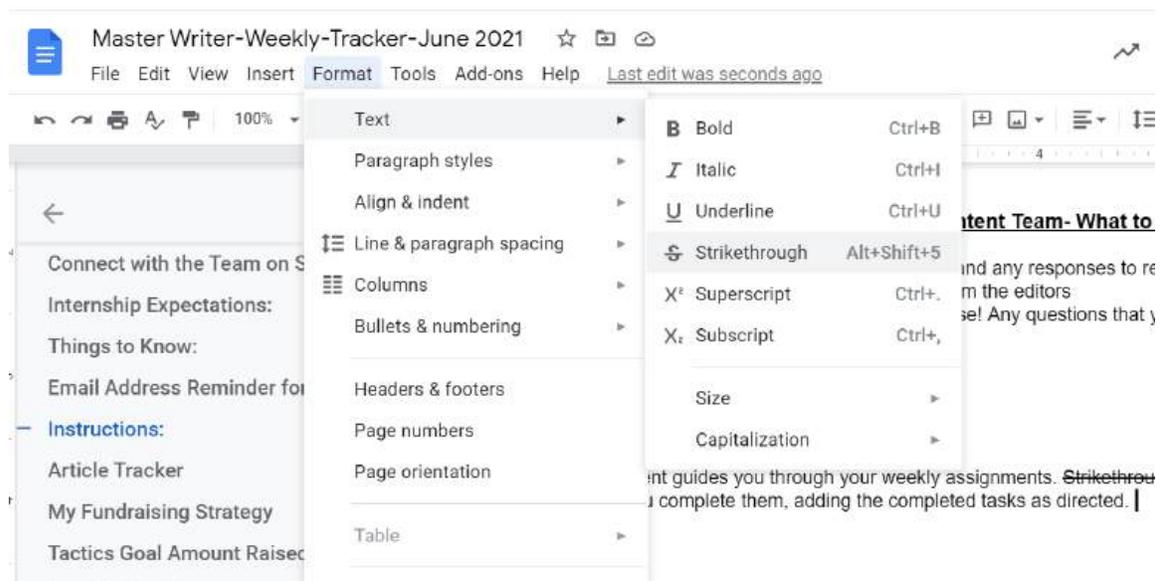
My Borgen Project Schedule: (List the days and times you'll be working and reachable)

DAY	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
TIME		<u>7p-10p</u>	<u>5:30p-8:30p</u>	<u>7p -10p</u>	<u>5:30p-8:30p</u>		

Please **carefully** read the instructions below!

The Basics

- Follow the assignments on the Weekly Tracker. **Cross-out** in red each assignment as you complete it.



- Don't mark off an assignment if it's not complete.
- The Weekly Tracker is due by Friday at 5:00PM PST each week.**
- Send questions to pa@borgenproject.org.
- If you ever run out of things to work on, visit the [go-to assignments page](#) or the [Point Chart](#).



- You'll notice that some weeks have fewer assignments than others. Those weeks give you more freedom to select your own assignments and focus on areas where you haven't met your objectives (fundraising, mobilizing, etc.).
- Be as detailed as you can in the Notes section after each weekly tracker tasks. Screenshots of everything are highly encouraged as well any pictures or footage you took of meetings, swarms, events, etc.

Things to Know

- The weekly instructions below are "must-do's" for each week.
- If you're feeling ambitious, you are welcome to jump ahead in assignments after you complete the current week. This is an especially good idea if you have finals or other commitments that might create a long week.
- ~~Cross-out~~ in red each assignment as you complete it.
- We want you to be proud of your work and we like to highlight the great work our team members are doing via our social media and website. Please send us good quality, high resolution images of anything you do for The Borgen Project. If you would prefer us not to share your images, please let your manager know.
- **Political Team Hub – Please make use of this [Hub](#) if you require any resources during your internship. Please also feel free to email your manager at any time if you have any questions or queries.**
- **State of the Union** - We have setup a continuous State of the Union page. It works like a blog. We'll publish our State of the Unions each month as a "post" on borgenteam.org and it will appear here: <http://borgenteam.org/state-of-the-union/>. This will allow new folks to look back at past State of the Unions.
- Download the **Causes**, **Pocket Congress**, **ReleVote**, and **Goods Unite Us** apps for [iTunes](#) or [Android](#) to keep track of important legislative issues.

Note: Causes is no longer available in the app store to download in my location/area, so I have instead downloaded the three apps above to track legislation and current issues people are advocating for.

- **Connect with the Team** - Social Media is an important part of the internship and advocacy. If you don't already have accounts on **FaceBook, Instagram, and Twitter**, you'll need to create them.
 - [Borgen Project FaceBook Page](#)
 - [Twitter](#)
 - [LinkedIn](#)
 - [Instagram](#)
 - [YouTube](#)
 - [Podcast](#)



- **Congressional Meetings** - When a meeting is held, ensure you submit your [lobbying report form](#) or the meeting will not count towards the goals achieved during your program.

Weekly Work Update

At the end of each week, there is a box to summarize what you have been working on, when and for how long. Please ensure you account for the expected 12 hours of work each week.

Date:	Task	Hours
8/1/18	Called and emailed Congress	0:30
8/1/18	Planned 1-Mile marketing campaign	2:00
8/4/18	Met with Sen. Kim's office, discussed REACH, BUILD and International Affairs budget, lobby report sent.	5:00
8/5/18	Held information event: please see photos and summary below.	4:30
	Total Hours	12

FUNDRAISING HOURS:

Hours of your internship are allocated to work on your personal fundraising campaign. On days you are working on fundraising, list what you've accomplished.

Date	Hours	
2/4	2.0	<i>Began Work on Fundraising Campaign Project Charter</i>
2/6	2.5	<i>Completed Fundraising Campaign Project Charter</i>
2/17-2/18	3	<i>Drafted, Approved, and Sent Emails and Texts in Support of Social Outreach Fundraiser</i>
3/3	1.5	<i>I completed follow-up phone calls and emails and contacted a few new people through text, email, and in person.</i>
3/6	1.5	<i>Presented proposal to Seegers Union Student Center Coordinator for the Borgen Bowl Fundraiser. Drafted correspondence and reached out to AEPi and Badminton Club presidents to consider sponsoring the event. Waiting for a response and to schedule a possible presentation time.</i>
3/14	1	<i>Had follow up meeting with AEPi leadership and Badminton Club to discuss correspondence. Unable to find sponsorship for the event, and sponsorship is required for events. AEPi has philanthropy events schedules, Badminton Club tis already working on Final Four Badminton Tournament at same time.</i>
3/17	2	<i>Designed and sent out new networking flyers requesting donations. Set up a campaign on YikYak (in campus messaging app) with a \$1 Challenge, encouraging students to donate \$1 to the cause</i>
3/27	1.5	<i>Drafted new follow up letters, texts, and emails thanking for their support and acknowledging goal was met; asking for them to double the impact with another donation that is equal to or exceeding their first.</i>



EVENTS CHART:

*Networking is a great skill to learn! Read more on how to Network for the Cause [here](#).

	Date:	Event:	People you Met:
Completed -	1. 2/26/2025	Muhlenberg Center for Ethics “Holding Mirrors: Representations of Caribbean Redress”	Dr. Zaira Simone-Thompson
Completed -	2. 4/23/25	<i>Muhlenberg Center for Ethics “Caring for the War Dead and the Environment: Challenges and Limits of Social Healing from the Vietnam-American War”</i>	Dr. Dat Nguyen, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies; Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
Completed -	3. 4/27/25	Allentown Town Council Townhall at Muhlenberg College	Town Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Matt Tuerk (Mayor) ● Candida Affa ● Ce-Ce Gerlach ● Cynthia Mota ● Daryl Hendricks ● Natalie Santos ● Ed Zucal ● Santo Napoli
Completed -	4. 4/7/2025	Public Health Symposium: Building the Worlds That Kill Us: Disease, Death, and Inequality in American History	Dr. David Rosner
Completed -	5. 4/4/2025	Pennsylvania Leadership Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dave McCormick ● Steven Bloom ● Lowman Henry ● Chip Roy ● Andrew Lewis ● Scott Martin ● Mayra Flores ● Kayleigh McEnany

<https://www.mobilize.us/padems/event/560730/>



The Big Picture Chart: Internship Expectations

Below are the big picture items that you need to accomplish during your internship. There might be a couple that you struggle to complete for various reasons, but if you're fully utilizing your time, the vast majority can be quickly accomplished. Print this page out, place it near your desk and put an "X" through each item as you accomplish it.

Minimum Impact:

<p>Met with Congressperson's Office**</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>Mobilized 50 people to email Congress</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>Attend 4 Networking Events</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>Taught 50 people to call Congress</p> <p>Completed -</p>
<p>Gave 2 Presentations</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>Raised \$500</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>2 Bird-Dogs</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>Talked to 3 classes about volunteer ops</p> <p>Completed -</p>

The Next Level of Impact:

<p>Mobilized 150 people to email Congress</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>One of your leader's cosponsors a key bill</p>	<p>Raised \$1,200</p>	<p>Generated news coverage for the cause</p> <p>Completed -</p>
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****All Congressional meetings will be scheduled by The Borgen Project staff. Do not contact your Congressional leaders independently for a meeting.****



Week 1

- ~~Attend the new hire orientation. If you missed the meeting, please email your manager confirming that you have missed the orientation as you will need to attend the next meeting.~~
- ~~Read the Politics 101 page.~~
- ~~Determine who your leaders are. **Add your leaders' phone numbers to your phone** (both their district office and D.C. office). List the names and phone numbers of your Congressional leaders below:~~
 - Sen. Dave McCormick 202-224-6324
 - Sen. John Fetterman 202-224-4254
 - Rep. Ryan Mackenzie 202 225 6411
- ~~Are you a 'Dual Constituent'? List any additional Members of Congress that you can contact:~~
 - Sen. Cory Booker 202-224-3224
 - Sen. Andy Kim 202-224-4744
 - Rep. LaMonica McIver 202-225-3436
- ~~List your congressional districts below using the following format as an example:~~

Representative: [D-CA-37] [Party-State-District]
Senator: [R-CA] [Party-State]

Representative: R-PA-7
Senator: D-PA
Senator: R-PA

Representative: D-NJ-10
Senator: D-NJ
Senator: D-NJ
- ~~Learn why calling Congress matters. Be sure to view the example of the actual call report that leaders receive:~~
 - **In the sample call report, how many people contacted the leader that week in support of the Millennium Project? 5 people called about global hunger.**
- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Go through the New Hires Boot Camp. Be sure to read and watch everything. Paste a screenshot of your completed New Hire Boot Camp document here:~~



THE CHECKLIST

Working through this document will help you become comfortable discussing the organization and issues.

KNOWLEDGE CHECK LIST	STATUS
1. Know The Borgen Project	
Read: About Us	Complete
Watch: What is The Borgen Project (3-minutes)	Complete
Watch: The Story Behind TBP (4-minutes)	Complete
Building an Anti-Poverty Movement (World Food Programme)	Complete
Be Familiar with the Success Tracker	Complete
Listen: Interview about The Borgen Project	Complete
Read: Methodology	Complete
2. Know the Issues	
Read: 8 Myths about Ending Extreme Poverty (Global Citizen)	Complete
How to Answer Global Poverty and Aid FAQ's (read & watch)	Complete
Global Poverty & U.S. Jobs (read & watch videos)	Complete
Poverty & National Security (read & watch videos)	Complete
Watch: Food Security = National Security (2-minutes)	Complete
Poverty and Overpopulation (watch videos)	Complete
Know the Glass is Half Full	Complete
Foreign Aid 101 (read & watch videos)	Complete
Read Short History of Global Living Conditions (OWDI)	Complete
Read Rethinking Global Poverty (Brookings)	Complete
Read Impacts of COVID-19 on Global Poverty (World Bank)	Complete
Listen: Importance of U.S. involvement	Complete
Know How Poverty is Reduced on the Ground	Complete
Watch & Listen: Efforts to Combat Global Poverty	Complete
3. Mobilizing and Engaging	
Watch: Bird-Dogging Videos	Complete
Watch & Listen: What it Means to be a Global Citizen (16-minutes)	Complete
4. Fundraising	
Watch: Xorize CEO discusses fundraising (8-minutes)	Complete
Watch: How donations are used (3-minutes)	Complete
Tips for Fundraising	Complete
Tips for Online Fundraising	Complete
Watch: How to be a better fundraiser (16-minutes)	Complete
Learn about Amazon Smile	Complete
5. Advocacy	
Advocacy 101	Complete
Watch: "I'm Just a Bill" (3-minutes)	Complete
Read: Gates Foundation CEO on Advocacy	Complete
Watch: Citizens Guide to Influencing Congress (40-min.)	Complete
TRAINING CHECK LIST	STATUS
Learn why we want everyone calling Congress	Complete
Find and add your Congressional leaders to your cellphone	Complete
Rep. Laffontice (Activist) 202-226-3436	
Sen. Cory Booker 202-224-3224	
Sen. Andy Kim 202-224-4744	
Call your 3 leaders (leave message if calling after hours)	Complete
ARE YOU READY FOR THESE QUESTIONS & MISPERCEPTIONS?	STATUS
What is The Borgen Project?	ready
How does The Borgen Project operate?	ready
Why should we address poverty abroad when we have it here?	Ready
What about corruption in poor countries?	ready
Doesn't the U.S. do enough already?	ready
Does aid hurt Africa?	ready

Read an employer's perspective on the importance of your internship and how it impacts your long-term career goals. What's your takeaway?

- “Your work experience and record of accomplishment at those jobs are what employers notice and will be asking you about in job interviews.”
- “Unless you have a degree in a field that is in high-demand it is nearly impossible to land a good, entry-level job out of college without relevant work and internship experience.”
- “Their internship experience is what landed them the job and set them on a course for much higher lifetime earnings.”

My takeaway from this article is that your work experience is crucial because it's what employers will inquire about during interviews and that demonstrates your ability to take your degree and put it into action. Additionally, I found it noteworthy that individuals in high-level positions should consider interning to gain hands-on experience and an early insight into what occurs in a



workplace. Another important point mentioned was how valuable the experience gained during internships can be, and how they can contribute to significant lifetime earnings.

- Let's start your fundraising off early! ~~Create an online fundraising campaign. Paste the link to your campaign page here:~~



Completed, but it says it may take a week or so to get the link.

- ~~Optional assignment: Would you be willing to help rebuild Ukraine using your English language skills? Take a look here:~~

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
2/2/25-2/3/25	Completed New Hire Bootcamp Training	3.30
2/3/25	Orientation Training	1.30
2/4/25	Emailed and Called Congressional Representatives	0.30
2/4/25	Completed reading and response assignments for Week 1	2.00
2/5/25	Setup Fundraising Profile	0.30
2/5/25 - 2/6/25	Fundraising Campaign Project Charter (link to Google Doc below)	4.30
2/4 - 2/6	Drafted, Edited, and Sent Letter to Editor (see below)	1.30
	Total Hours	14



The Borgen Hunger Bowl Project Charter Link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-0J9q42QqXNGhMmPStFEEdCi29XgYuPlv/edit?usp=sharing&oid=107193647600270642285&rtpof=true&sd=true>

<https://borgenproject.org/the-point-chart/>

Point Chart (10 Points) Letter to the Editor

Link to Letter:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V1JIB6zXj-DTk2G-XwNjZsjl-Bjbt24MM1pTRjyJzjl/edit?usp=sharing>

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

2/2

- 7 pm to 9 pm: Worked on the new hire boot camp. Completed sections 1,2,3,4 and the training checklist section (used NJ representatives for dual constituency)

2/3

- 11:30am to 1pm: Completed section 5 and are you ready section of new hire Bootcamp and shared with manager and poster screenshot here
- 1pm to 2:30pm: Attended orientation training

2/4

7p - 7:30pm: Emailed and called the following Congressional representatives from PA:

- Sen. Dave McCormick
 - VM full
 - *Called and left VM for Rep, LaMonica McIver (NJ) instead*
 - Sen. John Fetterman
 - Left VM
 - Rep. Ryan Mackenzie
 - Left VM
-
- 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm: Completed the readings and response questions/assignments for Week 1
 - 9:30pm to 10pm: Started first draft of letter to editor on the importance of USAID as the government agency responsible for poverty reduction initiatives around the world, which directly affects our national security, including call to action to Rep. MacKenzie and including a link back and mention of Borgen Project within the text.



2/5

- 7pm to 7:30 pm: Setup fundraising profile
- 7:30 to 9:30 pm Started working on fundraising campaign project charter
- 9:30 to 10pm: Revised and edited letter to editor (shortened from original 342 words to 197)

2/6

- 5:30 pm to 8 pm: Finished work on fundraising campaign project charter and submitted to Campus Engagement Committee, SGA, and MAC for approval
- 8pm to 8:30pm: Finished final draft of letter to editor and sent to *The Morning Call*

Week 2

- ~~Create a profile of your leaders. Know what they're cosponsoring and what makes them tick.~~
 - Social Media Listening App: [Brand24](#)
 - Key Donors: [Goods Unite Us](#)
 - Voting Record / Key Groups: [ReleVote](#)
 - [OpenSecrets.Org](#) for Industries, Elections, Legislation Sponsorship
 - [Congress Legislation Tracker](#)
 - [FEC](#) for Donor Info
- **Every week** you will research your leaders and add info to your profiles of them. **TIP: Keep this saved on your desktop! You should be constantly working on this. This research can be used later in the program to form the basis of a *marketing campaign*.**
- ~~Sign up for your leader's e-newsletters (both campaign and Congressional Office).~~
- Read [How to Lobby Congress](#)
- ~~Read about the [Legislative Process of a Bill](#), then answer the following:~~
 - Briefly describe the **path a bill takes** from its start to its passage into law.
 - A member of Congress first conceives a bill. Then, it is introduced and that person becomes a sponsor and lobbies other people to become co-sponsors. The more co-sponsors you have, the better chance of getting it passed. After that, it is referred to a committee. Then, in committee, there will be a hearing about the bill. Then, there will be a markup for the committee to make amendments if they feel it is necessary. Then, they will either adopt the bill and send it for debate on the House or Senate floor, or they will reject it, and the bill dies. If approved, the committee chair writes a report and the bill goes to floor debate. After that debate, there is a vote and it is a majority vote if it passes, it goes to the next house or senate of the house of Congress, or they vote or they send it back with amendments. If both houses agree and vote, it is sent to the president and signed into law.
 - Outline some **examples of checks and balances** that Congress and the President may use when passing a bill.
 - The president's check is that he has veto power and can reject the bill



within 10 days. However, Congress has a check; they can override a veto if two-thirds of both houses pass the bill.

- o Describe the **role committees have** in the legislative process.
 - The committee members are experts in the area for which the bill is being introduced. They review the bill to determine whether any amendments need to be made and whether it should be introduced for debate. If they disagree, the bill will not even reach the floor of Congress.
- o Contrast the **differences in amending powers** between a congressperson and a senator during a floor debate.
 - A representative can only amend a bill with support from the rules committee. A senator can introduce an amendment separately.

- ~~Create your **email signature**, including your title—Borgen Project Ambassador. A professional email signature will help you communicate effectively with other organizations and professionals.~~

Example:

*John Brown
Borgen Project Ambassador*

- ~~After reading Politics 101 and attending Lobbying 101, complete the Lobbying 101 quiz in order to be certified to lobby on behalf of the world's poor.~~

- ~~Follow your leaders on their **social media accounts** (list your leader's Twitter and Facebook page below. Social media has become a big part of influencing leaders and you will need **both Twitter and Facebook** accounts to complete several assignments:~~

John Fetterman

- **Twitter Account:** <https://x.com/senfettermanpa?s=21>
- **Facebook Account:** <https://www.facebook.com/SenFettermanPA/>

- Dave McCormick

- **Twitter Account:** <https://x.com/senmccormickpa?s=21>
- **Facebook Account:** <https://www.facebook.com/share/18bif5gwsd/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Ryan MacKenzie

- **Twitter Account:** <https://x.com/repmackenzie?s=21>
- **Facebook Account:** <https://www.facebook.com/RepMackenzie>



● ~~Start practicing your elevator pitch and have it ready! Paste notes here:~~

Did you know that the world's most unstable regions also pose some of the greatest threats to our national security while also representing some of our greatest economic potential?

Poverty, conflict, and disease are breeding grounds for extremism, migration crises, and trade disruptions.

Strengthening USAID and funding foreign aid programs reduces global threats that compromise our security and creates new markets for American goods.

It's not charity, it's smart strategy.

Every dollar we invest comes back to us in the form of stronger trade relationships, more American jobs, and safer borders.

Can I count on your support for bills and appropriations that continue to fund USAID and the foreign affairs budget?

The "No" People Response

I know it's a tough decision, especially when there aren't any immediate returns on investment.

But foreign aid is about building partnerships that help prevent threats that can cost us a lot more down the line.

I'm happy to send you some more data or connect you with some experts who can give you a clearer picture of the benefits. Bottom line, this isn't about charity it's about protecting American lives and creating new economic opportunities.

Would you at least be open to reviewing some of that information?

● ~~Send handwritten letters to your Congressional Leaders. Paste a copy or photos of your letter here:~~



2/12/25

Dear Representative McKenzie,
 I hope this message finds you well. I'm reaching out to you today with a deep concern regarding the recent freeze on U.S. foreign aid, particularly as it relates to the important work being done by USAID in the East Asia and Pacific Region. Your role on the Homeland Security Committee's Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee, as well as the Foreign Affairs Committee's East Asia and Pacific Subcommittee, makes you a crucial advocate for addressing the national security challenges posed by this aid suspension. In places like the Philippines and Indonesia, wars such as Abu Sagar and his linked factions prey on poverty and instability to lure in new members. Similarly the →



2/12/25

Dear Senator Fetterman,

I hope this letter find you well. I'm reaching out to share my concerns about the recent pause in USAID operations which I believe has serious implications for our homeland security and the important work of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

As a member of the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee, your voice is vital during this challenging time. USAID has been a cornerstone in fostering democratic values, combating corruption, and promoting stability in Europe and Eurasia - efforts that resonate deeply with the mission of the Helsinki Commission. The suspension of these programs not only threatens to reverse the progress we've made but also creates openings for harmful →



2/12/2020

Dear Senator McCormick,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to share my concerns regarding the recent freeze on the US Foreign aid, which

is affecting critical programs run by USAID in India and the Middle East including countries involved in the Abraham Accords.

Given your role as Chair of the foreign relation subcommittee, I believe this issue is closely tied to your sub of strengthening US-India relations, advancing the Abraham accords, and promoting security and economic stability in these regions.

Moreover, USAID funding has been key to the success of the Abraham Accords, fostering economic collaboration and counterterrorism efforts between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The Merit Program which has a long bipartisan support →



-
- ~~Read fundraising ideas and fundraising talking points~~
 - ~~Read these great tips from Haley's and Taylor's successful fundraising campaign.~~
 - ~~Next week you'll begin your personal fundraising campaign. Review the organization's financials and familiarize yourself with the donor FAQ's so that you can **effectively answer questions from potential donors**. You have 25 hours of your internship earmarked to focus on fundraising \$500 or more. Those hours and the fundraising minimum should be **completed by week 8** of your internship. If not, please speak to your manager regarding this.~~
 - ~~**Online fundraising campaigns** must be done via The Borgen Project's Fundraiser pages. Other third-party platforms such as GoFundMe and Facebook charge very high processing fees and the organization does not directly receive the funding.~~
 - [Mobilize 10 people in your state](#) to [email leaders](#) in support of USAID and Unfreezing Humanitarian Aid the International Affairs Budget. **Be sure to have them email via the form on our [website](#).** List their names so the team lead can confirm with the advocacy program.

From both NJ AND PA (since I'm a dual constituent)

<https://online-qr-generator.com/qr-codes>



1. Ashton Chubb
2. Sean Coghlan
3. Marlene Kurzweil
4. Ron Kurzweil
5. Ethan Kurzweil
6. Marc Scherer
7. Sofia Sotomoyer
8. Gabriella Mendez
9. Jimmy Kaba
10. Jeremy Rodriguez



- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Tweet out to your leaders in support of one of these issues. Take a screenshot of your Tweets and paste them here:~~



Fundraising Strategy

During **weeks 3 and 4** of your tracker, you will be sending out **fundraising letters to friends and family**, and also **creating an online fundraising campaign**. Your online fundraising campaign, along with your friends and family letters are requirements that will help you reach the \$500 minimum, but you'll need to **implement more strategies** to ensure the goal is reached.

- ~~Watch this Fundraising 101~~
- ~~List ways that you can personalize your fundraising campaign here:~~



- As cofounder and secretary of the Badminton Club on campus, I could arrange a Badminton for Borgen fundraising tournament. Teams entry fee is a small donation to the Borgen Project.
- As a member of the AEPi Fraternity on campus, which is involved in philanthropy planning events required by their charter, we can use the Borgen Project as a fundraiser to raise awareness of global poverty on campus.
- I've already begun work on the Borgen Hunger Bowl, since we have an event space available on campus and/or at the Hillel event space on campus and friends who have parents who own restaurants, to create a one night event about the link between hunger and poverty through an interactive event and presentation.
- Since I am on a college campus, I could also set up a tabling event to entice people to learn about the Borgen Project and use it to ask for a small donation and/or to email their representatives to support the Borgen Project.

- ~~Come up with your own fundraising ideas or try one of these.~~
- ~~List your fundraising strategies below.~~

Strategy	Goal	Amount raised
<i>Online fundraising campaign</i>	\$100	\$175
<i>Family and Friends Letters/Emails</i>	\$100	\$150
<i>List more ideas below. To reach \$500 you'll want to utilize other strategies as well</i>		
<i>Borgen Hunger-Bowl</i>	\$100	\$N/A
<i>AEPi Philanthropy Event</i>	\$100	\$110
<i>Badminton for Borgen Event</i>	\$100	\$75

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

DAY	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
TIME		7p-10p	5:30p-8:30p	7p -10p	5:30p-8:30p		

Date:	Task	Hours
2/10	Completed leader Profiles for PA Representatives	3
2/11	Completed readings and response and watched lobbying video for week 2	3
2/12	Took Lobbying Quiz and Wrote/Mailed Congressional Leaders letters	3
2/13	Drafted Elevator Pitch, Developed Fundraising ideas, and completed Congressional outreach out via phone, email, and tweet	3
	Total Hours	12



NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

2/10

- 7 pm to 10 pm: Completed leader Profiles for PA Representatives

2/11

- 5:30 to 6:30: Completed Reading and responses for week 2
- 6:30 to 7:30: Watched Lobbying Video
- 7:30 to 8:00 Read Fundraising ideas review financial and donor facts
- 8:00 to 8:30 Reviewed politics 101 and lobbying video

2/12

- 7:00 to 8:00 Took lobbying quiz and review politics and lobbying video
- 8:00 to 10:00 Wrote to Congressional Leaders

2/13

- 5:30 to 6:30 Drafted elevator pitch
- 6:30 to 7:30 Watched Fundraising 101 and wrote out personalized ideas for campaigns
- 7:30 to 8:00 Completed Congressional outreach through phone, text, and tweet.
- 8:00 to 8:30 Wrote follow up email for fundraisers to the director of operations on campus and did final outreach for email mobilization

Week 3

- ~~1. Email the Foreign Policy LA's (Legislative Assistant) of your leaders. (*WA constituents should skip the task)~~
- ~~2. Paste a copy of your letter here:~~

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to you as a constituent and ambassador of [The Borgen Project](#), about the recent memo from Secretary of State Marco Rubio halting almost all foreign aid activity, including projects already approved and funded, while a 90-day review is conducted. I am also concerned that the Administration has stopped USAID from functioning, stopping the agency's ability to carry out critical programs.

Shutting down USAID and halting critical programs overnight isn't a step toward reform; it's a reckless move that undermines global stability and progress. The U.S. must maintain its leadership role in global development, security, and diplomacy, and this action threatens to undo decades of progress and puts our national security in peril.

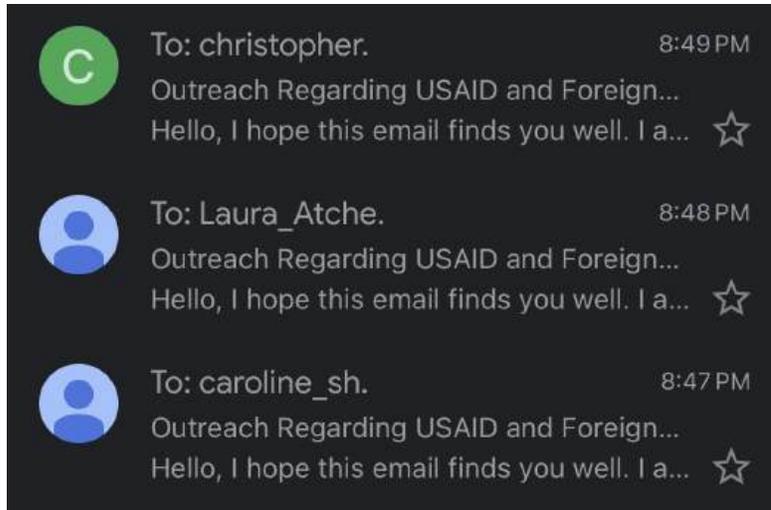
The Borgen Project has compiled compelling information on why U.S. military leaders advocate for increasing our efforts to address global poverty and how it helps to improve our national security:

<https://borgenproject.org/national-security-and-global-poverty/>



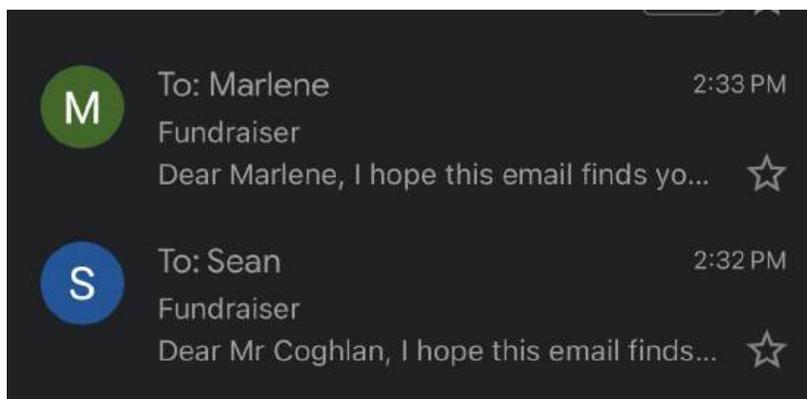
Please take action by advocating for and raising awareness about this with your Congressional leader to ensure U.S. foreign aid continues to be a tool for promoting global stability, security, and humanitarian relief.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I greatly appreciate your support in advocating for policies that sustain and strengthen our international aid efforts.



~~3. Complete fundraising letters. A minimum of 15 is required, but you'll want to send at least 30 if you hope to raise \$500 off of the letters. Anticipate 1 in 8 might actually donate. Those who raise the most from letters, typically send over 40.~~

4. ~~Paste a screenshot of your sent items folder, for any letters sent by email here:~~

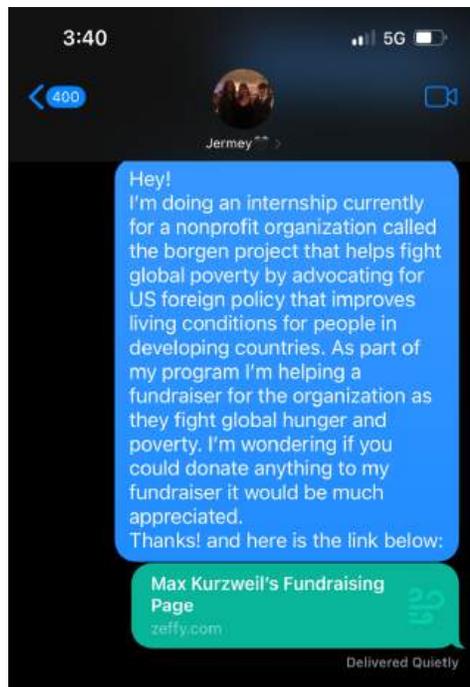
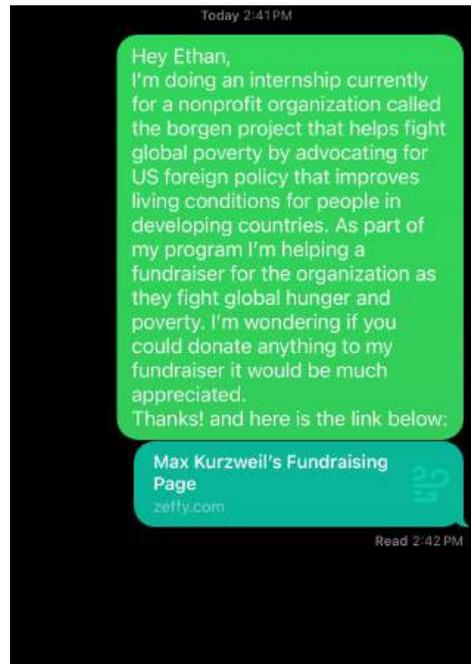




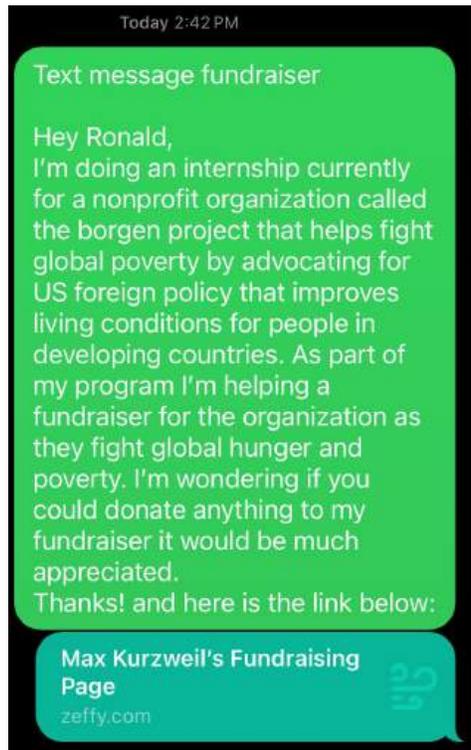
●— Paste a screenshot of your sent items for any letters that you send via SMS here:



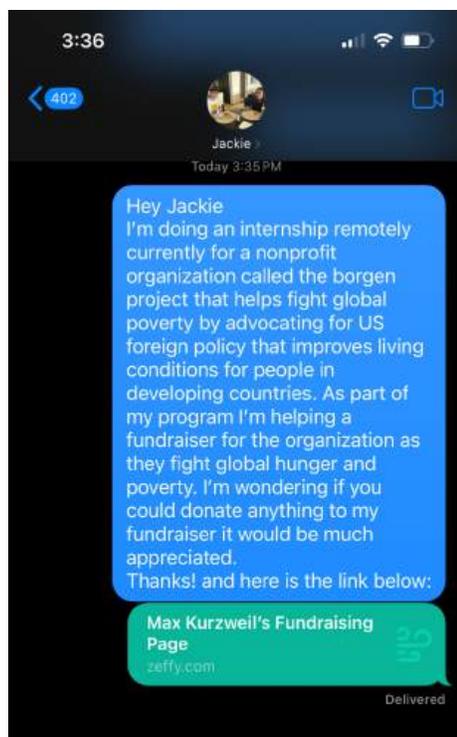
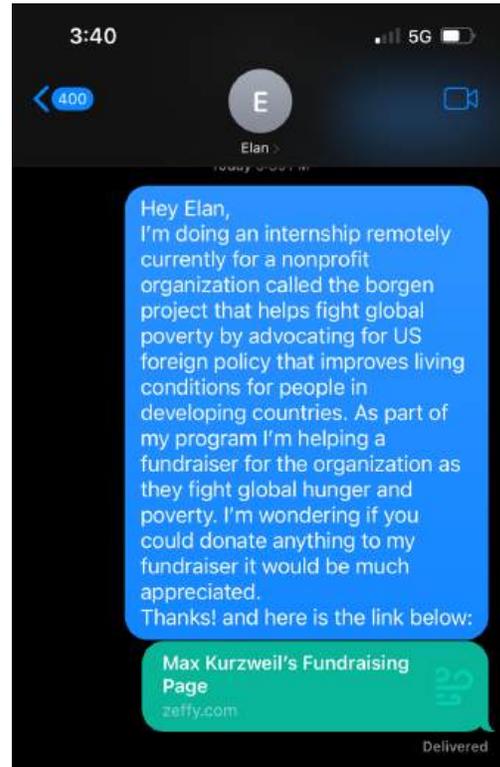
THE BORGEN PROJECT



THE BORGEN PROJECT



THE BORGEN PROJECT





5. ~~Paste a photo of any letters you will mail here:~~

6. ~~Emailed the spreadsheet of your potential donors to letters@borgenproject.org as per the instructions in step 2:~~

7. ~~Paste a screenshot of your list here:~~

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	First Name of Potential Donor	Nick Name of Potential Donor	Last Name of Potential Donor	Potential Donor's Email Address, Mailing Address OR Phone Number (READ FUNDRAISING EMAIL INSTRUCTIONS)	Your Name	Your Email	Your Title at The Borgen Project		
2									
3	Sean		Coghlan	sean.coghlan83@gmail.com	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
4	Marlene		Kurzweil	hubb14@aol.com	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
5	Ethan		Kurzweil	201-682-9552	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
6	Ron		Kurzweil	201-349-7863	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
7	Jodi		Amendola	602-614-3182	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
8	Jackie		Amendola	480-204-2572	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
9	Stephanie		McDonnell	973-713-8091	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
10	Elan		Araten	917-603-7930	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
11	Jeremy		Rodriguez	973-609-7381	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
12	Hal		Stern	973-865-6089	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
13	Ashlen		Chubb	610-368-4023	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
14	Marc		Scheerer	914-529-1943	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
15	Nolan		Eichorn	215-292-7689	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
16	Tanya		Balboa	201-697-2821	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
17	Angie		Batal	210-310-8739	Max Kurzweil	maxkurzweil56@gmail.com	Political Affairs Intern		
18	Christina		Dall						
19									
20									

8. ~~Paste a copy of your fundraising letter here:~~

I hope this email finds you well. I'm currently interning with The Borgen Project. If you're not familiar with the nonprofit, I highly encourage you to spend time at borgenproject.org. The Borgen Project fights to end global poverty by building nonpartisan support for life-saving initiatives where they're needed most.

During my internship, one of my responsibilities is organizing a fundraising campaign for The Borgen Project. Today, I'm writing to ask you to contribute to the social outreach portion of my campaign. As an advocacy organization, donations to The Borgen Project go towards public awareness campaigns that teach individuals to take action and effectively amplify the voices of the world's poor. Here is a video that explains in more detail how your donation will be used:

[VIDEO INSERT FROM US TEMPLATE PROVIDED]

We're all more interconnected than we think, and the U.S. is in the best position to alleviate inequalities worldwide. For example, The Borgen Project advocated for the [Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act](#), which became law in 2022. As of March 2023, 659 million people live in extreme poverty, down from 902 million in 2012 and 1.9 billion in 1990. This decline has been due to increased sustainable growth, such as improved agricultural practices, women's economic empowerment and food security. With the consistent work of The Borgen Project, key foreign aid programs and legislative actions have helped people maintain a more stable and secure lifestyle. These global investments also [help create U.S. jobs](#) and [protect our national security interests](#).



I am reaching out to important people in my life that support me and I hope you will consider joining me in this fight for poverty-reduction efforts. You can join me in any of the following ways:

- **Donate.** [CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#). It's quick, simple and you get to take part in fighting poverty! On average, every \$1 donated to The Borgen Project helps build support for key poverty-reduction bills that benefit 92 lives. **Please input Max Kurzweil in the 'On Behalf Of' field** so that your donation counts towards my goal of raising **\$500**. Checks can also be mailed to The Borgen Project, 2661 N Pearl St. PMB #442, Tacoma, WA 98407. Please include **Max Kurzweil** in the Memo field of the check.
- **Mobilize.** I really want to multiply my impact. Even if you reach out to a few people and find two individuals to contribute, that would help immensely!
- You can also consider joining The Borgen Project's Giving Circle. This treasured community of **monthly donors** helps the organization continue to grow steadily in order to reach as many people around the world as possible. Giving monthly will also allow you to spread the financial impact of your giving across the entire year, making it much more manageable for your budget.

I believe in a world where no person should live in extreme poverty, and that is why I am so grateful to spread awareness about this cause. Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

Max Kurzweil

Borgen Project Ambassador

borgenproject.org



I AM AN **Advocate**



THE BORGEN PROJECT



I am an **advocate** because when we help others, we help ourselves. Addressing and fighting against the injustices of poverty strengthens us as individuals and as a nation.

Max Kurzweil

Political Affairs Intern

Pennsylvania

MY STORY

WHY I CARE ABOUT THE BORGEN PROJECT

I joined The Borgen Project because I believe fighting global poverty is not just an act of compassion, it's a strategic necessity. History has shown that neglecting poverty fuels instability, extremism, and humanitarian crises that impact the entire world. By advocating for policies that address poverty, we strengthen global security, open new economic opportunities, and create a more stable, interconnected future. When we invest in people, we invest in peace, prosperity, and a better world for all.

Please visit www.borgenproject.org to learn more and give a gift to help support poverty-reducing efforts.



~~9. Email 5 or more professors about discussing volunteer and intern ops with their classes. Add the names of the professors you contacted:~~

1. Dr. Catherine Hessick
2. Dr. Richard Booser
3. Dr. Lindsay Burt
4. Dr. Alec Marsh
5. Dr. Moshin Hashim

Subject: Request to Make a Brief Announcement in Class

I hope you're doing well. I am reaching out because I am currently completing a remote internship with The Borgen Project as a Political Affairs Intern. The Borgen Project is a national nonprofit dedicated to reducing global poverty through advocacy, education, and lobbying initiatives.

One of the requirements of the internship is to act as an advocate for the program and its mission on campus; specifically, I am tasked with completing three brief classroom talks to introduce students on campus to the program and to let them know about current internship and volunteer opportunities with the organization. I was hoping to stop in briefly before or near the end of one of your upcoming classes to share this information with your students; it wouldn't take more than a minute or two of your time. The Borgen Project is currently seeking writing, editing, and political affairs interns, and it would be a way to raise awareness about an IGO for students interested in advocacy, journalism, and/or public policy careers.

Here is a link to their website if you want to take a closer look at what they do: <https://borgenproject.org/>

Please let me know if this is possible and, if so, what day/time works best for you in the next few weeks. I appreciate your time and consideration!

<input type="checkbox"/> ☆	To: Mohsin	Request to Make a Brief Announcement in Class - Hello Dr Hashim, I hope you're doing well. I am reaching out becaus...	8:50PM
<input type="checkbox"/> ☆	To: Alec	Request to Make a Brief Announcement in Class - Hello Dr Marsh, I hope you're doing well. I am reaching out because...	8:49PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ☆	To: Lindsay	Request to Make a Brief Announcement in Class - Hello, Dr Burt, I hope you're doing well. I am reaching out...	   
<input type="checkbox"/> ☆	To: Richard	Request to Make a Brief Announcement in Class - Dear Dr Booser, I hope you're doing well. I am reaching out becaus...	8:48PM
<input type="checkbox"/> ☆	To: Catherine	Request to Make a Brief Announcement in Class - Dear Dr Hessick, I hope you're doing well. I am reaching out becaus...	8:47PM



10. ~~Tweet to the media. Take a screenshot of your Tweets and paste them here:~~



11. ~~Meet the team:~~

- ~~● Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~● Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~● Use this link to schedule a time to have a follow up meeting with your Manager next week:
<https://calendly.com/natalie-coyne/1-1-meeting>~~

For the meeting, please ensure that you are in a quiet place, with no disturbances and are appropriately attired for a workplace meeting. We allow you to schedule calls at times of your choice and we ensure that we are available to meet with you at your selected time. Please afford us the professional courtesy of being present for these meetings, or emailing us in advance to reschedule.

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
2/17	Drafted and sent LA email for approval as well as sending fundraising letter for approval as well	3
2/18	Emailed approved letters, drafted text messages, and sent then uploaded screenshots	2
2/18	Completed Spreadsheet of Potential donors and shared it with letters to the Borgen Project	1
2/19	Emailed Professors for Class Announcement	1.5
2/19	Research and tweet to the media on X and Review Borgen Team project members	1.5
2/20	Completed Class Announcements and uploaded it to YouTube	1.5
2/20	Called/emailed Congressional leaders and updated Leader Profile for week 3	1.5
	Total Hours	12



NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

2/17

- 7 to 9 pm drafted foreign policy LA email and sent it for approval to the manager
- 9 to 10 pm Drafted fundraising email and sent to the manager for approval

2/18

- 5:30 to 7:30 Emailed LA letters and compiled a list of potential fundraising donors, completed text messages, sent texts and emails, and uploaded/sized screenshots of sent messages
- 7:30 to 8:30: Completed Spreadsheet of Potential donors and shared it with letters at Borgen Project.org and completed the I am an Advocate poster.

- **2/19**

- 7:00 to 8:30: Drafted email for Class announcement and sent to 5 Professors
 - 8:30 to 9:15 Creating tweet/post on X, researched news media to send, and send to news media on the X Platform
 - 9:15 to 10:00 Reviewed team members of the Borgen Project to learn more about their accomplishments and advice they had for members that are just beginning work for the Borgen Project
- **Scheduled meeting with manager Next Week

2/20

- 5:30 to 6:30 Arranged meeting time with professors and made a brief class announcement the recordings of the class announcement are below.
- 6:30 to 7:00: Formatted and uploaded classroom announcements onto Youtube
- 7:00 to 7:45 Researched current news media mentions of representatives and updated Leader Profile for week 3
- 7:45 - 8:30: Called and Emailed Congressional Leaders; Reviewed current Borgen Magazine in preparation for Next week (articles reviewed: Hope for the Batwa Tribe, IMF and World Bank Policies, how AI is Reducing Food Insecurity in the Global South)

Completed Classroom Talks:

[Class Talk 1 \(Hessick\)](#)

[Class Talk 2 \(Hashim\)](#)

[Class Talk 3 \(Marsh\)](#)



Week 4

- ~~Post/Tweet out one of your favorite articles from the Borgen Magazine. Take a screenshot of your post/Tweet and paste it here:~~

<https://www.borgenmagazine.com/poverty-in-hong-kong/>

According to a recent article in the @theborgenproject magazine, The Good Community Project is reducing poverty in rural China by setting up pop-up kiosks to connect individuals with essential goods. Learn more here: <https://shorturl.at/YehDB>



- ~~Write a letter to the editor. Send a link to your manager if it gets published. We love reading these!~~
- ~~Paste the text of your letter in an email and send to your manager to be approved before you submit it to a publication. If you are referencing another article in your letter, be sure to include the link in your email as well.~~

From Hungry to Hangry: Why Cutting Food Aid is a Dangerous Move

[The FY25 Foreign Affairs Budget](#) plans to cut the [Global Agriculture and Food Security Program](#) (GAFSP) from \$10 million to zero. The program was launched after the 2007-08 food price crisis, which was sparked by climate shocks, export bans, and weak agricultural investment. It saw staple prices soar, triggering food riots in over 30 countries and deepening poverty worldwide, including in the US.

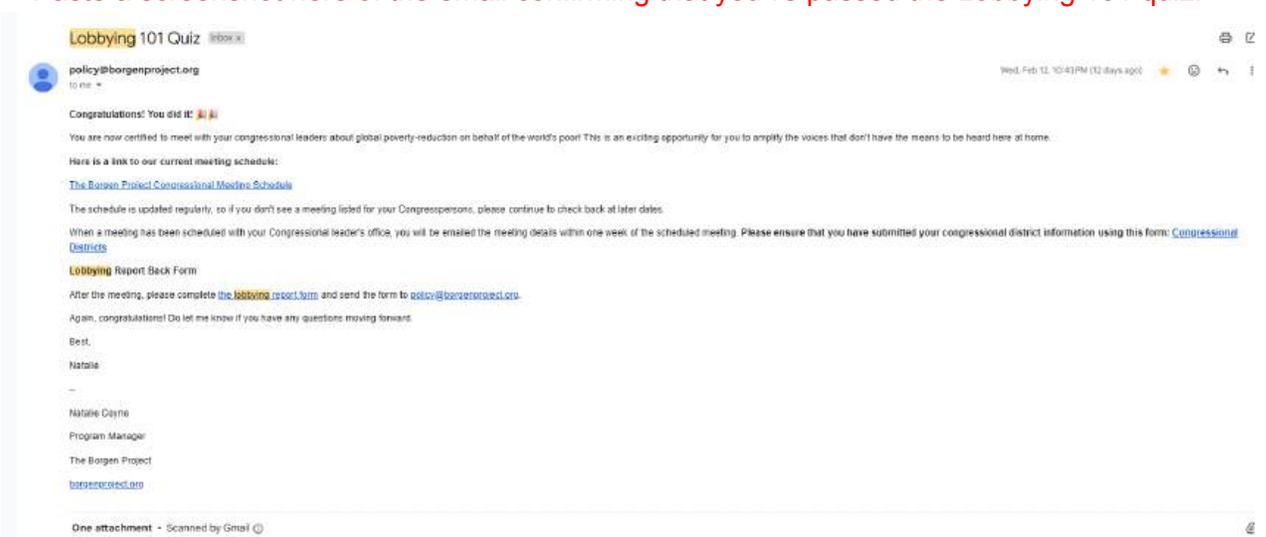
Eliminating GAFSP risks a repeat. Climate-driven crop failures are rising. Without programs like GAFSP that invest resources in resilient farming, vulnerable regions could face shortages, spiking prices, and unrest. If this happens, nations we depend on for many of our staple crops will reduce their exports, causing hyperinflation and food shortages in the US.



History has shown that “hangry” populations fuel instability. GAFSP is the shield that protects the US and the world from another food price crisis, so I call on Representative Ryan MacKenzie to take action to prevent this crucial program from losing funding. Cutting it could cost all of us far more than we save.

To learn more about how foreign aid programs like GAFSP affect the security and economic stability of the United States, visit borgenproject.org.

- ~~Read about the Federal Budget.~~
- ~~Paste a screenshot here of the email confirming that you've passed the Lobbying 101 quiz:~~



- ~~Re-read [How to Lobby Congress](#) and answer the following questions:~~
 - **What is our number 4 top lobbying tip?**
 1. Try to find common ground and find ways to form a connection with the person you are meeting.
 2. Make sure you are positive, professional, and likeable. Dress to impress and be knowledgeable about the person you are meeting with and the issue you are advocating for.
 3. Use trigger words that will resonant with the person you are meeting with, based on the issues and priorities and bills or committees they re a part of.
 4. Make sure you meet their needs by addressing why they should sponsor or support a bill or resolution and also give them something they can bring back to their constituents that helps them explain wh they are supporting it.
 - **How long after the meeting should you wait to follow up?**
One Week
 - **What is the form that you need to complete after your meeting?**
Lobbying Report Form
- ~~Refer back to your leader profiles in week 2 and add any new information you find from your research.~~



- **Begin your Ambassador Portfolio Share what you learned from the resources you used this week.**

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/02/26/world/trump-promotes-gaza-plan-ai-video-intl/index.html>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cj675j69gxgo>

Blogger Ambassador Portfolio

February 26, 2025 - Today, the U.S. President unveiled a 33-second AI-generated video presenting a highly controversial vision for the future of Gaza, one that reimagines the region as a luxurious, Las Vegas-style strip complete with skyscrapers, opulent hotels, and even golden statues of himself. Called the "Riviera of the Middle East" in the video, this depiction is in stark contrast with Gaza's current reality of conflict, depletion, and profound human suffering. As an ambassador for The Borgen Project, an organization dedicated to advancing policies and programming that combat global poverty, I find this proposal deeply troubling, not only for its implications on humanitarian grounds but also for its potential to exacerbate poverty and instability in an already fragile region.

The broader plan is to relocate approximately two million Palestinian residents from Gaza to neighboring countries such as Egypt and Jordan. This proposal has drawn swift and justified condemnation from world leaders and activists, who label it "ethnic cleansing" and see it as a violation of Palestinian rights.

Forced displacement of this magnitude risks plunging millions deeper into poverty, disrupting access to essential services, and undermining the stability of host nations already struggling with economic challenges.

Two moments in the video particularly underscore its disconnect from the pressing needs of the region. One scene features Elon Musk, who is called the "DOGE Commissioner," casually tossing money into the air with a smile in an image that feels particularly tone-deaf given the extreme economic conditions faced by Palestinians. Another depicts women in bikinis alongside the President in a suggestive manner, injecting an unsettling frivolity into a discussion that demands reservation and respect.

These elements only amplify the controversy surrounding the proposal, which has faced strong opposition from Palestinian authorities, as well as Egypt and Jordan, who argue it disregards fundamental human rights and their sovereignty as independent nations.

From a policy perspective, this vision raises serious concerns. Gaza's population has endured years of conflict, with infrastructure decimated and livelihoods destroyed. Rather than investing in reconstruction, education, and economic empowerment, which are all initiatives proven to lift communities out of poverty, Trump's plan pivots toward a model of development that benefits few beyond the rich oligarchs and real estate tycoons and displaces millions. Relocating two million people would strain the resources of Egypt and Jordan, potentially destabilizing their economies and reversing progress on poverty reduction in the region. The United Nations and other humanitarian bodies have long emphasized that sustainable development, not mass displacement, is key to addressing crises like Gaza's. This proposal runs counter to that evidence-based approach.

Who shapes Gaza's future, and at what cost? The answer should not lie in a glitzy, exclusionary fantasy, but in solutions that address poverty, promote equity, and foster peace.

I invite you to become an advocate for a Gaza, and a world - where prosperity is built for all, not just the few - by [calling](#) and/or [emailing or writing](#) your Congressional representatives and telling them they need to support funding priorities for foreign aid and legislation that protects USAID and unfreezes federal funding.

Sources: <https://www.cnn.com/2025/02/26/world/trump-promotes-gaza-plan-ai-video-intl/index.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cj675j69gxgo>

The Borgen Project works with Congress to prioritize policies, programs, and funding that help reduce global poverty. Curious about how they're driving change for communities worldwide? Explore their work at borgenproject.org and learn how you can make your voice heard.



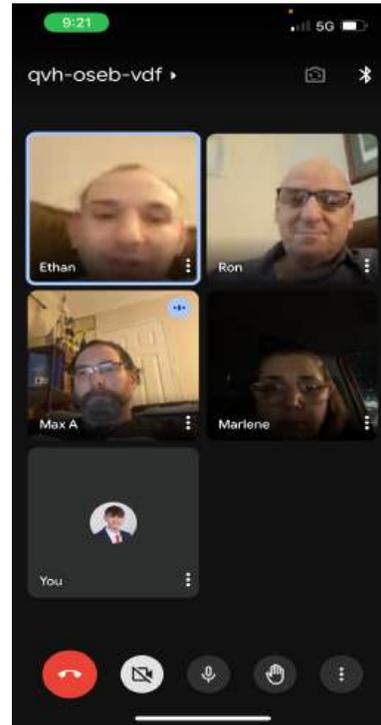
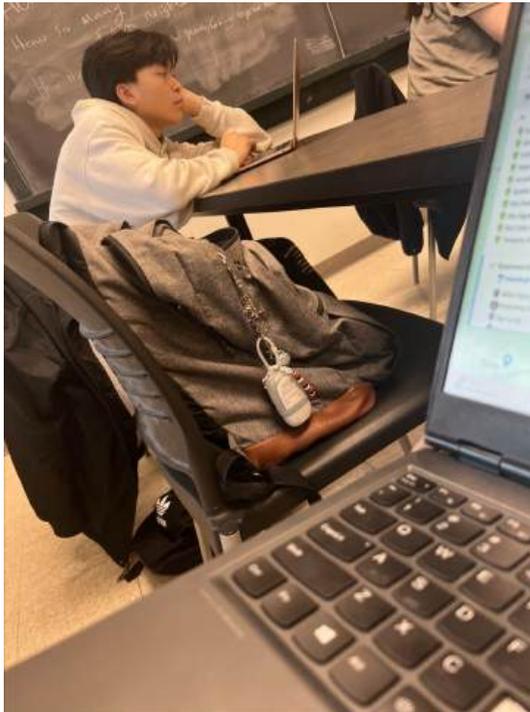
- ~~Read How USAID Operates and answer the following:~~
 - **Provide a summary of USAID's creation. Talk specifically about the original goals/aspirations of the agency.**

On November 3, 1961, President John F. Kennedy established the United States Agency for International Development to address the need for a unified international development agency. This action aimed to consolidate U.S. foreign assistance efforts into a cohesive structure. Kennedy tasked USAID with administering aid to foreign countries, with the ultimate objective of promoting economic, political, and social development.
 - **Talk briefly about the two ways in which USAID is funded (hint: appropriations bills and bills for specific humanitarian projects).**

USAID's funding derives from two primary congressional processes. Annually, Congress passes appropriations bills to allocate funds to government agencies. The Department of State receives a portion of this funding, and USAID obtains its share from the Department of State allocation. Alternatively, specific legislation from House or Senate members directly allocates funds to USAID for targeted humanitarian projects.
 - **How does USAID conduct their missions around the globe? (discuss both contracts and USAID's on-the-ground work) Also, how does USAID make sure to address the specific needs of different countries with their programs?**

Many operational tasks are executed via independent contractors, grants, or cooperative agreements, which may involve governments or other entities. These mechanisms vary based on the crisis level and development needs of each country of operation. The agency employs Country Development Cooperation Strategies (CDCS) to ensure efficiency, transparency, and sensitivity between Western presence and local dynamics. CDCS align contracts and grants with the specific needs, society, politics, and economics of each country, such as differing goals for Ghana, Afghanistan, Indonesia, and Colombia.

In addition to contracted work, USAID conducts on-the-ground efforts, often in consulting roles with governments, communities, and U.S. allies.
- ~~Create a swarm. Provide photos of your swarm and/or video footage. Please list all of those who participated below:~~
 1. Sean Coghlan
 2. Ethan Kurzweil
 3. Marlene Kurzweil
 4. Ron Kurzweil
 5. Thien Tong



- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
2/24	Posted/read/tweeted about my favorite article which was on a program in China helping to combat poverty, also shared with family/friends via email	1.30
2/24	Wrote and sent letter to editor	1.30
2/25	Read about Federal Budget and reviewed the current FY25 Budget Proposal for funding area cuts related to foreign aid	1
2/25	Read how to Lobby congress and background of USAID and answered questions	2
2/26	Researched and Updated Leaders Profile and Emailed/Called Them	0.30
2/26	Attended Networking Event and Completed Bird-Dog	1.15
2/26	Ambassador Portfolio Week 1 (via Blogger) 2 Reading and Post	1.15
2/27	Read USAID and answered questions	1.30
2/27	Organized, drafted script, and conducted swarm with family/friends via Google Meets and mobilize and showed them how to email/call Congress	1.30
	Total Hours	12



NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

- 2/24
 - 7-8:30 pm: Posted/read/tweeted about my favorite article which was on poverty reduction efforts in China
- - 8:30-10 pm: Wrote and sent letter to editor (in PA and NJ)

2/25

- 5:30-6:30 pm: Read about Federal Budget and researched current FY25 Budget proposal related to foreign aid funding cuts
- 6:30 - 8:30 pm: Read how to Lobby Congress and answered questions

2/26

- 7:00 - 7:30 pm: Researched and updated Leaders Profiles and Called/Emailed Congressional leaders asking them to reject funding cuts to foreign aid programs and support legislation to protect and preserve funding for USAID
- 7:30 - 8:30 Attended Networking Event: Muhlenberg College Center for Ethics: "Holding Mirrors: Representations of Caribbean Redress" with Dr. Simone-Thompson and completed a bird dog
- 8:45 - 10:00 pm: Set up Ambassador Portfolio on Blogger and completed 2 Readings and completed first post about them

2/27

- 5:30 - 7:00 pm: Read about the history of USAID and answered questions
- 7:00 - 8:30 pm: Set up and contacted people for swarm event, drafted script, and held swarm with family/friends via Google Meets and mobilized and taught them to email Congress

*Also **Completed Bird Dog** this week see below:

Audio of Bird Dog:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/174w03wFJaXC9XzTEOJt29D1ny1P4Mdhb/view?usp=drive_link

This **networking event** was hosted by the Center for Ethics at Muhlenberg College and was a presentation and Q&A session with Dr. Simone-Thompson, who spoke about the fallout of colonization and the way in which poor efforts or a lack of efforts by past colonizers has led to underdevelopment and poverty in the Caribbean region.

Week 5

- ~~Read/Watch the fundraising follow-up page:~~
- ~~Follow-up with 10 or more people who you sent fundraising letters to. List who you followed up with and notes on how it went.~~

Example: Jon Bravo: *I called him and he donated online while we were on the phone.*

1. Sean Coghlan - Emailed him and donated
2. Marlene Kurzweil - Emailed her



3. Ron Kurzweil - Call him and donated
4. Ethan Kurzweil - Texted him and donated
5. Angie Batel - Texted her and donated
6. Tanya Balboa - texted and emailed, No response
7. Ashton Chubb - Texted him and donated
8. Marc Scherer - Still waiting response
9. Jeremy Rodriguez - Still waiting response
10. Jimmy Kaba - Still waiting response

~~• Email 5 Rotary and community groups about presenting to them. Please review this Sheet to see which clubs we have already met with.~~

• List groups contacted below:

- Bethlehem Rotary Club: <https://www.bethlehemparotary.org/>
- Rotary District 7430: <https://rotarydistrict7430.org/>
- Allentown Kiwanis Club: <https://allentownkiwanis.org/>
- Lulu Shriners: <https://lulushriners.org/>
- Mideast PA Care and Advocacy Network: <https://www.mideastpacan.org/>
- Community Action Lehigh Valley: <https://www.communityactionlv.org/>
- The Ortiz Ark Foundation: <https://theortizarkfoundation.org/>
- United Way of Greater Lehigh Valley: <https://www.unitedwayglv.org/>

~~• Tweet your favorite celeb, athlete or public figure asking them to get involved with The Borgen Project.~~

• Take a screenshot of your Tweet and paste it here:



~~• Revisit why calling Congress matters and look at the sample call log.~~

• Read Advocacy and Lobbying and answer the following:

- **What is advocacy, and why is it important in a democracy?**
Advocacy is actively involving yourself in taking action and making a change. An advocate can do this by calling, texting, or emailing to make a difference. This is important in a democracy because everyone can have a free voice, and in a democracy, everyone can express their concerns about what they feel is essential.
- **Explain the difference between self-advocacy, individual advocacy and systems advocacy.**
Self-advocacy is the ability to negotiate on behalf of your own goals on what you want to get done. Individual Advocacy involves a person communicating on behalf



of others. Systems advocacy is focused on changing state, local, and federal policies to impact lives globally.

- **What is lobbying, and why is it important for policy and legislators?**
- Lobbying is a form of advocacy that involves talking with your legislators about incoming legislation to either support or not support it. It is essential for policy because it is about what you either believe in or do not believe in.
- **How did advocacy and lobbying influence the bills that The Borgen Project helped to pass?**

By calling repeatedly through advocacy, sharing your voice, and influencing others, it helped pass a lot of bills. Similar to lobbying, talking with your legislators about what you are passionate about can help pass with your voice and other voices.

- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio on Blogger this week:~~

[Blogger Ambassador Portfolio](#)

March 6, 2025 - In the latest developments in the Israel-Gaza conflict, former President Donald Trump has issued a final warning to Hamas to release all remaining hostages, threatening severe consequences if his demands are not met. His direct engagement with Hamas, a departure from longstanding U.S. policy, comes amid a worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza, where Israel has blocked aid deliveries until a new ceasefire is reached. The consequences have been dire; the UN warns of looming starvation, the shutdown of community kitchens, and the rapid depletion of essential supplies.

This crisis serves as a stark reminder of the intersection between global poverty and armed conflict. When humanitarian aid is weaponized, the most vulnerable suffer first. Food insecurity, lack of medical care, and infrastructure destruction deepen cycles of poverty, making long-term recovery increasingly difficult. The Borgen Project exists to ensure that global leaders prioritize solutions to poverty, not just as a moral imperative but as a strategy for global stability.

Why Advocacy Matters

Conflict zones are often hotbeds of extreme poverty, and humanitarian assistance is critical for both immediate relief and long-term rebuilding. When aid is restricted, civilian populations, especially children, pay the price. International advocacy efforts are crucial in ensuring that humanitarian aid is not used as a bargaining chip but remains a fundamental human right.

The Borgen Project works to push these priorities in U.S. foreign policy, advocating for policies that support humanitarian aid funding, development assistance, and diplomatic solutions that address the root causes of global poverty. Without sustained pressure on policymakers, crises like the one unfolding in Gaza will continue to devastate civilian populations.

How You Can Help

Global poverty doesn't just happen, it's driven by policy choices, economic structures, and conflict and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, and so many other places like it, underscores why global poverty must always be on the agenda. Aid should never be politicized, and international policies should prioritize human lives over power struggles. I invite you to become an advocate for a world where aid is not used as a political tool but as a lifeline for those caught in the devastation of war. Humanitarian assistance should never be a bargaining chip; it should be a commitment to alleviating suffering and fostering stability. You can help by [calling](#) or [emailing](#) your Congressional representatives and urging them to support funding for foreign aid. By ensuring that lifesaving assistance reaches those in crisis, we take a stand for peace, security, and a future where prosperity is not reserved for the few but built for all. Visit borgenproject.org to learn how you can take action today.

Source: <https://www.cnn.com/2025/03/07/middleeast/trump-hamas-gaza-hostages-negotiation-israel-intl-1aam/index.html>

The Borgen Project works with Congress to prioritize policies, programs, and funding that help reduce global poverty. Curious about how they're driving change for communities worldwide? Explore their work at borgenproject.org and learn how you can make your voice heard.



Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
3/3	Read/Watch Fundraising Follow up page	1
3/3	Followed up with 10 or more people about fundraiser	2
3/4	Emailed 5 rotary Community Groups about presenting	2.30
3/4	Tweeted out favorite celebrity to support Borgen Project	0.30
3/5	Read Revisit why Congress Matters	1
3/5	Read Advocacy and Lobbying and answered questions	1.30
3/5	Emailed Congressional leaders	0.30
3/6	Wrote Blog Post	1.30
3/6	Call Congressional Leaders	0.30
3/6	Updated Leaders Profiles	1
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

Monday 3/3:

7pm to 8pm:Read/Watch Fundraising Follow up page

8pm to 10pm:Followed up with 10 or more people about fundraiser

Tuesday 3/4:

5:30 pm to 8:00 pm:Emailed 5 rotary Community Groups about presenting

8:00 to 8:30 Pm: Tweeted out favorite celebrity to support Borgen Project

Wednesday 3/5:

7pm to 8pm:Read Revisit Why Congress Matters

8pm to 9:30pm:Read Advocacy and Lobbying and answered questions

9:30 to 10:00pm:Emailed Congressional Leaders

Thursday 3/6:

5:30 to 7:00pm:Wrote Blog Post for the week

7:00 to 7:30pm: Call congressional Leaders

7:30 to 8:30 pm: Updated Leaders Profiles for the week

Week 6

- [Create a YouTube video](#) of 4 or more people asking one of your Congressional leaders to support a bill.
- Paste the link to your video here: <https://youtu.be/kK4Rk32pOS8>
- ~~[Handwrite letters to your three Members of Congress.](#)~~

THE BORGEN PROJECT



● Paste a copy/photo of your letters here:



3/10/25

Dear Mr. Fetterman,
 I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concern about recent proposals to cut funding for the US International affairs budget. As a Pennsylvania keenly invested in our country's role in global stability, I believe these cuts would undermine our nation's diplomacy, humanitarian efforts and long term security. The International affairs budget is crucial in addressing global challenges like climate change, health care, and conflicts. Reducing funding for these programs not only weakens our global leadership but also puts our own national security at risk. I urge you to continue supporting strong funding for international diplomacy and development.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
 Sincerely,
 Max Kubeck



3/13/25

Dear Representative McKenzie,
I am writing to express my concern
about proposed cuts to the U.S.
International Affairs Budget. As a
citizen who values America's role in
fostering global peace and stability,
I believe these reductions could have
significant long term consequences.

Funding for international diplomacy, development,
and humanitarian efforts is essential
for addressing global challenges such as
climate change, health crises, and international
conflict. These investments strengthen our
national security and help ensure
a safer, more stable world for
future generations.

I urge you to prioritize funding
for international affairs and support
a robust budget that reflects our
country's values and strategic interests.

Thank you for your attention,

Max Kurzwel



3/13/25

Dear Senator McCormick,
I am writing to voice my concern over the proposed cuts to the US International Affairs budget. As a constituent who values both national security and global leadership, I believe reducing funding for diplomacy and international development would have serious consequences.

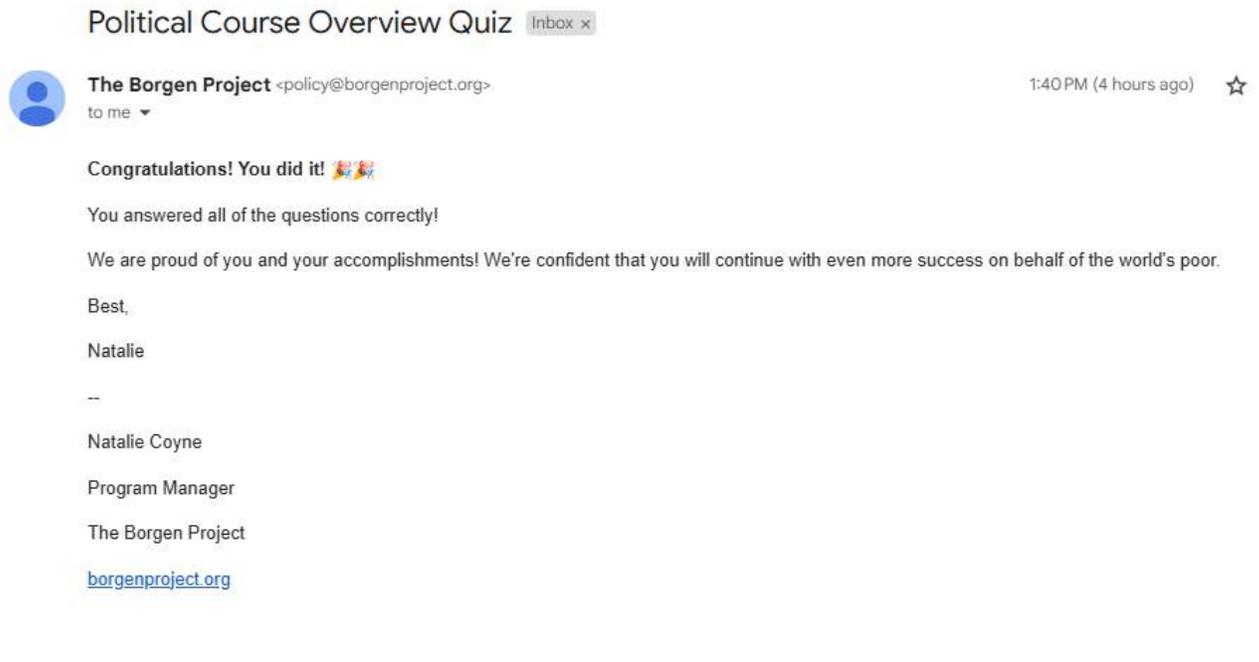
Strong investments in global peace, health, and stability are essential for addressing challenges like climate change, pandemics, and conflict. These efforts not only reflect American values but also help create a safer, more secure future for the US and the world.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

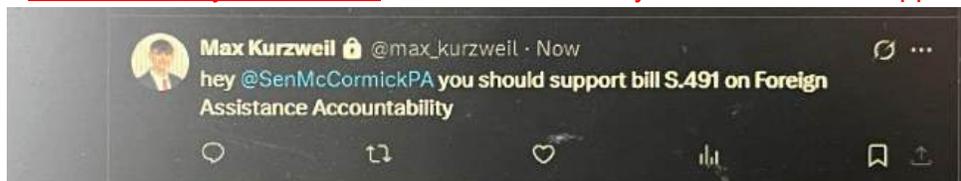
Sincerely
Max Kurzeil



- ~~Refer back to your leader profiles from week 2 and add any new information you find from your research.~~
- ~~Complete our quiz about Advocacy and Lobbying, How USAID Operates and the Legislative Process of a Bill. Paste a copy of the email that you receive to say that you have passed here:~~



- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Post/Tweet to your leaders. Mention a bill that you'd like them to support.~~



- ~~Take a screenshot of your post/Tweet and paste it here:~~
- ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio on Blogger this week:~~

[Ambassador Portfolio Blog Post](#)



The proposed cuts to the **2025 International Affairs Budget**, which includes funding for critical programs like the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFFSP), threaten to exacerbate global instability and deepen humanitarian crises worldwide. One such crisis unfolding today is the plight of **Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh**, who are facing desperate choices as **food rations are slashed and aid dwindles**.

Today's post discusses how underfunding international aid programs like those supported by **USAID** not only endangers vulnerable populations like the Rohingya but also undermines global stability, American economic interests, and national security.

Rohingya Families: Forced into Desperation

As of March 13th, Rohingya refugees in the world's largest refugee settlement in Bangladesh were bracing for devastating food ration cuts. Monthly aid per person was set to drop from 112.50 to just 60.00 pushing families into deeper food insecurity. For many, this means making impossible choices: stay and starve or send their children on perilous boat journeys in search of work.

These dangerous voyages often lead to **human trafficking, abuse at sea, and even death**. The UN reports that **15% of children under five in the camps are already malnourished**, and 7,800 Rohingya refugees embark on these deadly journeys each year, which is an 80% increase from 2023.

The crisis doesn't end there. Rohingya refugees also face **environmental disasters, kidnapping, and recruitment by armed groups**, creating a cycle of instability that threatens the entire region.

The Role of USAID and the Consequences of Underfunding

Programs funded by USAID and other international aid organizations are lifelines for millions of vulnerable people like the Rohingya. However, the proposed budget cuts to the International Affairs Budget jeopardize these efforts, putting lives at risk and destabilizing regions that are already fragile.

What Can Be Done?

Organizations like **The Borgen Project** are also advocating for the protection of the International Affairs Budget, emphasizing that reducing global poverty isn't just a moral imperative—it's essential for American national and economic security. By supporting these efforts, we can create a safer, more stable world for everyone.

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
3/10	Wrote and Created Layout for Youtube Video and Recorded my part	3
3/11	Edited Youtube video for Representative Ryan Mackenzie	3
3/12	Wrote and mailed letters to Congress	2
3/12	Called and Emailed Congress	0.30
3/12	Read articles and took notes from ReliefWeb about the Rohingya crisis and dwindling supplies and aid due to the federal funding freeze and USAID interruptions	0.30
3/13	Leaders profiles updated after researching recent media mentions	0.5
3/13	Researched Relevote, reviewed Bill S.491 and tweeted out to Dave McCormick regarding support for the bill	0.45
3/13	Wrote Ambassador Portfolio Blog Post	1.45
3/14	Quiz on Advocacy and Lobbying	1.5
	Total Hours	13.5



NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

3/10:

7:00 to 10:00 pm: Wrote and created youtube Video and recorded my part

3/11:

5:30 to 8:30: Edited YouTube video to be sent Representative Ryan McKenzie, converted and prepared for posting

Focused on poverty reduction programs in the [International Affairs Budget](#) proposed or 2025- specifically the Agricultural Global Food Program developed after the 2008 food price crisis, and connected it to local Allentown companies who will suffer is funding and aid for these programs results in cancelled contracts.

3 additional people participated: Marlene Kurzweil, Amber Whitehead, and Carmela Wolosz

3/12:

7:00 to 9:00: Wrote and mailed letters to congressional representatives

9:00 to 9:30: Called Congress and Emailed regarding the federal funding freeze on aid

9:30 to 10:00: Read Articles and took notes for ambassador portfolio

Article was from [ReliefWeb](#) about the Rohingya crisis and dwindling supplies and aid due to the federal funding freeze and USAID interruptions

3/13:

6:00 to 6:30: Researched and updated leaders Profiles for the week

6:30 to 7:15 Researched recent/current bills on ReleVote and tweeted out to Dave McCormick on [Bill S.491](#) regarding assigning a director to oversee foreign assistance accountability and oversight and prevent misuse or withholding of funds for foreign aid/humanitarian assistance programs

7:15 to 9:00: Wrote Ambassador Portfolio Blog post for the week regarding Rohingya crisis and the potential effect that a lack of aid could have on American companies and economic enterprises at home and abroad.

3/14:

11:30a-1:00p: Read information about and took quiz on Advocacy and Lobbying

Week 7

● ~~[Tweet to your favorite media page. Take a screenshot of your Tweet and paste it here:](#)~~

THE BORGEN PROJECT



- Post an original photo relating to The Borgen Project on your Instagram and tag The Borgen Project in your caption. Paste your photo here:



john_hayden111 Proud to be an Intern for the @theborgenproject to fight to end global poverty!! Here is a photo of me in South Africa Last summer helping out kids that suffer from poverty

13 seconds ago



- ~~Write a letter to the editor. Paste the text of your letter in an email and send to your manager to be approved before you submit it to a publication. If you are referencing another article in your letter, be sure to include the link in your email as well.~~

Local Allentown Patch News Article

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/allentown-pa/call-support-international-affairs-budget-budget-nod>

[X](#)



12:20

patch.com



Patch



Allentown, PA

This post was contributed by a community member. The views expressed here are the author's own.

Neighbor News

A Call to Support the International Affairs Budget Budget

Every dollar invested abroad is eight in return.



Max A Kurzweil, Neighbor

Posted Wed, Mar 26, 2025 at 12:20 am ET |

All members of Congress should support the [International Affairs Budget](#), which stands up against major funding cuts in the proposed 2025 budget.

Did you know that it makes up less than 1% of the U.S. federal budget but has a massive global impact?

Address the **baggage of allo-HSCT**
A significant unmet need in allo-HSCT can undermine its success. [Learn More](#)

allo-HSCT: addressing the baggage of allo-HSCT. 2024. All rights reserved by OctaBio.



- ~~Mobilize 10 people in your state to email leaders in support of the International Affairs Budget.~~

Provide a list of names:

1. Sofia Sotomoyer
2. Ashton Chubb
3. Sean Coghlan
4. Marlene Kurzweil
5. Ethan Kurzweil
6. Ron Kurzweil
7. Marc Scherer
8. Micheal Smith
9. Jeremy Rodriguez
10. Josh Simon

- ~~20 Point Challenge Pitch to 10 influencers. Check this document to see if the influencers have been contacted in the past. If not and if you decide to contact the influencers, add them to the 'Influencers' tab in the spreadsheet.~~
- ~~Paste a copy of your outreach correspondence below:~~

Instagram

- @baileybass
- @wawa_gatheru
- @murphslife
- [@jhoseadolfo](#)
- [@britthawthorne](#)
- [@asanda.dibakoane](#)
- [@mandanadayani](#)
- [@joshuasheart](#)
- [@alifewortheating](#)
- [@alicelouisewaters](#)
- [@therealsvetlana](#)
- [@jessicajackson](#)

- ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio this week:~~



Hamas Has Struck Again



For the first time in months, Hamas Struck Rockets at Isreal on Thursday in an attack on Israel, which ended a two-month ceasefire that both sides mutually agreed to. Since this past Tuesday, Israeli ground operations and airstrikes have killed over 500 Palestinians, which includes 200 children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. Hamas has claimed the entire obligation for launching rockets at Tel Aviv. However, Israel has blocked a ballistic missile from Yemen's rebels. Israel has said that they do blame Hamas for starting to fight again after they thought they had a ceasefire in place. Hamas has blatantly accused Netanyahu of endangering the hostages. There have been recent protests against Netanyahu in Jerusalem, with people accusing him of starting up the war again for his own political power. Israel, in the past couple of months, has added additional ground operations in Beit Lahia and Rafah that specifically target Hamas infrastructure. Over 50 Palestinians have been killed by the Israeli Strikes on Beit Lahia, which civilians have described as devastating losses. As I am writing this, the Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza is getting worse every single day, and many are scared they are stuck under rubble as the Israeli forces have made the region even tighter.

Source: <https://www.cnn.com/2025/03/20/middleeast/hamas-fires-rockets-at-israel-first-time-since-truce-collapse-intl/index.html>

The Borgen Project works with Congress to prioritize policies, programs, and funding that help reduce global poverty. Curious about how they're driving change for communities worldwide? Explore their work at borgenproject.org and learn how you can make your voice heard.

Max Kurzweil is a sophomore at Muhlenberg College, class of 2027, pursuing a double major in Political Science with a focus on institutions, processes, and public policy, and Business Administration with a concentration in management and organizational studies. He is currently serving as a Political Affairs Intern and Ambassador for The Borgen Project, where he advocates for global poverty alleviation as a means for strengthening American national and economic security.

- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues:~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues:~~

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
3/17	Tweeted to my favorite media page Drafted \$1 Challenge media tile for in campus network YikYak account	0.30
3/17	Posted on Instagram and tagged Borgen Project	0.30
3/17	Wrote article to editor and got published	2
3/18	Mobilize 10 people to email letters	1.5
3/18	20 point Challenge by pitching to influencers	1.5
3/19	Updated Leaders Profile	1
3/19	Wrote Ambassdor Profile for the week	2
3/20	Call Congressional Leaders	0.30
3/20	Email Congressional Leaders	0.30
3/20	Reached Fundraising Goal by reaching out to people	2
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

3/17:

7:00 to 7:30: Tweeted to my favorite media page



7:30 to 8:00: Posted on Instagram and tagged Borgen Project

8:00 to 10:00: Wrote article to editor and got published

3/18:

5:30 to 7:00: Mobilize 10 people to email letters by reaching out to them

7:00 to 8:30: 20 Point Challenge by pitching to influencers

3/19:

7:00 to 8:00: Updated Leaders Profile for the week

8:00 to 10:00: Wrote Ambassador Profile for the week

3/20:

5:30 to 6:00: Call Congressional Leaders

6:00 to 6:30: Email Congressional Leaders

6:30 to 8:30: Reached Fundraising goal by reaching out to people

Week 8

- [Create a swarm of 7 or more people.](#) List who you mobilized below:

1. Sean Coghlan	2. Marlene Kurzweil
3. Ron Kurzweil	4. Ethan Kurzweil
5. Carmela Wolcoz	6. Amber Whitehead
7. Marc Shecher	

- ~~Plan a 1 Mile Campaign. Your campaign will be undertaken in week 11.~~
- ~~Paste details of your 1 Mile Campaign strategy here:~~



Project Plan: 1-Mile Campaign for The Borgen Project

Objective: Distribute flyers in the Allentown, PA area to raise awareness of The Borgen Project and encourage people to contact their congressional leaders using a QR code.

1. Planning Phase (1-2 days)

- **Identify Target Locations:**
 - Ryan Mackenzie's office in Allentown, near the hospital and golf course.
 - Other high-traffic areas nearby, such as local businesses, cafes, or public spaces
- **Gather Resources:**
 - Design flyers that include a brief description of The Borgen Project, its goals, and a QR code linking to the action page for contacting congressional leaders.
 - Print flyers (estimate the number based on the area covered).
- **Set Timeline:**
 - Decide on a specific day or window of days for distributing the flyers.

2. Design & Preparation (1-2 days)

- **Flyer Design:**
 - Include essential information and colorful bright designs with a simple, brief overview of The Borgen Project and the QR code to contact PA representatives.
 - Ensure the design is eye-catching and easy to read.
- **QR Code Setup:**
 - Generate and test the QR code to ensure it links to the correct action page for contacting representatives.
- **Print Flyers:**
 - Print an adequate number of flyers (consider printing at least 100 to 200).

3. Execution Phase (1-2 days)

- **Flyer Distribution:**
 - Distribute flyers in the selected high-traffic areas around Ryan Mackenzie's office, the hospital, and nearby businesses.
 - Ensure flyers are placed in strategic spots where they are easy to see (bulletin boards, doors, community boards).
- **Engage with Locals:**
 - If possible, briefly explain the purpose of the flyers to people you encounter, encouraging them to scan the QR code and contact their representatives.

4. Follow-Up (Ongoing)

- **Track Engagement:**
 - Monitor how many people scan the QR code or visit the provided website to measure the campaign's impact.
- **Share Results:**
 - Share updates on social media or within my network about the success of the campaign.



● ~~Encourage civic-minded engagement. Paste a copy of your letter here:~~



March 26, 2025

Distinguished Members of the Board:

My name is Max Kurzweil and I am an undergraduate at Muhlenberg College, completing a double major in Political Science and Business Administration. I am also an ambassador for The Borgen Project, a nonprofit combating global poverty.

I want to begin by recognizing and commending the Allentown School District for its efforts in promoting civic education. The district's receipt of the Compass Award for advancing civic education and its compliance with Pennsylvania's Act 35 demonstrate a strong commitment to ensuring students understand their role in our democracy.

Building upon these strong foundations, I urge the board to take the next step in preparing students for real-world civic participation by incorporating hands-on engagement opportunities into the curriculum. While learning the structure of government is important, students must also experience firsthand how their voice and vote can influence policy and governance. To that end, I propose expanding civic education to include practical experiences such as:

- **Contacting elected officials and campaigns** – Teaching students how to call or email their representatives about current legislation and issues. There is no age limit to contact your representatives; first grade classrooms have organized "swarm" events to emails and calls their representatives. Congressional offices and campaign teams track constituent outreach, and the volume of calls and emails can directly impact decision-making.
- **Understanding policy proposals and platforms** – Equipping students with the skills to critically analyze legislation, budget appropriations, and political platforms to assess ~~their constitutionality~~, feasibility, and



- potential impact.
- **Model United Nations and Model Congress** – Encouraging students to participate in simulations that develop public speaking, debate, and legislative drafting and research skills using apps like ReleVote.
 - **Engaging with government institutions** – Providing opportunities for students to attend state capitol sessions, committee hearings, courtroom proceedings, and local town halls to witness governance in action.

The Borgen Project's success in advancing policy to combat global poverty is proof that civic engagement works. Understanding issues like foreign aid isn't just about global impact—it directly affects our local economy, job market, and national security. For example, Allentown's largest employers include chemical manufacturing companies, many of which hold government contracts related to global sustainability and food production. If proposed cuts to the international affairs budget are enacted, these companies could face job losses, decreased city revenue, and economic instability, issues that could be mitigated if more citizens, including students, engaged in advocacy and policymaking.

I appreciate the district's existing efforts to strengthen civic education and would welcome the opportunity to collaborate further. I would be happy to meet with the board, either privately or at a public meeting, to discuss these ideas in more detail. Additionally, I am willing to provide a brief presentation to a government or civics class in the district to demonstrate the tangible impact of civic engagement and how easy it is for students to make their voices heard.

Thank you for your time and your continued commitment to the students of Allentown. I look forward to your response and the opportunity to support your efforts in strengthening civic education.



The Borgen Project's success in advancing policy to combat global poverty is proof that civic engagement works. Understanding issues like foreign aid isn't just about global impact—it directly affects our local economy, job market, and national security. For example, Allentown's largest employers include chemical manufacturing companies, many of which hold government contracts related to global sustainability and food production. If proposed cuts to the international affairs budget are enacted, these companies could face job losses, decreased city revenue, and economic instability, issues that could be mitigated if more citizens, including students, engaged in advocacy and policymaking.

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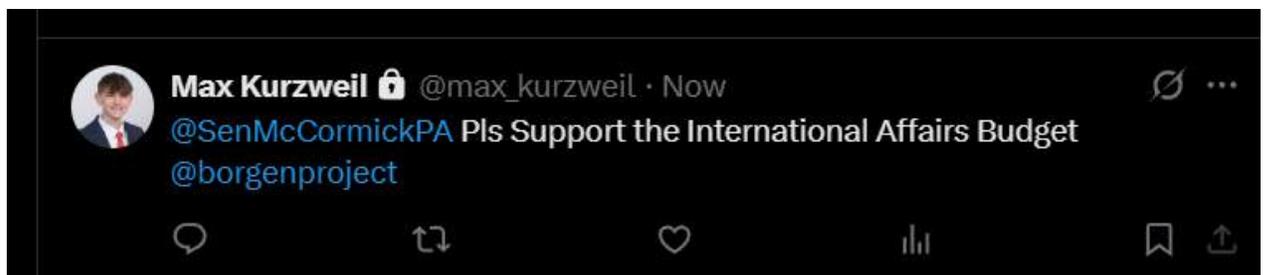
Regards,

Max Kurzweil

- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of [these issues](#).~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of [these issues](#).~~
- ~~Post/Tweet to your leaders. Mention a bill that you'd like them to support.~~



- ~~Take a screenshot of your post/Tweet and paste it here:~~



- **FUNDRAISING CHECK POINT!** ~~At this point in your internship you should have utilized your 25 fundraising hours and raised \$500 or more.~~
- **List how much you've raised so far. Amount raised to date: \$509.00**
- ~~If this isn't achieved yet, this would be a good time to rework your strategies and speak to your manager at pa@borgenproject.org or schedule a meeting if you are concerned.~~
- ~~Have you qualified for any of our key milestones?~~

Not yet, no. However, I am getting close to the President's Circle Award for mobilizing 50 people, and I am planning to attend an upcoming virtual town hall with one of my representatives to achieve the Bird Dog Award .

- Below is an outline of the expectations of your internship. **How many have you completed? 2**
- ~~Revisit the big picture items below that you need to accomplish during your internship. There might be a couple that you struggle to complete for various reasons, but if you're fully utilizing your time, they can be accomplished.~~



- Review your impact and highlight the boxes you have completed.

Minimum Impact:

<p>Met with Congressperson's Office**</p> <p>Not Started -</p>	<p>Mobilized 50 people to email Congress</p> <p>In Progress -</p>	<p>Attend 4 Networking Events</p> <p>In Progress -</p>	<p>Taught 50 people to call Congress</p> <p>In Progress -</p>
<p>Gave 2 Presentations</p> <p>Not Started -</p>	<p>Raised \$500</p> <p>Completed -</p>	<p>2 Bird-Dogs</p> <p>In Progress -</p>	<p>Talked to 3 classes about volunteer ops</p> <p>Completed -</p>

The Next Level of Impact:

<p>Mobilized 150 people to email Congress</p> <p>In Progress -</p>	<p>One of your leader's cosponsors a key bill</p>	<p>Raised \$1,200</p>	<p>Generated news coverage for the cause</p> <p>Completed -</p>
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****Reminder: All Congressional meetings will be scheduled by The Borgen Project staff. Do not contact your Congresspersons independently for a meeting.****

- List the items from minimum impact above that you still need to complete:

Mobilized 50 people to email Congress (32 so far)
Attend 4 Networking Events (Attended 1, 3 Remaining and Scheduled)
Taught 50 people to call Congress (Planned with Presentations)
Gave 2 Presentations
2 Bird-Dogs (Completed 1)



- What's your strategy for completing them?

Emailing and Calling: Mailed 32 to email so far. I plan for my two presentations to make the emphasis to call Congress and to consider having them do a swarm at the end of each presentation to call as a collective group. I will continue to do outreach to those who have already contacted representatives and encourage them to continue doing so weekly and also use grassroots on the ground opportunities to get people to email.

Presentations: I will be reaching out to two organizations on my campus which are Berg Votes and Berg Democrats since I have connections with the leadership of these organizations and discuss presenting at an upcoming meeting about the Borgen Project to them.

Networking Events: I have completed one (And also completed one of my bird dogs at it) and I have plans to attend an *Allentown Town Council* meeting on 4/16 and the *Pennsylvania State Leadership Conference* on 4/5 (Where I will attend several panels to ask state and federal leadership in attendance about their stance on foreign aid and advocate for the mission and priorities of the Borgen Project), and I will be attending *Beyond Borders: Commemoration for the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide* with Survivor Hyppolite Ntigurirwa on 4/7, where I plan to conduct my second bird dog surrounding how aid, or a lack of aid, contributed to the crisis and how foreign aid and programs are most needed now.

Bird Dog: I have completed one bird dog event and will be completing the other bird dog during my planned attendance at *Beyond Borders: Commemoration for the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide* with Survivor Hyppolite Ntigurirwa on 4/7, to get her perspective on the importance of foreign aid and what the focus and emphasis should be now.

- Are there any items you're having trouble with and are concerned that you can't complete?

Yes, currently my **two presentations**. I have reached out to 2 organizations about it on my campus however if they can't do it I am concerned about getting the presentations in on the remaining timeline.

When a meeting is held, ensure you submit your [lobbying report form](#) or the meeting will not count towards the goals achieved during your program.

[I have not received any information about a meeting with my Congressional representatives in PA or NJ as of yet.](#)

- ~~Refer back to your leader profiles in week 2 and add any new information you find from your research; be sure your profiles are up to date.~~
- ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio on Blogger this week.~~

<http://borgen-ambassador-portfolio.blogspot.com/2025/03/israel-continues-to-dominate-as-dozen-s.html>



In conflict zones around the world, the humanitarian crisis is worsening, and Gaza is just one example of the broader, global issue. Recently, the region has seen a tragic loss of life among aid workers, with dozens reported killed or missing. Organizations like [UNRWA](#) and volunteers from [World Central Kitchen](#), have been targeted while working to provide critical aid. Since hostilities escalated on March 18th, more than 800 lives have been lost, and nearly 1,900 individuals have been injured. Meanwhile, the delivery of vital humanitarian supplies has been severely obstructed, putting many more lives at risk. [The World Food Programme](#) has warned that it could run out of food in just two weeks, worsening hunger and suffering.

This is not an isolated situation. Conflict zones worldwide face similar barriers to aid, with workers putting themselves in harm's way to provide life-saving resources under dangerous conditions. For example, in Sudan, ongoing violence between warring factions has made it increasingly difficult to deliver food and medical supplies to those in need.

The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) has reported that aid convoys are often attacked, and many areas are cut off from support due to the fighting. Similarly, in places like [Sudan](#), civil war has led to a catastrophic humanitarian crisis. Despite efforts from organizations like the [International Committee of the Red Cross \(ICRC\)](#), the conflict continues to block the safe delivery of vital supplies, leaving the population vulnerable, with millions displaced and aid workers at constant risk of violence and kidnapping.

These situations highlight an essential issue: the



The Global Importance of Humanitarian Aid

Humanitarian aid is critical, not just for immediate relief, but also for maintaining long-term peace and stability. When access to aid is blocked or restricted, the consequences extend beyond the affected region. Conflict zones everywhere demonstrate that humanitarian efforts are essential for preventing escalation, curbing extremism, and promoting peace-building. These crises are stark reminders that humanitarian assistance must be prioritized to help mitigate the impact of war, foster stability, and prevent broader regional insecurity.

When aid delivery is obstructed, entire regions can spiral into deeper instability. Ensuring that aid can safely reach those who need it most is vital, not only for alleviating human suffering but also for maintaining global peace and security.

Advocating for Unrestricted Aid Access

The ongoing crises around the world underscore the need for sustained advocacy to support unrestricted access to humanitarian aid. This is not just an issue for one region but a global challenge that requires coordinated action.

A key step is urging lawmakers to support the unfreezing of foreign aid to conflict zones and to advocate for policies that address the broader humanitarian crises. By reaching out to your representatives and urging them to prioritize aid access and funding, you can make a tangible difference in ensuring life-saving resources are delivered where they're most needed.

[The Borgen Project](#), a non-profit organization that fights to eradicate global poverty, offers a simple form that allows you to fund and contact your representatives in less than a minute.



- Use this link to schedule a time to have a follow up meeting with your Manager next week:

<https://calendly.com/natalie-coyne/1-1-meeting>

For the meeting, please ensure that you are in a quiet place, with no disturbances and are appropriately attired for a workplace meeting. We allow you to schedule calls at times of your choice and we ensure that we are available to meet with you at your selected time. Please afford us the professional courtesy of being present for these meetings, or emailing us in advance to reschedule.

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
3/24	Reached out to 7 people and created a swarm	1.30
3/24	Planned my 1 Mile campaign	1.30
3/25	Encouraged Civic minded Engagement	2.30
3/25	Emailed Representative leaders	0.15
3/25	Called Representative Leaders	0.15
3/26	Tweeted out to leaders	0.15
3/26	Reviewed Minimum impact and listing out items I still Need to Do	2
3/26	Completed Leaders Profile for the week	0.45
3/27	Wrote Ambassador Portfolio Blog	1.30
3/27	Reached to people to mobilized and emailed congress Drafted new fundraiser outreach to thank supporters, notify about success, and ask for "double impact" of those who donated	1.30
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

3/24:

7:00 to 8:30 pm: Reached out to 7 people and created a swarm

8:30 to 10:00 pm: Planned my 1 mile Campaign

3/25:

5:30 to 8:00 pm: Encouraged Civic Minded Engagement by writing letter

8:00 to 8:15 pm: Emailed Representative Leaders

8:15 to 8:30 pm: Called Representative Leaders



3/26:

7:00 to 7:15 pm: Tweeted out to leaders

7:15 to 9:15 pm: Reviewed Minimum Impact and listing out Items I still need to do and the strategy

9:15 to 10:00 pm: Completed Leaders Profile for the week

3/27:

5:30 to 7:00 pm: Wrote Ambassador Portfolio Blog

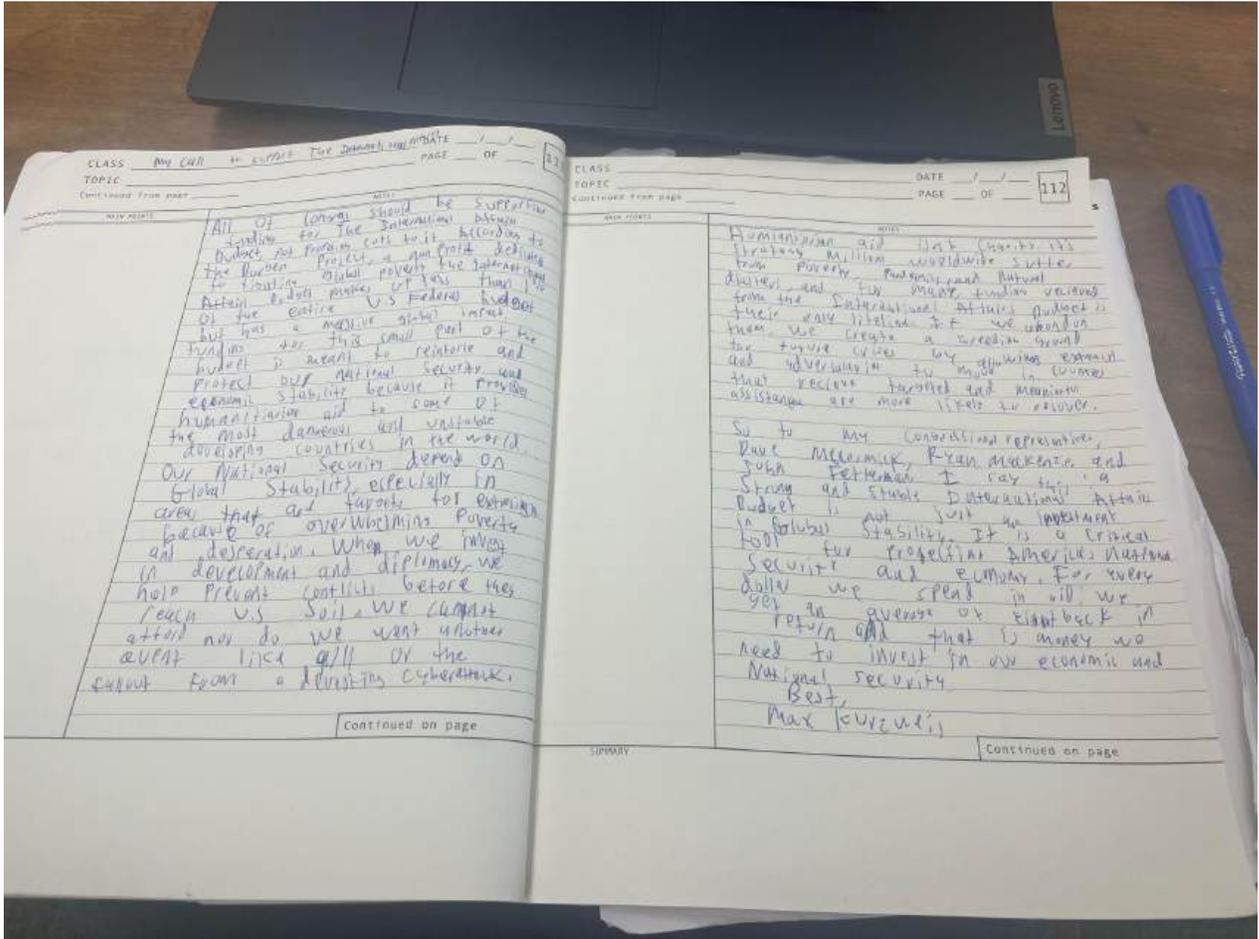
7:00 to 8:30 pm: Reached out to people to Mobilized and email congress

Week 9

- ~~Post/Tweet to leaders asking them to support a key bill.~~
- ~~Take a screenshot of your post/Tweet and paste it here:~~



- ~~Write letters to your Members of Congress. Paste a copy/photo of your letters here:~~



CLASS My call to support the International Project DATE / / PAGE 110
 TOPIC The Borgen Project a not profit deding to ending global poverty the international
 ATTN: Brian Patten of the US Federal Budget
 All of them should be supporting
 funding for the International Project
 The Borgen Project a not profit deding
 to ending global poverty the international
 ATTN: Brian Patten of the US Federal Budget
 of the entire US Federal Budget
 but has a massive global impact
 funding for this small part of the
 budget is needed to restore and
 protect our national security and
 economic stability because it provides
 humanitarian aid to some of the
 most dangerous and unstable
 developing countries in the world.
 Our National Security depend on
 Global Stability, especially in
 areas that are targets for terrorism
 because of overworking poverty
 and desperation. When we invest
 in development and diplomacy we
 help prevent conflicts before they
 reach US soil. We cannot
 afford not do we want another
 event like 9/11 or the
 fallout from a devastating cyberattack.

CLASS TOPIC DATE / / PAGE 112
 CONTINUED FROM PAGE
 HUMANITARIAN AID
 Humanitarian aid that supports its
 primary mission worldwide battle
 from poverty, hunger, and natural
 disasters and by making various
 from the International Affairs budget is
 their way to help them. We need to
 them we create a credible brand
 for future crises by making certain
 and advertising to make it known
 that regions targeted and maintain
 assistance are more likely to recover.
 So to my Congressional representative,
 Dan McCrory, Ryan Mackenzie and
 John Fetterman I say that a
 strong and stable International Affairs
 Budget is not just an important
 tool for global stability. It is a critical
 tool for protecting America's National
 Security and economy. For every
 dollar we spend in aid, we
 get an average of eight back in
 return and that is money we
 need to invest in our economic and
 National security.
 Best,
 Max Kurzwil

- 20 Point Challenge: Email 20 groups asking them to have their members contact Congress. Include an explanation of "How to Call Your Representatives" in the email, as well. Paste a copy of the letter (see template here) and your sent folder showing the 20 groups you emailed below:

Link to Email

Inbox:



To: support.au	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:33 PM
To: press	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:32 PM
To: feedback	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:31 PM
To: info	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:10 PM
To: member.care	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:08 PM
To: grassroots	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:04 PM
To: media	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:03 PM
To: info	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress reg...	9:02 PM
To: consumerlaw	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:02 PM
To: info	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:01 PM
To: communicat.	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	9:00 PM
To: press	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	8:58 PM
To: outreach	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Max Kurzweil <maxkurzweil556@gmail.com> 8:57 PM (10 minutes ago) to (plaw Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support I...	8:58 PM
To: naf	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress regar	8:58 PM
To: plaw	Urgent Action: Ask Your Members to Call Congress - Hello, I hope this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to ask for your support in encouraging your members to contact their representatives in Congress reg...	8:57 PM

The 20 Groups I contacted:

1. People For the American Way
2. National Abortion Federation
3. National Low Income Housing Coalition
4. National Disability Rights Network
5. NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)
6. National Alliance to End Homelessness
7. National Consumer Law Center
8. National Association of Police Organizations
9. RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)
10. Health Center Advocacy Network
11. American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
12. League of Women Voters
13. Sierra Club
14. Planned Parenthood Federation of America
15. Human Rights Campaign
16. National Organization for Women (NOW)
17. Greenpeace USA
18. American Federation of Teachers
19. National Education Association
20. Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

● ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio this week:~~



← 

Title
It Takes An Earthquake For A Ceasefire to Occur



The Myanmar government has just declared a ceasefire until April 22nd because of a massive 7.7 magnitude earthquake that destroyed the country last Friday. Sadly, 2,700 lives have been lost while hundreds are still missing. This has impacted the healthcare and clean water access that is available. The Red Cross has warned the government that, since there is limited access to clean water, a disease outbreak can occur. Since this civil war has occurred since 2021, it has limited the healthcare access that is available to the country. The National Unity Government, which is fighting the Myanmar government, has also just announced that they are pausing all military operations for the next two weeks to help out with rescue efforts. Nonetheless, Amnesty International reported that military airstrikes were launched by the National Unity Government shortly after the earthquake occurred. Bodies that have been recovered from the building that collapsed have posed health concerns due to rotting. Vast segments of the country have remained under the control of rebel groups and ethnic militias. This situation is sadly still disastrous as Myanmar fights to balance the disaster relief with this ongoing conflict, which has raised major concerns for what is going to happen in the weeks ahead.

The Borgen Project works with Congress to prioritize policies, programs, and funding that help reduce global poverty. Curious about how they're driving change for communities worldwide? Explore their work at borgenproject.org and learn how you can make your voice heard.

Max Kurzweil is a sophomore at Muhlenberg College, class of 2027, pursuing a double major in Political Science with a focus on institutions, processes, and public policy, and Business Administration with a concentration in management and organizational studies. He is currently serving as a Political Affairs Intern and Ambassador for The Borgen Project, where he advocates for global poverty alleviation as a means for strengthening American national and economic security.

- ~~Mobilize 10 people in your state to email leaders in support of the International Affairs Budget. Provide a list of names:~~

1. Sean Coghlan
2. Marlene Kurzweil
3. Ethan Kurzweil
4. Ron Kurzweil
5. Ryan Haygood
6. Linda M. Czipo
7. Deborah L. Duncan
8. Cathy Hawn
9. Danielle Robinson
10. Doug Schoenberger

- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Refer back to your leader profiles in week 2 and add any new information you find from your research; be sure your profiles are up to date.~~
- ~~Touch based with your fundraising donors. If you have reached your fundraising goal, let them know, thank them, and ask them to “double their impact” with a second donation, or encourage them to share your email, text, or letter with a friend or work colleague. Be sure to include a link~~

THE BORGEN PROJECT



for them to call or email Congress in the communication.

-Past a copy of your outreach email, texts, and/or letters below:



Today 5:33 PM

Hey Ethan,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:



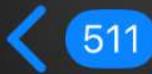
**Call or Email Congress –
Make your voice heard!**

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you for being a part of this movement!

Delivered



5:35



Teddy >

Today 5:35 PM

Hey Teddy,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

 **Call or Email Congress –**
Make your voice heard!

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you for being a part of this movement!



5:29



Hal >

Today 5:29 PM

Hey Hal,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

 **Call or Email Congress –**
Make your voice heard!

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you for being a part of this movement!



5:35



Rob >

Today 5:35 PM

Hey Rob,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

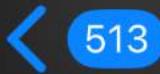
If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

 **Call or Email Congress –**
Make your voice heard!

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you



5:33



Stephanie >

Today 5:33 PM

Hey Stephanie,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

 **Call or Email Congress –**
Make your voice heard!

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you



Hey Ron,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

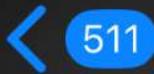


**Call or Email Congress –
Make your voice heard!**

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you for being a part of this movement!



5:34



Sean >

Today 5:34 PM

Hey Sean,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

 **Call or Email Congress –**
Make your voice heard!

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you



5:34



Angie >

Today 5:34 PM

Hey Angie,
I can't thank you enough for your generous support. Because of you, we've reached our fundraising goal! Your contribution has made a real difference, and I truly appreciate your commitment to this cause.

If you'd like to continue supporting our efforts, there is one simple way to help:

 **Call or Email Congress –**
Make your voice heard!

Your generosity has already had an impact, and any additional action—big or small—helps keep the momentum going. Thank you



Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
3/31	Posted/Tweeted to Key Leaders	0.15
3/31	Wrote Letters to Congress	2
3/31	Email Congress	0.15
3/31	Called Congress	0.30
4/1	Did the 20 point Challenge	2.30
4/1	Completed The Leaders Profiles Challenge for the week	0.30
4/2	Did Lobbying Meeting and Completed Lobbying google sheet Form	1.30
4/2	Did Ambassador Portfolio for the week	1.30
4/3	Touched Based with Fundraiser donors and thanked them	1.15
4/3	Mobilized 10 people to email their leaders	1.45
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

Monday 3/31:

7:00 to 7:15: Posted/Tweeted to key leaders
 7:15 to 9:15: Wrote Letters to Congress
 9:15 to 9:30: Emailed Congress
 9:30 to 10:00: Called Congress

Tuesday 4/1:

5:30 to 8:00: Did The 20 Point Challenge
 8:00 to 8:30: Completed Leaders Profiles Challenge for the week

Wednesday 4/2:

7:00 to 8:30: Did Lobbying Meeting and Completed Lobbying google Sheet Form
 8:30 to 10:00: Did Ambassador portfolio for the week

Thursday 4/3:

5:30 to 6:45: Touched Based with Fundraiser donors and thanked them
 6:45 to 8:30: Mobilized 10 people to email their leaders

Week 10

- Have you done any presentations to local community groups or rotary clubs? review this [Sheet](#) to see which clubs we have already met with. Yes ___ No X.
- Paste a video of your presentation below:



- I will present to two organizations at my school Next **Monday 4/14/25**.
- Have you done any presentations on campus? Yes **X** No ____ . How many? **2**
- Paste a video of your presentations below:
file:///var/mobile/Library/SMS/Attachments/17/07/at_1_30ECCEF5-D169-41A6-BBE6-8735F6A68AEAVIMG_9527.MOV
<https://share.icloud.com/photos/0e8gh1rmFwSXPZx0dIGt3rKxg>
- ~~30 Point Challenge: Call Into CSPAN Daily Talk Radio Show and ask a question for the guest focused on the International Affairs Budget.~~
- ~~C-SPAN Phone Lines:~~
 - ~~Republicans: (202) 748-8001~~
 - ~~Independents: (202) 748-8002~~
 - ~~Outside U.S. and Text: (202) 748-8003~~
 - ~~Democrats: (202) 748-8000~~

[Preview attachment Muhlenberg College 12.m4a](#)

[Muhlenberg College 12.m4a](#)
[316 KB](#)

- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Like a photo on The Borgen Project's Instagram and tag 3 friends in the comment section. Paste a screenshot of the photo you chose here:~~



8:36

5G



THEBORGENPROJECT
Posts

Follow



107

6

5



theborgenproject Clint Borgen, President of The Borgen Project spoke at the World Forum in Berlin last week. The World Forum on the Future of Democracy, AI / Tech and Humankind brought together people ranging from human rights leaders to current and former Heads of States.

President Bill Clinton, Secretary Hillary Clinton, President of Taiwan Lai Ching-te, Heads of States of Kosovo, Israel, Palestine, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Romania, Moldova, and Lithuania, Nobel Peace Laureates Maria Ressa & Oleksandra Mathviichuk, Co-Godfather of AI Yoshua Bengio, the "President of Russia in-exile" Vladimir Kara-Murza, the High Representative for Bosnia Christian Schmidt and the Founder of The World Forum & Cinema for Peace Jaka Bizilj.

max_kurzweil @kabir_burman @marcscherer_ @achubbster29





- Add a **post** about The Borgen Project to your **story on Instagram** and **tag** The Borgen Project in your post. Paste a screenshot of your post here:



Make change today by finding out
about the Borgen Project and
donating to help save poverty
[@theborgenproject](#)



- Refer back to your **leader profiles** in week 2 and add any new information you find from your research; be sure your profiles are up to date.
- Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your **ambassador portfolio** on Blogger this week. See [recommendations here](#) :

Full Reflection:

<http://borgen-ambassador-portfolio.blogspot.com/2025/04/sudan-accuses-of-genocide-in-world-court.html>



April 10, 2025 Today, the [International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](#) held a hearing addressing Sudan's accusations against the United Arab Emirates (UAE), a case rooted in the devastating humanitarian crisis unfolding in West Darfur. Sudan alleges that the UAE provided support to the [Rapid Support Forces \(RSF\)](#), a paramilitary group accused of perpetrating grave atrocities, including acts of sexual violence and mass killings in what has been described as attempts at ethnic cleansing.

While the UAE has rejected the allegations and challenged the ICJ's jurisdiction, this case is a cry for the world to pay attention to the human toll of unchecked violence that occurs when international aid and support fizzle out.

Over the past two years, the [conflict in Sudan](#) has claimed the lives of more than 24,000 people and displaced over 14 million, numbers that speak to a crisis of historic proportions. Behind each number is a human story: families torn apart, children denied education, and communities stripped of dignity, health, and hope.

Poverty Leads to Instability

This is more than a legal showdown, it is an opportunity for the international community to reassess and reaffirm its commitment to peace, human rights, and poverty alleviation.

[The Borgen Project's](#) mission has always emphasized the importance of addressing poverty and instability as root causes of violence and extremism. When communities are denied access to basic needs like food, safety, education, and health care, the consequences are not just local; they are global.

International Aid and Global Stability

The tragedy in Sudan is a reminder of why global poverty reduction initiatives are not acts of charity; they are investments in national and international



● Review your **outstanding minimum impact** tasks from week 8. List them here:

Minimum Impact:

<p>Met with Congressperson's Office**</p> <p>Completed ▾</p>	<p>Mobilized 50 people to email Congress</p> <p>Completed ▾</p>	<p>Attend 4 Networking Events</p> <p>In Progress ▾</p>	<p>Taught 50 people to call Congress</p> <p>Completed ▾</p>
<p>Gave 2 Presentations</p> <p>Completed ▾</p>	<p>Raised \$500</p> <p>Completed ▾</p>	<p>2 Bird-Dogs</p> <p>In Progress ▾</p>	<p>Talked to 3 classes about volunteer ops</p> <p>Completed ▾</p>

● Write a **detailed plan** of how you are going to move forward with these tasks. Include in your plan **specific dates, times and actions** that you will carry out in weeks 11 and 12. Paste your plan here:

- I will be giving two presentations next week to two groups on campus: BergDems and BergVotes.
- I will be attending the Allentown Town Council Meeting next week (4/16) to complete my second Bird Dog.
- I will be attending my final networking event, which will be the Allentown Town Council Meeting, during which time I will also be completing my 1 Mile Campaign and also have an additional networking event on 4/23 on campus concerning social limits and healing in Vietnam.
- During my planned presentations, I plan to meet my goal of mobilizing participants to contact their members of Congress via emails and demonstrating/teaching them how to call their representatives.

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
4/4	Attended Networking Event: PA Leadership Conference	3
4/8	Attended Networking Event: Building the Worlds That Kill Us: Disease, Death, and Inequality by Dr David Rosner	1.30
4/8	Call my Congressional Leaders	1



4/8	Emailed My Congressional Leaders	0.30
4/9	Did the 30 point Challenge - Called Into Talk Radio Show (CSPAN)	0.45
4/9	Posted on Instagram about Borgen Project	1
4/9	Tagged 3 friends about Borgen Project	0.15
4/9	Updated Leaders Profile for the week	1
4/10	Wrote ambassador Portfolio	1.30
4/10	Wrote a detailed plan on how I will be moving forward with the tasks	0.30
4/10	Finalize dates for Presentations	1
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

Friday 4/4:

7:00 to 10:00 pm:**Attended Networking Event:** PA Leadership Conference in Harrisburg, PA

Tuesday 4/8:

5:30 to 6:30 Pm: Call my congressional Leaders

6:30 to 7:00 Pm: Emailed My Congressional leaders

7:00 to 8:30 pm: **Attended Networking Event:** Building the Worlds That Kill Us: Disease, Death, and Inequality by Dr David Rosner

Wednesday 4/9:

7:00 - 7:45: Posted On Instagram about the Borgen Project

7:30- 8:45 Researched and wrote my Ambassador Profile entry for the week

8:45 to 9:00: Reached out to and Tagged 3 friends about Borgen Project

9:00 to 10:00: Updated Leaders Profile for the week

Thursday 4/10:

8:00am - 9:30: Did a **30 point Challenge** by listening to and calling into CSPAN Democratic Line during Morning **Talk Radio Show** at appropriate time - left question/message for discussion on air (wasn't selected for live show discussion)

7:00 to 7:30: Wrote a detailed plan on how I will move forward with completing my remaining tasks

7:30 to 8:30: finalized dates, script, and slides for Presentations

Week 11

● ~~Email 20 groups. Make sure they are groups you **haven't** contacted yet. List the groups below:~~

1.Model United Nations (UNA-USA)	2.Amnesty International USA – Student Groups
----------------------------------	--



3. Oxfam America	4. Rotaract Clubs
5. Global Brigades	6. Engineers Without Borders USA
7. UNICEF Campus Initiative	8. Rotary International
9. Lions Clubs International	10. Kiwanis Club of Allentown
11. Junior League of the Lehigh Valley	12. YWCA USA
13. Peace Corps – National Peace Corps Association	14. Toastmasters International
15. CARE USA	16. Save the Children Action Network
17. Heifer International	18. Lutheran World Relief
19. Plan International USA	20. Mercy Corps

- ~~Mobilize 10 people in your state to email leaders in support of Unfreezing Humanitarian Aid. Be sure to have them email via the form on our website. List their names so the team lead can confirm with the advocacy program.~~

1. Ron Kurzweil
2. Ethan Kurzweil
3. Sean Coghlan
4. Marlene Kurzweil
5. Sofia Sotomoyer
6. Kabir Burman
7. Skylyn Ellison
8. Gabe Siegel
9. Ashton Chubb
10. Marc Scherer

- ~~Implement your 1 Mile Marketing Campaign~~

- ~~Write a summary of how your 1-Mile Campaign went, including pictures or videos of the event. Paste it here:~~

My 1 mile Campaign went very well. I was able to hang posters and flyers around Ryan Mackenzie's office which is close to my campus. I was able to spread the word of the Borgen Project around my campus. I posted the Flyers on Academic Row where students walk to and from class everyday. I hung up posters around the dorm area where students live. I hope this is able to raise awareness about the Borgen Project and its goals.

Photos:



ne, hybrid, &
person options
state tuition for
ible NJ residents

THE BORGEN PROJECT



THE BORGEN PROJECT



WHAT IS?
borgenproject.org

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BORGENPROJECT
.ORG

DO
MORE

THE BORGEN PROJECT IS ENTIRELY FUNDED BY PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS
RELATED TO US. YOUR HELP CAN BE PART OF THE CAMPAIGN THAT
IS BRINGING POLITICAL ACTION TO POWER.

THE BORGEN PROJECT





BORGEN

borgenproject.org



**LEPOCO Annual
Gathering**
Saturday, April 26,
2025
3:00 pm



Featured Speaker:
W. D. Ehrhart
"Politics, Poetry & Peace"
United Steelworkers Auditorium



- Create a \$1 Challenge **Fundraising campaign** on Instagram
 - Create an eye catching design tile
 - Challenge people to donate \$1 to *The Borgen Project* and/or Share, Like, Comment
 - Select “More Options” and “Add Fundraiser” and then search for “The Borgen Project” set your goal and publish your post.



3:24

THE BORGEN PROJECT

3 DAYS LEFT

The Borgen Project

john_hayden111 for The Borgen Project

3 of 4 Steps Completed ➤
Maximize your fundraiser's success

\$0 raised of \$20

[Donate](#)

[Share](#)

I challenge you to donate \$1 to the Borgen project a organization that fights poverty around the world

About the organization

 **The Borgen Project**
US 501(c)(3) Nonprofit
Community and economic development

The Borgen Project works to improve living conditions for people born into extreme poverty.

Source: [GuideStar](#)

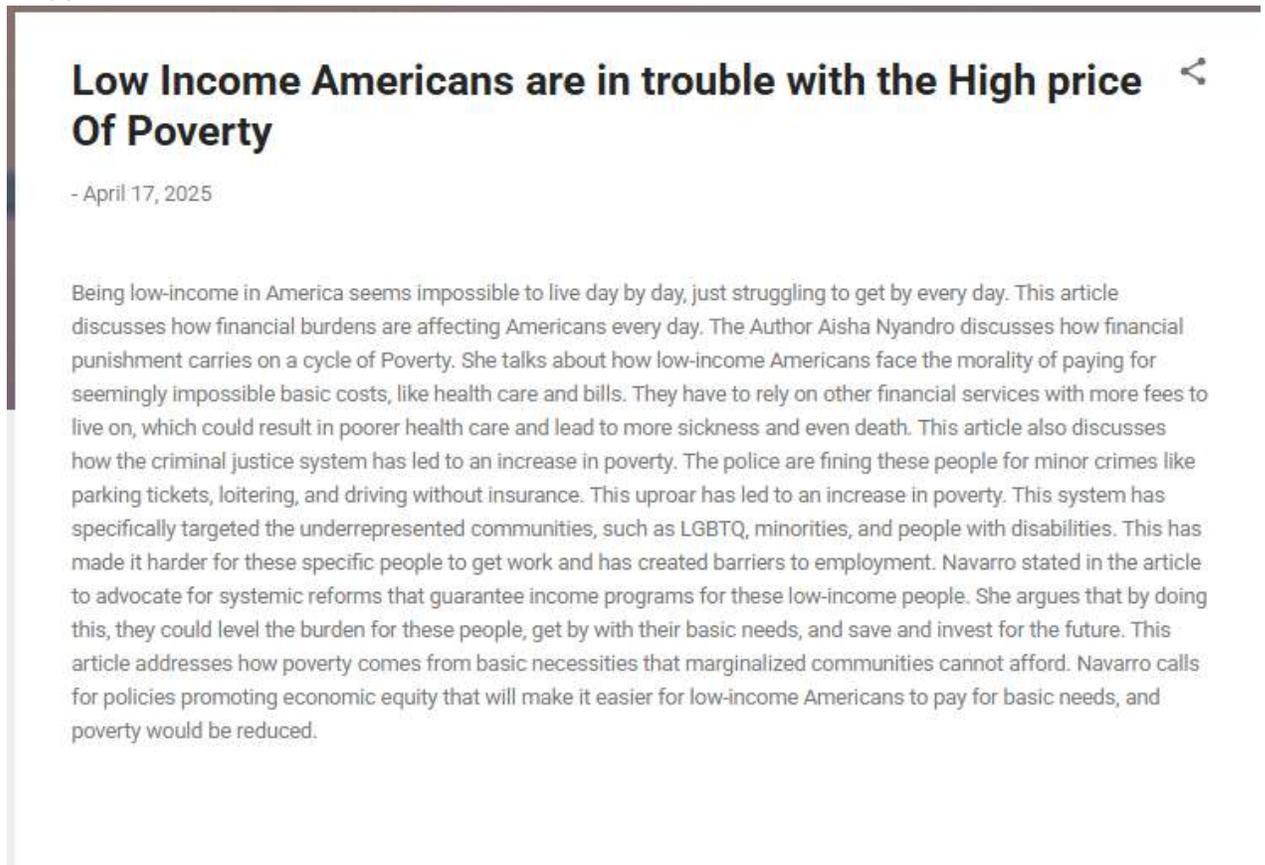


**Even if you don't reach your goal, all money raised still goes to The Borgen Project

- ~~Post/Tweet to leaders asking them to support a key bill. Take a screenshot of your post/Tweet and paste it here:~~



- ~~Refer back to your leader profiles in week 2 and add any new information you find from your research; be sure your profiles are up to date~~
- ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio on Blogger this week:~~



- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~



- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Provide an **update** on the actions you have implemented from your **plan in week 10** to complete the outstanding tasks from the minimum impact chart:~~

There is still one more bird dog I have to do. There are two events going on at my school one on April 23rd on zoom which I don't know if I will be able to ask a question and the other one on April 27th in person of meeting city council members in which I have the opportunity to ask a question.

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
4/14	Email 20 groups	1
4/14	Did my two Presentations	1
4/14	Mobilize 10 people in my state	1
4/15	Did my 1 mile campaign	2
4/15	Created \$1 fundraiser Challenge on Instagram	1
4/16	Wrote Summary on how my 1 mile campaign went	0.30
4/16	Called Congressional Leaders	0.45
4/16	Emailed Congressional Leaders	0.15
4/16	Wrote Ambassador Blog for the week	1.30
4/17	Updated Leaders Profile For the week	1
4/17	Tweeted Out to Representatives	0.15
4/17	Lobbying Meeting with Rep Lamonica McIver for the week	1
4/17	Provided update on tasks I still have to complete for the minimum impact	0.45
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

Monday 4/14:

7pm to 8pm: email 20 groups

8pm to 9pm: Did my two Presentations

9pm to 10pm: **Mobilize 10 people in my state**

Tuesday 4/15:

5:30 to 7:30 pm: Did my 1 mile campaign

7:30 to 8:30 pm: Created \$1 fundraiser Challenge on Instagram

Wednesday 4/16:

7:00 to 7:30 Pm: Wrote Summary on how my 1 mile campaign went

7:30 to 8:15 Pm: Called Congressional Leaders

8:15 to 8:30 Pm: Emailed Congressional Leaders

8:30 to 10:00 Pm: Wrote Ambassador Blog for the week

Thursday 4/17:

9:00 Am to 10:00 Am: Lobbying Meeting with Rep Lamonica McIver for the week

8:00 to 9:00 Pm: Updated Leaders Profile For the week

9:00 to 9:15 Pm: Tweeted Out to Representatives

9:15 to 10:00 Pm: Provided update on tasks I still have to complete for the minimum impact



Week 12

- ~~Give feedback.~~ The Borgen Project is always evolving and looking for ways to improve. Survey responses are read every month by the President of The Borgen Project and managers.
- ~~Mobilize 10 people in your state to email leaders in support of Unfreezing Humanitarian Aid. Be sure to have them email via the form on our website. List their names so the team lead can confirm with the advocacy program.~~
 1. Ron Kurzweil
 2. Ethan Kurzweil
 3. Marlene Kurzweil
 4. Sean Coghlan
 5. Gabe Siegel
 6. Marc Scherer
 7. Ashton Chubb
 8. Kabir Burman
 9. Sofia Sotomoyer
 10. Ryan Haygood
- ~~Call your Congressional leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Email your leaders in support of one of these issues.~~
- ~~Refer back to your leader profiles in week 2 and add any new information you find from your research; be sure your profiles are up to date.~~
- ~~Share what you learned from the resources you used to build your ambassador portfolio on Blogger this week.~~



Today, Thursday, April 24, 2025, Israel has acknowledged that they are responsible for killing a 31-year-old Bulgarian aid worker with the U.N. Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and injuring nine other people. They did this on March 19th, with a tank strike on a United Nations guesthouse in Deir al-Balah, Gaza. The Israel Defense Forces initially denied the attack and said there was no military activity that occurred at the time and location. However, there has been circumstantial evidence that has been revealed from the media that Israeli M113 tank shells and satellite images showing Israeli tanks nearby, prompting the IDF to retract its stance. The Israeli Defense Forces have said that the building was wrong and was suspected of being an enemy attack, and was not recognized by a U.N. facility. The U.N. Office for Project Services has condemned the incident as a grave violation of international law. In a counterattack for this, the UN has evacuated a third of its staff from Gaza and said safety concerns were a big issue, and the ongoing humanitarian crisis that Israel has a blockade on aid. The Israeli Defense Forces have apologized for this matter and regret the incident and are conducting a thorough investigation into the matter. This event that has happened is ongoing since 280 aid workers have been killed since this conflict has been occurring since October 2023.

Source: <https://www.ore.com/2025/04/24/middleeast-israel-acknowledges-killing-un-aid-worker-10tem-intl/index.html>

The Borgen Project works with Congress to promote policies, programs, and funding that help reduce global poverty. Curious about how they're driving change for communities worldwide? Explore their work at borgenproject.org and learn how you can make your voice heard.

Max Kurzweil is a sophomore at Montclair College, class of 2027, pursuing a double major in Political Science with a focus on institutions, processes, and public policy, and Business Administration with a concentration in management and organizational studies. He is currently serving as a Political Affairs Intern and Ambassador for The Borgen Project, where he advocates for global poverty alleviation as a means for strengthening American national and economic security.

● ~~If you haven't done so already, be sure that you register to vote. That's one of the best ways to show up for justice.~~

This will take 30 seconds

✔ **You are registered to vote.**

Max Kurzweil
is registered to vote at
111 Old Short Hills Rd, West Orange, NJ 07052-1074

● ~~Provide an update on the actions you have implemented from your plan in week 10 to complete the outstanding tasks from the minimum impact chart:~~

- During my 2 presentations I also included time to explain and demonstrate how to call Congress and provided students from the two presentations with the numbers for our district representative and Senator.
- During the last few weeks of my internship I have made it a goal to mobilize 10 people to email their representatives to reach my goal of mobilizing at least 50 people.
- I will be completing my second bird dog on April 27 during an Allentown Town Council Townhall at my college as the others I had planned were either cancelled or moved to



Zoom and I was unable to complete them at that time.

- I have spoken to my manager regarding this and they approved it since other potential bird dogs were either cancelled or went over Zoom at the last moment and didn't field questions.
 - The four networking events I attended are outlined at the top of the tracker and include who I met with. I also used one of them as an opportunity to complete my first bird dog.
 - I am planning my second bird dog for an event on our campus - a town council Townhall that will be taking place on April 27. I have spoken to my manager who has given approval for this to be my second. Irs dog since it is after the end date of the internship program and I will contact my manager with the final bird dog recording and include a brief summary of the networking event following to confirm my completion of the requirements of this internship immediately following the event. I will also paste the bird dog and summary here in the tracker.
 - I met with two of my representatives during my internship. The first was with Rep. Dean of PA and the second was with Rep. Mclver of NJ. I completed my lobbying report for my meeting with Rep. Dean and Mclver.
 - I used my connections on campus with political science professors to speak to three classes about the Borgen Project and one of the students I spoke to reached out to ask about my experience with the Borgen Project and I encouraged him to apply for an internship as it has been invaluable.
 - I achieved my fundraising goal of \$500 and even managed to get a little bit over the goal using my network skills and connections to maximize donation size and number of contributions through things like a \$1 campaign or a follow up "double your impact" challenge.
- Review your impact and highlight the boxes you have completed.

Bird Dog 2:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FKHP19lvE7DSI25bfT0tvXltevRH9w-k/view?usp=drivesdk>

Minimum Impact:

Met with Congressperson's Office**	Mobilized 50 people to email Congress	Attend 4 Networking Events	Taught 50 people to call Congress
Gave 2 Presentations	Raised \$500	2 Bird-Dogs	Talked to 3 classes about volunteer ops



The Next Level of Impact:

Mobilized 150 people to email Congress	One of your leader's cosponsors a key bill	Raised \$1,200	Generated news coverage for the cause
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NOTE: Have you submitted your [lobbying report form](#) for each meeting you had? If a form is not submitted for a meeting, the meeting will not count towards the achievements of your internship.

Update the following table detailing the work you have undertaken this week:

Date:	Task	Hours
4/21	Gave Feedback on the Borgen Project	1.30
4/21	Mobilize 10 people in my state	1.30
4/22	Updated Leaders Profile	1
4/22	Updated Blog Post for the week	2
4/23	Attended networking event	1.30
4/23	Registered to vote	1.15
4/23	Emailed Congressional leaders	0.15
4/24	Gave Updated Actions on what I still Need to do	2
4/24	Submitted Lobbying report form 2	1
4/27	Will Attend my last bird dog event	1.30
	Total Hours	12

NOTES: (keep notes updated to ensure an accurate evaluation of your entire performance)

4/21:

7:00 to 8:30 pm: Gave Feedback on the Borgen Project

8:30 to 10:00 pm: Mobilize 10 people in my state to reach out to congress

4/22:

5:30 to 6:30 pm: Updated Leaders Profile for the week

6:30 to 8:30 Pm: Updated Blog post for the week

4/23:

7:00 to 8:30 pm: Attended Networking Event

8:30 to 9:45 pm: Registered to vote



9:45 to 10:00 pm: Emailed Congressional Leaders

4/24:

5:30 to 7:30 pm: Gave Updated actions on what I still need to do and what I have accomplished

7:30 to 8:30 pm: wrote and submitted Lobbying Report form 2

4/27:

12:00 to 1:30 pm: Attending My Last Bird Dog Event with the Allentown Town Council town hall at my college

