



World Affairs Council  
of Western Michigan

# Great Decisions Global Discussions 2020

Tuesdays, 12-1 p.m.



**February 11**

**Kashmir: Flashpoint between India and Pakistan**

Raza Ahmad Rumi, director, department of journalism, Ithaca College

*How has escalation in Kashmir changed the stakes for the U.S. and the world?*



**February 18**

**Mirror to the World: The Philippines under Duterte**

Julie McCarthy, international correspondent, Manila Bureau, NPR

*What does Duterte's rise in the Philippines signal to the rest of the world?*



**February 25**

**Regional Security in the Red Sea**

Steve Dalzell, senior defense policy researcher, RAND Corporation

*Yemen. Piracy. Terrorism. How do we secure trade in the Red Sea?*



**March 3**

**"Green Peacebuilding": Justice in the Face of Climate Change**

Marisa O. Ensor, anthropologist, Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service

*What can young activists teach us about peace and climate change?*



**March 10**

**Human Trafficking: Global and Local Perspectives**

Panel moderated by Rachel VerWys, co-creator, Solutions to End Exploitation (SEE)

*Human trafficking is a global phenomenon—what's happening in our own backyard?*



**March 17**

**The Future is Now: Artificial Intelligence and National Security**

Lindsey Sheppard, fellow, Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS)

*Dispelling the myths – can Artificial Intelligence live up to our expectations?*



**March 24**

**China's Road into Latin America**

Margaret Myers, director, Asia & Latin America Program, Inter-American Dialogue

*Should the U.S. be concerned about China's growing "sphere of influence"?*



**March 31**

**Central American Immigration and U.S. Foreign Policy**

Sonia Nazario, Pulitzer-winning journalist and author of *Enrique's Journey*

*Is there a humane solution to immigration at the Southern border?*

**WATCH THE LECTURES TUESDAYS, 12 – 1 PM, beginning FEB. 11**  
Lectures at The Book Nook & Java Shop – 8744 Ferry St., Montague

**JOIN THE DISCUSSION WEDNESDAYS, 12 – 1 PM**

**GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSIONS**

White Lake Community Library, Whitehall

No charge to attend Lectures. The Book Nook will provide lunches and beverages for sale.

Discussions at the Library are based on Foreign Policy Association's Briefing Book, available from [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org) for \$32. The Library discussions will be held in the Legacy Room. You are welcome to bring a sack lunch. Coffee drinks are available for sale.



# WHITE LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Contact Information:

Marcia Conaghan

Adult Programs Coordinator

[whimc@lcoop.org](mailto:whimc@lcoop.org)

[www.whitelakelibrary.michlibrary.org](http://www.whitelakelibrary.michlibrary.org)

FOR RELEASE: January 23, 2020

## **Book Nook Java Shop and White Lake Community Library to collaborate on World Issues Programs**

Starting on Tuesday, February 11, from noon to 1:00 pm, there will be eight weekly live-streamed lectures at the Book Nook Java Shop in Montague. These lectures, sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan and presented live in Grand Rapids at Calvin University, will be followed up by discussions of the topic on Wednesdays at the White Lake Community Library from noon-1:30 pm.

To generate better discussions, the Wednesday attendees are encouraged to purchase the Great Decisions booklet (\$32) and read the 10 pages or so of background on the week's topic. Books can be purchased and all 8 topics can be viewed at the Foreign Policy Association website [www.fpa.org](http://www.fpa.org) under the heading Great Decisions.

The first week's focus on February 11 is India and Pakistan, with the World Affairs Council providing a Tuesday lecture titled Kashmir: Flashpoint between India and Pakistan presented by Raza Ahmad Rumi director of the Department of Journalism at Ithaca College. The Tuesday lecture requires no prior commitment, just drop in. Wednesday discussion group attendees may want to order the book and read ahead of time on the topic.

The discussion group on Wednesdays will remain open during the 8 weeks from February 11 to April 1<sup>st</sup>, but if you want to join the discussion group on Wednesdays, or if you have any questions, please contact Andrew Kuharevicz at The Book Nook Java Shop at [andrew@thebooknookjavashop.com](mailto:andrew@thebooknookjavashop.com), or Marcia Conaghan at [mconaghan@wlclib.org](mailto:mconaghan@wlclib.org). Participants are encouraged to share in leading the discussions based on questions provided in the booklet.

The lectures and discussions will be presented in the following order:

February 11 and 12 Kashmir: Flashpoint between India and Pakistan

February 18 and 19 Philippines under Duterte

February 25 and 26 Regional Security in the Red Sea Area

March 3 and 4 Green Peacebuilding in the Age of Climate Change

March 10 and 11 Human Trafficking

March 17 and 18 Artificial Intelligence and National Security

March 24 and 25 China's Road into Latin America

March 31 and April 1 Central American Immigration and US Foreign Policy

The Tuesday lectures will take place in the back room of The Book Nook Java Shop, 8744 Ferry Street, Montague, which will provide a range of drinks, soup, and snacks for purchase there for those who want lunch while they listen. On Wednesdays you are invited to bring a sack lunch to the Legacy Room at the library at noon.

White Lake Community Library is a district library serving all residents within the boundaries of the Whitehall District Schools. Located at 3900 White Lake Drive in Whitehall, the library provides a broad range of print materials and audiovisual items for all ages. The library also offers a variety of programs for children, teens, and adults, as well as wireless internet access and computers for public use. For more information, call the library at 231-894-9531, or visit the library website at [wlclib.org](http://wlclib.org).