

# Annual Report 2025



QUINCY INSTITUTE  
FOR RESPONSIBLE  
STATECRAFT





## From the Chairman

Stephen Heintz  
President and CEO, Rockefeller Brothers Fund

October 2025

This has been a year of extraordinary global turmoil as the post-World War II international order continues to fragment, violent conflict afflicts populations on multiple continents, and US policy and actions sow confusion and disruption. Through it all, the Quincy Institute has proven its staying power as a recognized force able to navigate turbulent conditions, shape debates, and influence outcomes—in Washington and beyond.

Our research is informing conversations from Congress to the White House to the G20 to the United Nations through social media and legacy media, unofficial back-channel diplomacy, and direct advocacy. We are using a multi-pronged approach to shaping new thinking—from our online magazine *Responsible Statecraft*, which will have more than 10 million views in 2025, to our six-week Congressional fellowship, which brings together a bipartisan cohort of Hill staff for case studies on foreign policy restraint, to our work at the international diplomatic level to seed new possibilities for thorny problems like Middle East security architecture and the redistribution of power at the UN Security Council. At a moment when polarization threatens to paralyze American politics, the Quincy Institute's growing transpartisan coalition is one of our greatest strengths. It ensures our message is not confined to one camp but resonates across the political spectrum.

The water will likely remain choppy, but we know where we are headed. Our work is charting a future where the United States leads not through primacy and endless war, but through collaborative leadership and effective diplomacy. With your support, the Quincy Institute smartly and steadily navigates toward a more peaceful world.



## Preventing a Forever War in Europe

Throughout 2025 QI's Eurasia team worked doggedly to advance one of our core objectives: finding a durable end to the war in Ukraine. Our team opened diplomatic space in the US, Russia, and Europe for negotiations, identified compromises that would satisfy all parties' core interests, and helped interpret Russian diplomatic signals for the White House. We have pursued an "inside-outside" approach, channeling dialogues and conversations from Kyiv to Minsk to Moscow into government briefings; producing voluminous public communication to build support for compromise; and demonstrating the importance of bringing Russia back into diplomatic processes. We advanced the latter through a two-day conference we co-organized in June on the imperative of Arctic governance and scientific cooperation, where Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska delivered remarks.

Our efforts to forge a diplomatic compromise are premised on the dangers of disengagement—namely, escalation into broader Russia-West conflict or a long-term, unstable division of Europe without the arms control measures and rules of the game that kept the old Cold War from turning hot.



## Who Pays for Influence?

The throughline of QI's Democratizing Foreign Policy program in 2025 was transparency. Program members Ben Freeman and Nick Cleveland-Stout (pictured) opened the year with a standout initiative by launching the Think Tank Funding Tracker, the first publicly searchable database revealing the financial influence of foreign governments and weapons contractors on US think tanks. The theory of change behind the tracker is that lawmakers and journalists should know and reveal the sources of funding behind the foreign policy analysis they cite.

Nick traveled to South Africa for the 2025 On Think Tanks conference to globalize the tracker's reach. Because of our partnership and the success of the Think Tank Funding Tracker, the On Think Tanks annual

# 2024

## Statement of Financial Activity

### FINANCIAL POSITION

Total current assets	\$2,242,764
Total other assets	\$2,821,054
Total assets	\$5,063,054
Total current liabilities	\$290,286
Total net assets	\$4,773,532
<b>Total Liabilities and net assests</b>	<b>\$5,063,818</b>

### REVENUES

Grants income	\$1,752,030
Contribution income	\$3,580,280
Investments & other income	\$100,960
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>\$5,433,270</b>

### EXPENSES

Program services	\$6,234,608
Management and general	\$679,317
Fundraising	\$475,818
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$7,389,743</b>

**\$0**

**FROM WEAPONS CONTRACTORS,  
FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS OR THE  
US GOVERNMENT**



All amounts are from our 2024 audit  
which can be found on our website.

**82%**

**OF ALL DONATIONS ARE  
SPENT ON PROGRAMS**



**OUR SUPPORT IS:  
32% FOUNDATIONS  
68% INDIVIDUAL DONORS**



survey this year included a series of questions about donor transparency. The results revealed a striking transparency gap: US think tanks disclose far less about their funding than counterparts across Asia, Africa, and Europe.

The program will close out the year by publishing *The Trillion Dollar War Machine*, a searing account of America's military-industrial complex challenging the nation's addiction to ever-rising spending on weapons and war. Written by Ben Freeman and Bill Hartung, *Publisher's Weekly* praised the book as a "damning indictment of the conflicts of interest running rampant in the defense establishment."



## Relentless Pursuit of Mideast Peace

QI worked non-stop throughout the year to transform Washington's approach to the Middle East—through direct diplomatic engagement and the media.

Middle East program Research Fellow Annelle Sheline has been a leading voice against US support for the Gaza genocide, speaking truth to power globally at convenings from the United Nations General Assembly to an emergency conference of governments in Bogotá. She has been particularly effective on social media—where more than half of Americans now get their news. Meanwhile, Executive Vice President Trita Parsi was on seemingly every major broadcast in June, arguing that—far from the success the administration touted—the US and Israeli bombing of Iran demonstrated that diplomacy remains the only proven means to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

They worked closely with the governments of France, Italy, Indonesia, and Spain to develop a constructive model for establishing a Palestinian state and broader regional peace. This governmental proposal led the United Nations to adopt a historic declaration in September that helped prompt the Trump administration to put forward its own plan to end the war in Gaza.

Senior Research Fellow William Hartung and Research Associate Nick Cleveland-Stout also helped shift the narrative and build support for peace by quantifying the US political forces that fuel conflict in the region. Bill's tally of total US aid to Israel since the Gaza war began led coverage of the war's second anniversary in October 2025. Nick's investigation, revealing that Israel pays US influencers up to \$7,000 per social media-propaganda post, went viral, igniting a national conversation about foreign influence in American politics.





# Thank You to our 2024 Donors

This list reflects contributions received through calendar year 2024.

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## QI Leadership

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Lieven

## Honoring a Legacy

QI established the Andrew Bacevich Chair in American Diplomatic History in September 2025, naming Anatol Lieven as its first recipient. Anatol's encyclopedic knowledge of history, prolific pen, creativity, and commitment to advancing a less militarized US engagement with the world carry Andrew's huge legacy forward.



Bacevich

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