

Hello Nob Hill Indivisibles,



I watched a wonderful documentary at the Guild the other day, “Meeting Gorbachev”, a beautiful portrait of Mikhail Gorbachev.

How we need more like him in these dark days. I found the director, Werner Herzog, was trying very hard to paint Gorbachev as a tragic figure, having not realized all he envisioned with Perestroika, but Mikhail held strong...and pointed out that, even though his full vision was not realized, the amazing progress that was made under his shepherd. Indeed, an historic Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty was signed between the US and Russia in 1987, eliminating a total of 2,692 of nuclear weapons by the treaty's deadline of 1 June 1991. That was 30% of the existing arsenal!

But, as we know, Trump withdrew the U.S. from the treaty in February 2019, accusing Russia of non-compliance. My first thought when I walked out of the theater was sorrow, but then I thought, “two steps forward, one step back”. Isn't that how history unfolds?

We are in the throws of “one step back” on so many fronts. But the momentum was going forward (remember the last few newsletters, momentum continues unless reversed by a more powerful force), if we toe the line, hold onto that rope, the momentum will NOT reverse. We can pull it forward again, and send it reeling ahead! This is indeed our moment of reckoning, and our moment to reverse history...it's a very exciting time to be alive and get involved! Keep doing that kids! We WILL overcome!

Here's a trailer of the film, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcTWadiv6vI>

Actions

National actions:

1. This week **Mitch McConnell said he would confirm a Supreme Court justice in a presidential election year**, contradicting what he said about Obama's nominee Merrick Garland. Why, **because he's being supported by huge dark money spending**: Right-wing dark money donors have spent \$250 million to pick extremist nominees. Call your House Representative and ask them to EXPOSE the dark money donors that support this plan to stack the Court with extremist judges. Ask them to **cosponsor and publicly advocate for the DISCLOSE Act** now! You can also send a letter via May Day, by clicking [here](#). Want to read more about DISCLOSE, click [here](#).

2. The **Trump regime has announced its plan to change EPA methodology on how they estimate future health risks of air pollution**. Now, at Trump's behest, the U.S. Geological Survey -- the scientific arm of the Department of Interior -- is halting the prediction of climate change's long-term effects on the country. Instead of predicting climate impacts out until 2100, the agency will stop at 2040. **Tell the Dept of Interior and our MoCs to do**

everything to reject this administration's attack on science. To reach the DOI, click [here](#). To reach your MoC, click [here](#).

3. The 2016 election was targeted by foreign adversaries who wanted to undermine our democracy and influence the outcome to benefit their own interest. The next set of guidelines for voting systems in the U.S. are being written by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) now. Tell them that they must do everything in their power to secure our elections. Experts have warned that connecting voting machines directly to the public Internet through wireless modems or other means increases the vulnerability of those systems to hacking. **Email the EAC and urge them to administer guidelines** that ban wireless modems and Internet connectivity in voting systems. You can send a letter by clicking [here](#).

4. I'm hot on this one!!! Tell the Dem Presidential candidates to take the 2020 pledge. The pledge calls on the now 23 presidential candidates to treat the primary as **an exchange of ideas while respecting their opponents and to immediately support the eventual nominee**, working together to "do the work to beat Trump." **Send a letter and/or tweet to all the candidates** and ask them to take the pledge. Click [here](#) for a list with contact info and scripts.

5. What are your thoughts on impeachment? Want to tell Indivisible? Take their national survey by clicking [here](#).

Baby steps?

- After the **ACLU published a report documenting that nearly 2/3rds** of recently retired or defeated **U.S. lawmakers who now** have new jobs outside of government, **have secured positions influencing federal policy**. Here are some examples:

*Former U.S. Rep. Joe Crowley (D-N.Y.), defeated by Ocasio-Cortez, now works for lobbying giant Squire Patton Boggs.

*Former U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith (R-Texas) now works for lobbying firm Akin Gump, where he is registered to lobby in favor of the same controversial copper and gold mine in Alaska that he pushed for while in Congress.

*Former Rep. Lynn Jenkins (R-Kan.) launched her own lobbying firm before she even left Congress.

In response to the report, **Ocasio-Cortez tweeted that she favors a lifetime ban on former members of Congress serving as paid lobbyists. Are you ready, Texas Senator Cruz tweeted back: I agree.** Yup, read it [here](#). Now, AOC is in the House and Teddy is in the Senate so that makes for a tough union, but he said it, hold him to it!! Write or tweet him [here](#).

- Sites like **Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube have an outsized impact in our social lives**. We treat these platforms as a "public sphere" - using them to discuss issues, connect with friends, and engage in activism and debate. But while these platforms may be used by the public, they're ultimately owned by private companies with their own rules and systems of governance that control—and in some cases, censor—users' content.

Onlinecensorship.org is pushing companies to operate with greater transparency and accountability toward their users as they make decisions that regulate speech. They offer resources and information on how to appeal different media platforms, and original research on what content is taken down. They also reveal why companies make certain decisions about content, and how content takedowns are affecting communities around the world. Read more [here](#).

- **A national movement for 100% clean energy is happening. More than 125 cities and five states (including NM) have made 100% commitments** -- proving that transformational

change is possible. The **Sierra Club is taking it one step further with its 100% Clean Energy School Districts campaign!** In partnership with Ready for 100, they are working with parents, families and community members to encourage school boards in districts across the country to pass 100% clean energy resolutions. You can tell, and others, what you think by clicking [here](#).

- We Americans tend to get myopic, but the **EU just had their elections**. Like here, the EU is facing division and siloing, but also, like us, some are listening to the wake-up call. **Voter turnout was the highest ever and several nationalist, populist parties did not get the majorities they anticipated**. There is still lots of turmoil and the far-right is pushing back, but overall, Europeans resoundingly said NO and that they wanted to remain unified. To read more click [here](#).

Local Actions:

1. **Join a Spanish-English conversation group with asylum seekers** from May 28-Aug 23, 2019! To sign-up, contact INH member, Laura Nunes at laura@ccedu.org.

2. Each month, **local Indivisibles meet with our Members of Congress**. You can read the minutes of these meetings by clicking [here](#).

Events

Sat, June 1, 9 am – noon, DPBC Ward Conference. Calling All Ward Chairs and Ward Leadership. Location TBA. For more info contact Ward Conference Coordinator, Diane Gutterud, diane.gutterud@gmail.com or text or call her at 818-575-0369

Also Sat at 12:45pm PST (1:45pm MST), MoveOn in-person forum with presidential candidates streamed from San Francisco, CA. Each candidate will present "one big idea" that they'll push forward if elected. Cory Booker, Julián Castro, Kirsten Gillibrand, Kamala Harris, Amy Klobuchar, Beto O'Rourke, Bernie Sanders, and Elizabeth Warren will be there. You can register to attend and stream by clicking [here](#).

Sun, June 2, 2 pm, Rural Issues & Outreach Panel Discussion. Sponsored By Tri-County Coalition. Edgewood Middle School, 17 Venus Rd Edgewood, 87105. US Rep Deb Haaland will be a keynote panel member.

Also Sun, June 2, 4:30 - 6PM, Truth Telling in the Age of Climate Disruption. Sponsored by the New Energy Economy at the Santa Fe home of Leslie Lakind, \$40/per. For directions and to RSVP, click [here](#).

Tues, June 4, The Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District election. If in your district, you can vote for funding from property owner taxes for irrigation ditches, dams and levees from Cochiti Reservoir to the Bosque del Apache near Socorro. For more information on voting in this election click [here](#).

June 5, 6:30-8:30pm, Retake or Democracy, strategies for PRC advocacy. Strategize on upcoming Roundhouse Interim Hearings and the 2020 legislative session. Center for Progress and Justice, 1420 Cerrillos, Santa Fe. RSVP by writing to Paul@RetakeOurDemocracy.org.

Sat to Sun, June 7-9: Wear Orange Weekend. Join NM's Mom's Demand Action Wear Orange for National Gun Violence Awareness Day, Sign-up [here](#).

Sat, June 8: 2019 Albuquerque Pride Parade. Nob Hill Main Street, Central Ave. To learn more, click [here](#). As with last year's parade **INH will be walking front and center, we'll also have a booth** be sure to be there!!

Also Sat at 12:30 pm. Don't want to walk in the hot sun, consider attending Progressive Democrats of NM **at the Guild for a screening of *The Occupation of the American Mind – Israel's PR war in the US.***

Sat, July 20: NMILC Summer 2019 Citizenship and Civic Engagement Fair. Help over 60 Legal Permanent Residents fill out their citizenship applications, Spanish speakers are needed too! Los Duranes Community Center, at 2920 Leopoldo Rd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104. To register, click [here](#).

Come to next Monday's meeting, June 3rd, Bernco County Clerk Linda Stover (and her whole team) will talk to us about voter initiatives in the county!

Weekly actions checklist:

- Tell your US Rep to co-sponsor the DISCLOSE Act
- Tell the DOI and our MoCs to reject attacks on science
- Urge the EAC to administer guidelines to protect our voting systems
- Tell all 2020 Dem candidates to take the Indivisible Pledge
- Come to Monday's meeting

In solidarity,
Melora – INH Outreach Coordinator