



Press Release

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Award-winning Journalist and Author, John Pomfret to Discuss the Complex Changes Overtaking China

An important part of the Council's mission is to support the future success of Jacksonville as an international trading center and ensure that our citizens are informed participants in the First Coast's business and economic policy debates. The Global Business Luncheons offer invaluable insight into international political, economic, business and financial trends - information that is important to First Coast businesses as they make both short and long term development, staffing and investment decisions.

On behalf of that World Affairs Council of Jacksonville, I would like to announce that with award-winning journalist and author, John Pomfret will be the guest speaker at a timely Global Business Luncheon at The River Club, 1 East Independent Drive on Tuesday, Oct. 13 from noon until 1:30 pm. He will address "China: Partner or Competitor?" delivering insight into the complex changes overtaking China... from social life and politics to the accelerated emergence of a business community and market economy. Pomfret speaks, reads and writes Mandarin and has lived and worked in China off-and-on for a decade starting in 1980. He was an AP reporter in China during the Tiananmen Square protests in the late 1980s and served as Beijing bureau chief for The Washington Post from 1998 until the end of 2003. A foreign correspondent for 15 years, he is currently the editor of the Post's Outlook section and is the newspaper's expert on immigration.

Table Sponsorship for 10 is available for \$1,000.00. Individual tickets are available for purchase for \$45.00 each for Council members and \$65.00 each for non-members. Please call the Council office at (904) 280-8162 or visit our website at www.worldaffairscounciljax.org to purchase tickets.

This event is co-hosted with the Gate Governors Club and is supported by Water Street Capital and The Haskell Company.

The Media Sponsor is the *Jacksonville Business Journal*.

Please see the attached bio. and photo for John Pomfret.

As one of the most prestigious citizen forums in Northeast Florida, the World Affairs Council of Jacksonville is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization devoted to promoting understanding of world affairs by sponsoring public programs for all ages, fostering discussion of international issues and opportunities, and providing a venue for people to meet others with similar interests. Our mission is to promote an understanding of the world and its people and to engage citizens of Northeast Florida in becoming informed participants in the global community.