

NATIONAL PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON WITH HSH PRINCE ALBERT II, MARQUIS OF BAUX

SUBJECT: THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

MODERATOR: DONNA LEINWAND, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL PRESS CLUB

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**DONNA LEINWAND:** (Sounds gavel.) Good afternoon. Welcome to the National Press Club for our speakers luncheon. My name is Donna Leinwand. I'm a reporter for *USA Today*, and I'm President of the National Press Club. We're the world's leading professional organization for journalists, and we are committed to the future of journalism by providing informative programming and journalism education, and by fostering a free press worldwide. For more information about the National Press Club, please visit our website at [www.press.org](http://www.press.org).

On behalf of our 3,500 members worldwide, I'd like to welcome our speaker and our guests in the audience today. I'd also like to welcome those of you who are watching us on C-SPAN. We're looking forward to today's speech, and afterwards I will ask as many questions from the audience as time permits. Please hold your applause during the speech so that we have time for as many questions as possible. For our broadcast audience, I'd like to explain that if you hear applause, it may be from the guests and members of the general public who attend our luncheons and not necessarily from the working press.

I'd now like to introduce our head table guests and ask them to stand briefly when their names are called. From your right, Richard Simon, congressional correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times*; Andrea Stone, senior Washington correspondent for AOL News Sphere; Bradley Hague, associate producer, National Geographic Television; Raymond Arroyo, news director of EWTN and a new National Press Club member; John B. Kelly, III, President, Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation USA, and a guest of the speaker;

Linda Kramer, Washington editor of *Glamour* magazine; Josh Reichert, Managing Director, Pew Environment Group, Pew Charitable Trusts and a guest of the speaker.

Skipping over the podium for just a second, Angela Greiling Keane, reporter for Bloomberg News and the Chair of the Speakers Committee; skipping over our guest, Melissa Charbonneau, President of Newshook Media, Vice Chair of the NPC Speakers Committee, and the person who organized today's event. Thank you very much, Melissa. His Excellency Bernard Fautrier, CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, and a guest of the speaker; Nikki Schwab, columnist for the Yeas and Nays column of the *Washington Examiner*; Kelly Wright, anchor and correspondent for the FOX News Channel; Suzanne Struglinski, press secretary for the National Resources Defense Council; and finally, Todd Purdum, national editor of *Vanity Fair* magazine. (Applause)

Our guest today is the ruler of the world's second smallest country, Vatican City being the smallest. Yet, this royal is among the most globally recognized heads of state. His Serene Highness, Prince Albert II heads the house of Grimaldi. He is brother to Princess Caroline and Princess Stephanie, the only son of Prince Rainier III and Princess Grace, and the ruling sovereign of the principality of Monaco. You may recognize his voice, which has blanketed U.S. airwaves this month on the Classic Movie Channel. His Highness, the Prince, moonlights as a narrator in a biography about his movie star mother, the late Academy Award-winning actress, Grace Kelly.

But it is his work as the champion of the environment that brings him to the National Press Club podium today. Prince Albert arrives directly from a Smithsonian summit where he delivered the keynote speech for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty signing. His royal timing is impeccable, especially for the journalists in the audience today. The Prince's visit comes in advance of the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit next month. Both Prince Albert and President Obama are scheduled to attend.

But as the President and the Prince prepare to lobby for lower greenhouse gas emissions, questions about the legitimacy of global warming science continued to grab headlines. In the wake of leaked emails from climate change scientists, U.S. Senator James Inhofe has called for an inquiry into U.N. climate change research. Prince Albert II himself has investigated the impact of global warming with personal expeditions to the North and South Poles. Early this year, he took a month-long tour of Antarctica, and in 2006 he made a four-day trek to the Arctic, North Pole.

In 2006, he also founded the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation to support sustainable projects on climate change and renewable energies combating the loss of biodiversity and improving universal access to clean water. Among his many honors, Prince Albert II has won the Teddy Roosevelt Medal for his work on environmental conservation action. A passion for nature apparently runs in the Grimaldi family. According to the National Press Club archives, Prince Albert's great-great-grandfather, Prince Albert I, spoke here nearly a century ago in 1913 about his oceanography studies. The *Washington Post* reported Prince Albert I was, "The first ruler of Europe to deliver a message to the press of the United States through this famous organization of news

writers.” The *Post* also wrote Prince Albert I called the press, “The means by which scientists can reach the ears and brains of the public.” Today, we continue that royal tradition. Will you please help me welcome to the National Press Club His Serene Highness, Prince Albert II of Monaco? (Applause)

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Thank you very much, indeed. Madam President, dear Senator Warner, your Excellencies, dear Angela and Melissa, ladies and gentlemen, dear friends, first I would like to tell you how pleased and moved I am to be with you here today. Pleased because I know our exchanges will be friendly and fruitful. I appreciate it, it’s just value the possibility we have to meet around these very important and genuine issues. Moved because this is a very special trip to this country for me this time since it brings me closer to the memory of my mother, Princess Grace, and returns me to this country where I have, as you know, strong family, friendly ties.

I’m also moved to be here today in front of the National Press Club 96 years after my great-great-grandfather and you just alluded to that, Madam President, Prince Albert I, who spoke not in this very place, as I understand, but at the Willard in October of 1913. Known as the Scholar Prince, Albert I was curious about his times, an indefatigable traveler who helped spread Monaco’s name well beyond the shores of the Mediterranean, all the way to this continent. Prince Albert I was also a model of openness and modernity, a man with a thirst for knowledge and science, ready to listen to avant-garde minds.

With President Theodore Roosevelt, he was one of the first heads of state to understand the importance of conservation, of large areas and species. Of this planet, no one imagined at the time it would be one day in danger. He was able to perceive the vulnerability, along with its importance, for each and every one of us. Engaged with scientists in whose company he conducted many maritime expeditions, including to the Arctic region, Albert I was a man of progress whose message continues to inspire my actions. He was also someone with a deep concern for his people, who greatly contributed to reinforcing Monaco’s prosperity and independence, and making it a constitutional state with modern institutions.

It may be useful, indeed, to recall the often poorly known reality of my country. Monaco is a stable, independent sovereign state with a long history, proud of its traditions, culture and shared values. Although the resident population does not exceed 35,000, the number of people employed exceeds 45,000. This makes Monaco in its area a major labor market including for neighboring France and Italy. Its economy is sound, as are its public finances.

State revenue, made up mainly of VAT tax resources, over 50 percent, reflects Monaco’s economic activity. This economy is highly diversified with tourism and real estate, as well as trading activities, services, and the banking sector, Monaco being primarily dedicated to wealth management.

At the same time, the gambling sector, while remaining important for tourism, represents no longer a substantial part of the revenue; only 3 percent of the state’s

revenue. All of this contributes to a balanced economy rooted in modernity. Regularly audited by experts from the major international financial institutions, the principality has always been able to prove its compliance with international standards. Thus, when all European countries agreed to implement in the fiscal area the cooperation and compliance with OECD standards, I asked my government by virtue of the principles of equity, whose importance I have emphasized since my accession, to implement negotiations for the signature of bilateral agreements, over a dozen of which have been signed, in particular with this country, with the United States, which enabled Monaco to be removed from the OECD's gray list. This recognition occurred last September.

In compliance with orientations I have set for my government, Monaco is tending evermore toward compliance with international standards, not only regarding money laundering, but also the prudential area and toward good governance. Monaco is also pursuing its efforts to reinforce our traditional assets. Safety for people and goods, quality of life, intense cultural activity, top level medical establishments, and a user friendly and efficient administration, a network of innovative, proactive professionals.

The ethical concerns that inspire my actions with respect to my country's financial and economic life, also affect my commitment toward the protection of this planet. Monaco has adopted a resolute policy in favor of sustainable development. In particular, this entails defining urban transport plans by promoting clean, gentle mobility based on public transport, and respecting high quality environmental construction standards. It also embodied in the implementation of projects linked to improving the environment, both around Monaco and in other countries around the Mediterranean basin.

All these actions contribute to respecting my country's commitment to become carbon neutral in the long term. But the action of states, in particular the small states like Monaco, must be reinforced to confront this great challenge of our time, the protection of our planet. That this is why a little over three years ago I created a foundation with a threefold mission: fighting the effects of climate change, striving to promote biodiversity, and preserving water resources.

The creation of this foundation resulted in large part from an expedition I led with seven other people to the Arctic in April, 2006 which I would like to share with you a few ideas. Those 150 kilometers by dogsled from the Russian base of Borneo to the North Pole were, I think, a decisive revelation. Not so much for the threats jeopardizing the future of our planet, an issue that has been a concern for me for quite a long time.

What was revealed to me in this long journey through these vast expanses of frozen ocean was the urgency to take action, the need to explore all possible courses of action with this prospect. Such an adventure requires exceeding oneself, not only in the face of momentary difficulties, but in the face of the very meaning of existence. It is the feeling I experienced once again a few years later, and a few months ago now, when I went for a three-week expedition to Antarctica this past January.

The second expedition was dedicated mainly to meeting the scientists who are working there. I was able to visit 26 different research stations all around Antarctica. I had the opportunity of crossing paths with truly exceptional people, men and women entirely dedicated to trying to understand the complex mechanisms not only of this very important continent, but how it affects our entire planet. And also space, because there are a lot of scientists there that are studying space, studying our environment well beyond the Poles.

Indeed, what is happening in these very fragile regions concerns the future of all of us. Global warming and rising sea levels, pollution threats, and threats to biodiversity, there more than elsewhere the planet's woes are visible to the naked eye, perceptible on a human scale. My foundation's location reaches far beyond the polar regions. The foundation is present today on all continents, where it acts in partnership with other institutions and players in the field, thereby enhancing our capacity to take action.

I'm very proud of the many projects conducted by my foundation with partners present in the United States. The Clinton Global Initiative, the U.N. Foundation, the Aspen Institute, Conservation International, the Earth Institute, the Chicago Field Museum, the Scripps Institute of San Diego, the Paraguayan Fund, the Smithsonian Institute, the NRDC and Pew, with which we'll be signing in a few moments a memorandum of understanding.

Faced with the challenge of this nature, all good will, all determination, all energy, must be mobilized, states and NGOs, businesses and international institutions. This is how we can take effective action. On its level and thanks to these partners, my foundation already supports over 120 projects all over the world. Some of them are directly operational, while others aim to raise awareness among populations or aid scientific research. All of them respect the will not to give up in the face of daunting challenges from which we cannot escape. Through the wounds inflicted on our planet to the Poles made more vulnerable by warming, through the oceans made more acid by climate change, through all the species threatened or extinct, it is our survival ultimately that is at stake.

Our efforts expected of us will be tremendous. In particular, we will have to proceed with an in-depth revision of the principle on which we have built our unparalleled prosperity for over two centuries. We will have to travel, consume, work and live in a slightly different way. We will have to help the most fragile, the poorest countries, so that they too can advance by our side. While they have less responsibility than others for the perils threatening us, they are today their first victims. We will need them to restore balance on our planet; the ecological balance, the economical balance, the sanitation, migration and so on.

All this requires greater solidarity towards those who are suffering today and toward those who will suffer tomorrow if we do little or nothing at all. Indeed, there is no more room for doubt. Scientific data, I think, although it is now under review, for me is unquestionable. Challenging this data means agreeing to the sacrifice of future

generations to our selfish comfort. The only alternative available to us is to accept today that to change a few of our habits, it doesn't mean changing everything, or suffer within the next 50 years consequences we cannot yet even fathom.

It's still not too late to take action. We can still avert most worst case scenarios. This, in particular, is one of the goals of the meeting to be held in the next two weeks in Copenhagen, Denmark. The Copenhagen Summit offers us the historic opportunity to bring together around a single objective all the countries in the world under the aegis of the United Nations. Alas, it is unlikely this meeting will achieve the goals that it had hoped for, but it will not be the last. The road that is opening up to us is still long. After Copenhagen, we should be able to lay the foundations for sincere international cooperation on an issue that concerns all the worlds peoples, regardless of their wealth, geographic location, lifestyles or cultures. We will need everyone's efforts.

And this brings me to the role of the media in general and the press in particular. It has a great role to play. And Madame President, you alluded to this in the first part of your remarks. My great-great-grandfather did say 96 years ago, and I quote, "I appreciate the press for its great usefulness to scientists. It can help us by extending our results and it is the intermediary for reaching the ears and minds of the public." And I'm going to ask you if you agree to assume the role of intermediaries starting right now? As I have just announced, and before answering your questions, we're going to proceed with the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the Pew Charitable Trust and the NRDC and my foundation. Thank you very much. (Applause)

[signing memorandum of agreement]

**MS. LEINWAND:** Okay, so who's going to tell me what got signed here? Somebody buy a house? (Laughter) Go for it, sure.

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, maybe Mr. Fautrier can come up here and explain exactly the document that was signed. But it's, as all memorandums of understanding, it's the beginning of the relationship with the Pew Charitable Trust on several issues that will take too much time to explain to you today. But if you want to say a few words, Mr. Fautrier, who is the CEO of my foundation.

**MR. FAUTRIER:** Oh, you are nice. You said the essential. We can only add that we have already some important shell track of cooperation among those that are in the field of conservation of the boreal forest in Canada, to the field where we are already working, in partnership with some Canadian institutions and it will be, I hope, the first concrete field of partnership with the Pew Charitable Trust.

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Thank you.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Okay, we're going to start off with some of our questions. We have lots of them. Again, if you want to pass your questions up to the front, please do so. We'll start off with the controversy over climate change data. What do you think of

the recent report on scientists who changed their data to fit the climate change scenario of global warming?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Someone said that these were going to be easy questions. (Laughter) Is this the right luncheon? Well listen, I think quite simply for me, we knew that this was going to happen. Those who followed these issues pretty closely over the last few years and months, and on every subject of a scientific nature, there is some controversy. There can be some opposing arguments, or opposing theories. But this will be reviewed, but I can tell you for what I in my personal experience, I'm not a scientist, but I think I have been in touch and engaged and talked to a lot of different scientists. And I was out in the field myself. And I can assure you that there are signs already out there of the effects of climate change. I don't think you can argue on the-- Maybe on the intensity of it, or on the fluctuations of different temperature averages around the world or precipitation averages, but one thing is for sure, that it is happening. And it is happening on a global scale.

You've got to remember that it's not evenly distributed and the effects are seen more in some areas than others, but it is definitely happening and we have to address this issue before it's too late.

**MS. LEINWAND:** What is the most compelling evidence that you've seen about global climate change and global warming?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, if you look at both polar regions, I think just to stay within the subject of today and the news of today, it is-- as you said, I was over at the Smithsonian on the summit on 50 years of the Antarctic Treaty. So I was very privileged, I feel very privileged to have been to both polar regions. And you see very simply-- Let's start with the Arctic, there are wide areas of open water. In the early spring which never used to be the-- and pretty close to the North Pole, so pretty high up, around the 89<sup>th</sup> parallel. So that was not the case just a few years ago.

And the loss of ice mass is also very noticeable. Obviously, there's always been fluctuations in the thickness of the ice, but there tends to be more fluctuation now and thinner ice. I, of course, noticed firsthand and I was able to compare a wonderful photograph that was taken by my great-great-grandfather's crew, because he did four Arctic expeditions. And in the 1906 expedition, they did take a picture of a very famous glacier on the island of Spitsbergen and the Svalbard archipelago, so this is halfway between Norway and the North Pole. And there's a very famous glacier there called the Lilliehook glacier and we were able to compare it just photographically and visually. And since 1906, it has receded some 4 ½ miles. So that's one evidence that I saw.

And in Antarctica, it's such a vast continent and it's hard to really quantify things that are happening there, but you've seen in the news, you've seen big portions of ice shelves that are breaking off. There's also some evidence of glaciers retreating and receding. There is also paradoxically, but that's the other effect of climate change, is that at one end of Antarctica that could be, and on the coastal areas, there could be more

precipitation. But in other parts, and there has been for a while, desert-like conditions, although it is a very cold desert. They have very little precipitation and high winds. But that's always been-- It's more or less always been the case. But there are these big fluctuations.

And what is also happening is that the hole in the ozone layer above Antarctica has not receded at all. It's still very much there and it still influences, sometimes in a very negative way, the climate, not only in Antarctica, but as far as Australia or South America. And it does have a major-- And part of the studies that are going on, and that we're part of the research programs, the research programs, the international polar year were to study even more the effects of Antarctica and the climate around Antarctica and how it influences different climate systems around the world.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Okay, so you're a prince. You could be doing prince things like fitting glass slippers and rescuing damsels in distress. What makes you so passionate about the environment?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Where are those glass slippers? Well, I think as I tried to say before, I think it's a heritage I got from not only my great-great-grandfather, but my father was very instrumental in setting up different-- And being at the forefront of different initiatives for the Mediterranean specifically and for the area around Monaco. That he set up more notably, setting up a sanctuary for marine mammals in the Mediterranean that has been kind of a model for other sanctuaries around the world, and we wish that there could be more.

So it's all that heritage, I think, that came into play. And I understood pretty early on, and maybe it was-- And I say this under the-- I was going to say under the authority, but under the guidance of-- There's some people here from the National Geographic Society. I think you might remember this. There was a poster that you people very aptly produced in 1970, I think it was, that was entitled "How Man Pollutes His World." And it really showed how in very simple and very educational terms how air, land and sea pollution was happening around the world and issues that concerned the environment that are still very pertinent today. And so that poster had a great effect on me all through my childhood. So that's another big reason.

And then in recent years, I accompanied by father to different international meetings, and more notably the Rio Summit in 1992. I represented him and was the head of the Monaco delegation at the Summit in Johannesburg in 2002. And so the commitment then came and took on a different aspect. But it certainly is very much still there.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Do you expect any true concrete action to come out of the Copenhagen Climate Summit? What would you consider to be success?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, I think what we've learned now from the meetings leading up to Copenhagen, that there's been a lot of discussion and a lot of differences of



opinion and a lot of differences in the agenda and commitments. But I think what we now know and what some of the bigger issues that are going to be discussed that the objectives that are starting to come out are substantial, that they're not quite where we wanted them to be. But I have to salute the efforts being made especially by President Obama and other leaders and his commitments are substantial. We were hoping for more, but I think we have to settle for these numbers right now and then we have a basis from which to then move forward.

But it is a unique opportunity. And to get everybody around the same table on this issue and to try to commit to certain goals, it's better also to start maybe a little more modestly and be able to review that in months and years ahead.

**MS. LEINWAND:** While the Arctic ice is melting, we have an increase in ice at the Antarctica. Nevertheless, a peninsula at Wilkins Island broke apart. How do you explain that incident?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, I referred to that a little while ago. I cannot substitute myself to scientists and maybe there's someone in this audience who might be able to explain that better than I can, but please--

\_\_\_: As the air gets warmer, it can carry more water vapor. Scientists talked about this years ago. As the air warms up slightly, but not enough to melt Antarctica, enough extra water vapor arrives to make more snow.

**PRINCE ALBERT:** That's what I was talking about with precipitation. (Laughter) No, but that's what I alluded to before. But I was thinking more of the ice shelf breaking off. I don't know if you have an explanation of that?

\_\_\_: ... (inaudible) former ocean waters eating away underneath.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Okay. Well, thanks to the audience for pitching in there.

**PRINCE ALBERT:** That's audience participation for you.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Jack Williams, our weather expert. How did you get to Antarctica, and do you recommend that more people visit to get a better understanding of its challenges and the environment in general? And did you have a good time?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** I had a incredible time, and it's, as I said, a thing very few people get to have such an extended tour and be able to visit as many stations as I have. And I'm really thankful to all those who made it possible. I came to Antarctica through South America, through Chile, which is one of the-- By air and landed from-- Left from Punta Arenas and landed on King George Island. Maybe some of you have been there, maybe you have been there, Miss Williams. And then proceeded from there-- Well, actually, we have to because of problems of aircraft and other technical issues that I won't go into, we had to go back to Punta Arenas to go further and deeper into the continent.

But it was mainly by air, and the only part that was terrestrial was on skis when I joined Mike Horn, the South African explorer and where we skied together for two days, camped out, I shared his tent with him and we reached the South Pole on skis. So that was the adventurous part of the trip. Oh, I can't remember the last part of the question.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Do you think more people should visit to get a sense of the environment?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** It's a double edged sword. Of course, if you know a place, then you tend to want to protect it more and do more for it. But the other side of that is if too many people go there and this is coming under review by different councils that take care of Antarctica, there could be a quota on the number of visitors there, especially those that come from the cruise ships because there is an impact when you have too many people going along these shores at the same time. That is already impacting not only the usual routes where these ships go, but it obviously has an impact on the wildlife there. So, you have to be very, very careful.

**MS. LEINWAND:** So what about the wildlife management? What nation is in charge of protecting the wildlife and the environment from tourism? And is there some joint effort to handle it?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Wildlife worldwide or--?

**MS. LEINWAND:** In Antarctica?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, what happens is that the 12 original countries that side the Antarctic Treaty have areas of responsibility. It's not an extension of their national territory, but they have areas of responsibility where it's mostly for safety issues and protection issues.

But the species that are studied in Antarctica obviously it's mostly on the coastal areas because that's where the wildlife is. There's very little life on the Antarctic plateau and the ice sheet of Antarctic which I said is almost like a desert. So there are microorganisms, of course, but there is no-- You never see a bird, you never see any other animal life. So, the areas where they can be monitored, obviously it's not 100 percent protection for those different species. But we are seeing some diminishing of populations of penguins and of other marine mammals. But that's mainly from their food source because there's less and less krill because the waters are warming up as we've heard. So, they're very sensitive to variations in temperature. And so that's one of the aspects that is going on.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Okay, so let's move on to oceans and fishing. Do you support a world ban of bluefin tuna? And do you support the fish farming developments of Japan's Kindai tuna developed at Kinki University in Japan?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, I'd be remiss if I didn't support that because Monaco was at the initiative of the proposal to put Mediterranean bluefin tuna on annex one of the Washington treaty and to therefore put its commercial-- As it will be listed under an endangered species annex list, than it is an automatic ban from commercial fishing. So based on the data that we have from scientists in the Mediterranean, the stocks of-- And the stock of bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean is on the verge of collapse. So if we didn't do something and quotas clearly are, even though they were just reevaluated, quotas will simply not allow the stock to replenish itself. And it simply will not work, and so we have to move now to the next step, and that's at the next CITES meeting to be able to put Mediterranean bluefin tuna on the annex one.

And so we've been able to get support from many different countries, but mainly also from the United States and we really appreciate that. We thank them, take this opportunity to thank the U.S. government and its different constituencies for their support and their leadership in this. And we hope that we will be able to be successful.

**MS. LEINWAND:** The Obama Administration has an initiative to address housing and transportation by creating "livable communities where people can drive less." It has become controversial, drawing criticism for trying to dictate how people live. How do you address such critics, and what do you think of such plans? You're tall, I'm moving that up for you.

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, I think that's an effort. It's not ideal, but coming from a small country and a city state, we have our own issues of traffic and of mobility and we are, and we have been for the last few years, putting a lot of emphasis on public transportation. And as I said in my remarks, on clean mobility and the use of electric and alternative energy vehicles is of primary concern to us. But obviously if you try to minimize the use of private vehicles in a small area as much as possible and to emphasize other means of public transportation because that will help ease obviously your traffic flows.

And so, these kinds of initiatives, I think, even though they seem a little odd or farfetched at first, will-- You have to try them out. There's no definite answer to all these problems and issues. Sometimes, you have to do a test for a certain period of time and if it works, then you can continue implementing it. And if it doesn't work, then you move to another solution. But these are huge issues for urban areas, large or small. And with population growth in different countries around the world, it will become an increasing issue. And if we don't start addressing these issues now, it will be too late in months or years to come.

**MS. LEINWAND:** So Monaco, kind of small. What kind of effect could Monaco exert on global understanding, culturally, economically and socially? And are there advantages in being small?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Yes, there are. (Laughter) You try to fit in between the big guys and try to help bridge those gaps. And I tried to on environmental issues, I've also tried to get the small countries of Europe together and we were able to have a meeting a couple of years ago in Monaco to get a little consensus on what smaller countries can do. And we can also, albeit on a smaller scale, we can sort of be, I think, interesting test grounds to try out different policies or different tests that could be done for-- What we were just talking about, for mobility, but for other issues, too. And we've tried to play our part, and we've tried to show that we can apply different innovative policies in transportation, in recycling, and in alternative energies. And we will continue to do so in the future.

**MS. LEINWAND:** What actions will Monaco take to minimize the environmental impact of cruise ships?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, we can smile about this, but the cruise ship industry, as you know, has developed incredibly in the last few years and we are a hub for the cruise ship industry in the Mediterranean. And we are trying to work with different cruise ship companies and as they build new ships all the time to have them move more toward alternative energies and to review their environmental policies and their carbon footprint.

It's still a long way to go. And not all ships-- To take one example, when they come to dock on our pier, some of them are older generation ships and so they continued to use, even when they are docked, they don't hook up to the power lines and they still use their generators. And as you know, that generates some pollution and that's not very agreeable for anybody who's in the area.

But they are conscious of this and some do compensate for their carbon footprints and are part of offset programs. But there's still a long way to go. But I think not only the cruise ship industry, but as the automobile industry and-- Will start moving more and more toward clean mobility and cleaner alternatives to what they are using today. We are also, I've been in discussions with-- Because I sure this question will come-- for the Monaco Grand Prix automobile races. We have taken this issue up with the FIA, with the governing body of the automobile racing and Formula One. And they've started to make steps toward energy recuperation, but they will have to move sooner or later, toward racing cars that will use either bio fuels or even hybrid cars. But it's still some ways away now.

**MS. LEINWAND:** Years ago, you opposed expanding Monaco by creating an artificial peninsula. However, earlier this year you approved bids from architects from such a project. How do you explain this reversal and how can you assure there won't be negative environmental impact?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** The reason why I stopped the expansion project was twofold. First of all, that none of the five bids in competition fully answered our environmental impact guideline and it was at the time where, if you remember a year ago, we didn't quite have the visibility of where the potential economic downturn was going to

take us and I thought it was simply not responsible to engage Monaco in this big project that where the large financial backing of these projects was not necessarily private funds. And so it was potentially a difficult situation. And so I didn't want us to be caught in that situation. But it's a project that can be revived in the years ahead. Our development did not hang on this one project alone.

**MS. LEINWAND:** We have a few family questions we'll try and work in. What do you consider to be your father's greatest contribution to Monaco?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** I think it was a number of things. I think quite simply, he was responsible for the development of Monaco, the post-war World War II development of Monaco. He simply brought it and helped it develop into a very different place 60 years ago to what it is today. And not only the physical aspect of Monaco and its economic development, but in all other areas as well. And he can be credited for incredible achievements.

**MS. LEINWAND:** We are almost out of time, but before asking the last question, and I'm going to be fair, I'll ask one about Mom, we have a few important matters. First, let me remind you of our future speakers. On December 4<sup>th</sup>, Joy Zinoman, the artistic director and cofounder of Studio Theatre will talk to us about how a theatre saved a neighborhood. On December 8<sup>th</sup>, Gary Nell, President and CEO of the Sesame Workshop will be here, apparently, with some sesame Street characters, although I don't know which ones. On Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, Karen Mills, the administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration will be here. Second, I'd like to present our guest with the traditional and much coveted NPC mug. (Applause)

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Thank you.

**MS. LEINWAND:** And for our last question, which of your mother's films is your favorite and why?

**PRINCE ALBERT:** Well, I didn't say this when I did the voiceover for Turner Classic Movies, but I would have to go with "Rear Window." I mean, I like all of them. (Applause) But "Rear Window," I think, has an incredible-- Well, it's a great story and an incredible quality to it of the relationship in the movie between Jimmy Stewart and my mom was simply magical. So, thank you. (Applause)

**MS. LEINWAND:** I'd like to thank you all for coming today. I'd also like to thank National Press Club staff members Melinda Cooke, Pat Nelson and Joann Booz for organizing today's lunch. Also, thanks to the National Press Club Library for its research. The video archive of today's luncheon is provided by the National Press Club's broadcast operation center. And our events are available for free download on iTunes, as well as on our website. Nonmembers may purchase transcripts, audio and videotapes by calling 202-662-7598 or emailing us at [archives@press.org](mailto:archives@press.org).

For more information about the National Press Club, please go to our website at [www.press.org](http://www.press.org). And as we conclude, I'd ask you all to stay in your seats for a few minutes while the Prince exits. And I thank you all for coming. We are adjourned. (Sounds gavel.)

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