



Charles Kenny

An optimist about global progress and its positive impact on America. The product and beneficiary of transoceanic romances, he thinks globalization is an immense force for good, and offers Americans new opportunities to learn, work, invest and improve their happiness and wellbeing.

Charles is the author of *Getting Better: Why Global Development is Succeeding and How We Can Improve the World Even More* (Basic Books: 2011) and *The Upside of Down: Why the Rise of the Rest is Great for the West* (Basic Books: 2014). He spent fifteen years as an economist in the World Bank, travelling the planet from Baghdad and Kabul to Brasilia and Beijing. He now works at a Washington DC think tank, the Center for Global Development, where he researches and advocates for policies governing investment, trade, technology and migration that would be good for both developing and industrialized countries alike. In addition, he is a widely cited researcher on the economics of happiness. He has a history degree from Cambridge University and Masters degrees from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.



Charles can speak about...

Why the rise of the Rest is great for the West: The developing world is the same size as Europe and North America put together. That is fantastic news for us.
The future of global economic and social progress: The last twenty years have been the best in human history. The next twenty years could be as good.
Progress in global health: Global life expectancy has doubled in 50 years, raising new challenges for the planet's health systems.
Why Americans should get out more: Americans stay at home --that's bad for us and for everyone else.
Happiness in the workplace and economic performance: Happy people are more outgoing, optimistic and cooperative. It isn't surprising that they do better at work.

Thanks so much for your speech -- the audience feedback was tremendous, and I found it fascinating.
Megan Greenwell, Zocalo Public Square

I thought your seminar was terrific... thoughtful and informative.
Melissa Ingber, Aspen Institute

Charles is a contributing editor at *Foreign Policy* magazine and was a columnist for *Bloomberg Businessweek*. He has also written for outlets including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Politico*, the *Washington Post*, the *Atlantic*, *Time*, the *Guardian*, *Vox*, *Salon*, *Slate* and *CNN*.

He has presented at investor conferences including for Eurofinance and for Buttonwood Investments as well as at World Economic Forum, Aspen Institute and Legatum Institute events. He has given talks at colleges and universities including Yale, Duke, Northwestern, Columbia, and Oxford. He has appeared on PBS' *Ideas in Action*, *Al Jazeera*, *CCTV*, *Vox*, *Reuters TV*, and *Bloomberg TV*. On radio he has been a guest on the *BBC*, *CBC*, *NPR*, *KERA*, *Kojo Nnamdi*, and the *John Batchelor Show*.

blog: www.charleskenny.blogs.com
twitter: [charlesjkenny](https://twitter.com/charlesjkenny)
email: charlesjkenny@gmail.com