

News You Can Use

Next America

http://nextamerica.csis.org/

Next America's website implores the visitor to "Debate. Decide. Connect". It's all part of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a bipartisan think tank in Washington, D.C. The website gives young future leaders the opportunity to debate the future of U.S. foreign policy with their peers, on issues such as "Energy & Climate", "Economic Integration", "Defense and Security", and "Human Rights and Development". To see what specific topics from these issues are currently being debated on the site, click on the "Debates" section. From there, you can see a photo of the person from each side of the debate, and read what they have to say. Those who have registered to be a member of the site can comment on the debaters' responses, in writing or by creating a YouTube video. If the visitor continues to scroll down the "Debates" page, they can see previous debates, with members being given the same opportunity to comment on the debaters' responses. The purpose of the all the debating and commenting on the site is to enable the staff of Next America to put together a memo outlining the policy priorities of the "twentysomething" generation, and give it to the new administration. It's a rather fine idea, and the site may inspire debates and fruitful conversation.

From The Scout Report, Copyright Internet Scout Project 1994-2008. http://scout.wisc.edu/