Roger Thurow joined The Chicago Council on Global Affairs as senior fellow for global agriculture and food policy in January 2010 after three decades at The Wall Street Journal. For 20 years, he served as a Journal foreign correspondent, based in Europe and Africa. His coverage of global affairs spanned the Cold War, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the release of Nelson Mandela, the end of apartheid, the wars in the former Yugoslavia and the humanitarian crises of the first decade of this century — along with 10 Olympic Games.

In 2003, he and Journal colleague Scott Kilman wrote a series of stories on famine in Africa that was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in International Reporting. Their reporting on humanitarian and development issues was also honored by the United Nations. Thurow and Kilman are authors of the book, ENOUGH: Why the World’s Poorest Starve in an Age of Plenty.

In 2009, they were awarded Action Against Hunger’s Humanitarian Award. They also received the 2009 Harry Chapin Why Hunger book award.


“My current project is a moveable feast of storytelling on the critical importance of good nutrition during the 1,000 Days -- the time from when a woman becomes pregnant to the second birthday of her child. I’m following women and their children through the 1,000 Days in four corners of the world: Uganda, India, Guatemala and the U.S. (Chicago). Any malnutrition of mother or child during this period leads to underdevelopment and stunting, which afflicts 26% of the children in the world. My reporting is focusing on innovative initiatives to improve mother and infant nutrition.” – Roger Thurow