“Above all, we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. It is a weapon our adversaries in today’s world do not have.”

-President Ronald Reagan, June 12, 1987
The Reagan National Defense Forum (RNDF) brings together leaders from across the political spectrum and key stakeholders in the defense community including: Members of Congress, civilian officials, military leaders from the Defense Department, industry and administration officials. Their mission is to address the health of our national defense and stimulate discussions that promote policies to strengthen the U.S. military.

In an era where the threats to our national security are increasing in number and complexity, RNDF allows senior leaders from the defense community to come together with viewpoints on how best to deal with these challenges.

Though President Reagan left office many years ago, the United States military continues to benefit from his commitment and vision for a strong defense. Recognizing that today’s decisions will affect our military capabilities for years to come, RNDF charges leaders from current and past administrations and Congress to look beyond the immediate issues facing our armed forces, and explore how we can build peace through strength for the future.
“There are some who’ve forgotten why we have a military. It’s not to promote war; it’s to be prepared for peace.”

-President Ronald Reagan, August 23, 1984

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2019 Agenda

The 2019 Reagan National Defense Forum begins with a welcome reception on Friday, December 6th followed by the Saturday, December 7th Breakfast, morning and afternoon panel sessions, luncheon and special keynote speakers.

Friday, December 6

5:15 pm  Welcome Reception
7:00 pm  Policy Breakout Dinners
          (By Invitation Only)

Saturday, December 7

6:30 am  Check-In Opens
7:30 am - 8:45 am  Breakfast & Panel 1
9:00 am - 9:55 am  Panel 2 & Panel 3
9:55 am - 10:20 am  Morning Break
10:20 am - 11:15 am  Panel 4 & Panel 5
11:30 am - 12:30 pm  Keynote Address
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm  Luncheon & Discussion Session
1:45 pm - 2:40 pm  Panel 6 & Panel 7
2:55 pm - 3:50 pm  Panel 8 & Panel 9
3:50 pm - 4:10 pm  Afternoon Break
4:10 pm - 5:10 pm  Panel 10 & Closing Session
5:15 pm - 6:15 pm  Peace Through Strength Reception
          (By Invitation Only)
6:15 pm - 7:45 pm  Peace Through Strength Dinner
          (By Invitation Only)

Attendees

Attendees and speakers are from the key communities that shape our national defense, which include Members of Congress, the civilian and military leadership of the Department of Defense, former officials, scholars, defense industry leaders, and members of the press. All RNDF sessions from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm are open to the press.

RNDF is by invitation only.
For more information, please visit RNDF.org or contact Meredith Stasa at mstasa@reaganfoundation.org direct line: 202-349-4072
Previous RNDF Program Participants and Distinguished Guests

*Partial Listing / Position and Organization at the time of their RNDF participation*

Congressman Don Bacon, Nebraska
Bret Baier, Fox News
Congressman Jim Banks, Indiana
Julian Barnes, New York Times
Congressman Jack Bergman, Michigan
Kari Bingen, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence
Senator Marsha Blackburn, Tennessee
Senator Roy Blunt, Missouri
Vice Admiral Raquel Bono, Director of the Defense Health Agency
Margaret Brennan, CBS News
Morgan Brennan, CNBC
Congressman Anthony Brown, Maryland
Bill Brown, Chairman, President, and CEO of the Harris Corporation
Congresswoman Julia Brownley, California
Lt. General Arnold Bunch, Office of the Asst. Sec. of the U.S. Air Force for Acquisition
Wes Bush, Chairman of Northrop Grumman
Congressman Bradley Byrne, Alabama
Congressman Ken Calvert, California
Doug Cameron, The Wall Street Journal
Congressman Salud Carbajal, California
Leanne Caret, President and CEO of Boeing Defense, Space & Security
Hawk Carlisle, President and CEO of the National Defense Industrial Association
Ash Carter, Former Secretary of Defense
Congressman Joaquin Castro, Texas
Vice President Dick Cheney, Former Vice President of the United States
Congresswoman Liz Cheney, Wyoming
Eric Cheenwing, Chief of Staff to the Secretary of Defense
Congressman Mike Conaway, Texas
Congressman Jim Cooper, Tennessee
J.D. Crouch, Former Deputy National Security Advisor
Congresswoman Susan Davis, California
General Martin Dempsey, Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Jerry DeMuro, President and CEO of RAE Systems
Matthew Donovan, Under Secretary of the U.S. Air Force
General Joseph Dunford Jr., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Eric Edelman, Former Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
Senator Joni Ernst, Iowa
Mark Esper, Secretary of the U.S. Army
Senator Deb Fischer, Nebraska
Michele Flournoy, Former Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
Congressman Mike Gallagher, Wisconsin
Congressman John Garamendi, California
Robert Gates, Former Secretary of Defense; Former Director of the CIA
General David Goldfein, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force
Senator Lindsey Graham, South Carolina
Congresswoman Kay Granger, Texas
Jennifer Griffin, Fox News
Stephen Hadley, Former National Security Advisor
Chuck Hagel, Former Secretary of Defense
Admiral Harry Harris, Former Commander of U.S. Pacific Command
Congresswoman Vicky Hartzler, Missouri
Pete Hegseth, Fox News
Lisa Hershman, Acting Chief Management Officer of the U.S. Department of Defense
Marillyn Hewson, Chairman, President, and CEO of Lockheed Martin
Kathleen Hicks, Senior Vice President of the Center for Strategic and Intl. Studies
Congresswoman Katie Hill, California
Robert Hood, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs
Nathan Houser, Principal at Deloitte
General John Hyten, Commander of U.S. Strategic Command
Jeh Johnson, Former Secretary of Homeland Security
General Jack Keane, Former Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army
Thomas Kennedy, Chairman and CEO of Raytheon
Senator Angus King, Maine
Christopher Kubasik, Chairman, CEO, and President of L3 Technologies
Jon Kyl, Former Senator from Arizona
Congressman Jim Langevin, Rhode Island
General Joseph Lengyel, Chief of the U.S. National Guard Bureau
Senator Carl Levin, Michigan
Ellen Lord, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment
Gordon Lubold, The Wall Street Journal
William J. Lynn, III, Former Deputy Secretary of Defense; CEO, Leonardo DRS
David Martin, CBS News
Secretary James N. Mattis, Former Secretary of Defense
John McCain, Former Senator from Arizona
Congressman Kevin McCarthy, California
Congressman Michael McCaul, Texas
The Honorable Howard P. Buck McKeon, Former HASC Chairman, California
Lt. General H.R. McMaster, Former National Security Advisor
Admiral William McRaven, Former Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command
General Mark Milley, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army
Congressman Paul Mitchell, Michigan
Senator Jerry Moran, Kansas
Congressman Seth Moulton, Massachusetts
Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy, Florida
General Robert Neller, Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps
Peggy Noonan, The Wall Street Journal
Congressman Donald Norcross, New Jersey
Phebe Novakovic, Chairman and CEO of General Dynamics
Kelly O’Donnell, NBC News
Congressman Jimmy Panetta, California
Leon Panetta, Former Secretary of Defense; Former Director of the CIA
Gen. David Petraeus, Frmr. Director of the CIA; Frmr. Commander of U.S. Central Command
Mike Pompeo, Secretary of State; Former Director of the CIA
Arnold Punaro, Vice Chairman of the National Defense Industrial Association
Senator Jack Reed, Rhode Island
Trish Regan, Fox Business
Condoleezza Rice, Former Secretary of State; Former National Security Advisor
Admiral John Richardson, Chief of Naval Operations
Admiral Michael S. Rogers, Former Commander of U.S. Cyber Command
Congressman Mike Rogers, Alabama
Josh Rogen, The Washington Post
John Rood, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
Congressman Adam Schiff, California
Senator Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire
Patrick Shanahan, Acting Secretary of Defense
Thom Shankaer, The New York Times
Gwynne Shotwell, President and COO of SpaceX
George Shultz, Former Secretary of State
Congressman Adam Smith, Washington
Brad Smith, President of Microsoft
Richard Spencer, Secretary of the U.S. Navy
Barbara Starr, CNN
Senator Dan Sullivan, Alaska
Jim Talent, Former Senator from Missouri
Congressman Mac Thornberry, Texas
Tunku Varadarajan, Hoover Institution
Chris Wallace, Fox News
Marcus Weisgerber, Defense One
Congressman Brad Wenstrup, Ohio
Heather Wilson, Secretary of the U.S. Air Force
General Stephen Wilson, Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force
Admiral James Winnefeld, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Congressman Steve Womack, Arkansas
Robert Work, Former Deputy Secretary of Defense
Dov Zakheim, Former Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)
Admiral Paul Zukunft, Former Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard
On Defense Policy

- **Reforming how the Pentagon does Business**: What does it take to roll back the red tape?
- **Is Funding National Defense our First Priority?**
  Exploring the root causes of sequestration.
- **Congress, Industry and the Pentagon**: Assessing the relationship.
- **National Defense Strategy**: Will the strategy be driven by events or shape events in 2025?

On Defense Innovation

- **Harnessing Innovation for Defense**: The role of defense and non-defense companies.
- **A View of Defense from Silicon Valley**: How can we better engage the tech world?
- **A Defense Industrial & Innovation Base Workforce for the 21st Century**: Winning the competition for highly skilled workers inside & outside the Pentagon.
- **Rethinking the Industrial Base**: How can the Pentagon capitalize on and incentivize innovation?

On International Policy

- **Keeping Pace in Europe and Asia**: Are we postured to prevail?
- **The U.S. in Europe, the Middle East and Asia**: How do we strengthen and build alliances in the 21st century?
- **Security Cooperation & International Arms Sales**: Is the U.S. winning the competition?
- **Winning in the Gray Zone**: Countering Russia & China below the level of armed conflict.
- **A View of U.S. National Defense from Friends and Allies**

On Future Warfare

- **Space Wars**: Are we prepared for the next domain of warfare?
- **Counterterrorism in 2025**: What kind of fighting force will be required?
- **Cyberwar**: The role of cyber in 21st century warfare.
- **Star Wars**: What does SDI teach us about technology in the military competition?
Previous RNDF Keynote Guests

2018

The Honorable James Mattis  
U.S. Secretary of Defense  
Congressman Adam Smith  
Ranking Member, House Armed Services Committee  
Congressman Mac Thornberry  
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee

2017

Lt. General H.R. McMaster  
U.S. National Security Advisor  
The Honorable Patrick Shanahan  
U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense

2016

The Honorable Ash Carter  
U.S. Secretary of Defense  
General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr.  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

2015

The Honorable Ash Carter  
U.S. Secretary of Defense  
The Honorable Robert O. Work  
U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense

2014

The Honorable Chuck Hagel  
U.S. Secretary of Defense  
Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr.  
Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

2013

General Martin E. Dempsey  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Honorable Chuck Hagel  
U.S. Secretary of Defense
Peace Through Strength Dinner and Awards

The Peace Through Strength Award is represented by a bronze eagle set upon a black granite base. The eagle symbolizes the strength, courage, and wisdom of both Ronald Reagan and the country that he loved so dearly. Captured within the eagle’s talon is a piece of the Berlin Wall, a powerful reminder that, in Ronald Reagan’s own words, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.”

Please note the Peace Through Strength Dinner is by invitation only and not part of the RNDF day program. For information on the Peace Through Strength Dinner, please contact Bob Cochran at 202.595.6371 or by email, bcochran@reaganfoundation.org.

The Ronald Reagan Peace Through Strength Award honors those individuals whose courage and leadership in support of our nation’s armed forces, at home and abroad, have contributed to the security of the American people and to the advancement of freedom.

The recipient of the Ronald Reagan Peace Through Strength Award has applied with constant purpose a strategy to strengthen our armed forces, support our military men and women serving around the world, reinforce our nation’s defense systems, and safeguard the lives and interests of the American people. The awardee has shown immeasurable respect for the importance of America’s defenses and their role in strengthening world peace.

Through the presentation of this annual award, we hope that America will honor those who give of themselves to ensure our freedoms are protected and preserved from one generation to the next.

Awardees

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<th>2018</th>
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<td>Cong. Adam Smith</td>
<td>Hon. Leon Panetta</td>
<td>Hon. Carl Levin</td>
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2015 2014 2013
About The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute is the non-profit, non-partisan organization established by President Reagan whose mission is to promote his legacy by convening, educating and engaging people around the world in his core principles of freedom, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Ronald Reagan Institute in Washington, DC – an entity of RRPFI – promotes President Reagan’s ideals, vision, and leadership example for the benefit of generations to come through substantive, issue-driven forums, academic and young professional programming, and scholarly work. The Reagan Foundation sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum. At the dedication of the Reagan Library in November 1991, President Reagan defined its purpose by describing it as a living institution where scholars interpret the past and policy makers debate the future.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library is located in Simi Valley, California. The Library houses 63 million pages of gubernatorial, presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of President Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It also serves as the final resting place of America’s 40th President and First Lady Nancy Reagan.

“Our military strength is a prerequisite to peace, but let it be clear we maintain this strength in the hope it will never be used.”

-President Ronald Reagan, June 8, 1982

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www.RNDF.org
The Ronald Reagan Institute (RRI) strives to complete President Reagan’s unfinished work and to preserve the timeless principles he championed: individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. RRI is an entity of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute in Simi Valley, California that promotes President Reagan’s ideals, vision, and leadership example through substantive, issue-driven forums, academic and young professional programming, and scholarly work in Washington, D.C.

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