“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
America’s Premier Defense Forum

REAGAN NATIONAL DEFENSE FORUM

MISSION STATEMENT

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, current and former Administration officials, senior military leadership, industry executives, technology innovators, and thought leaders. Their mission is to review and assess policies that strengthen America’s national defense in the context of the global threat environment.

RNDF offers the defense community a chance to come together to discuss and debate how the United States can lead the world in an era of increasingly complex challenges and opportunities.

Though President Reagan left office many years ago, the United States continues to benefit from his commitment to peace through strength. Recognizing that today’s policy decisions will affect our military capabilities and global leadership for years to come, RNDF charges leaders to look beyond the immediate issues facing our nation and explore how we can build a vision of peace through strength for the future.
“We welcome change and openness; for we believe that freedom and security go together, that the advance of human liberty can only strengthen the cause of world peace.”

- President Ronald Reagan, June 12, 1987

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2021 Agenda

The 2021 Reagan National Defense Forum begins with a welcome reception on Friday, December 3rd followed by the Saturday, December 4th breakfast, morning and afternoon panel sessions, luncheon, and special keynote speakers.

Friday, December 3

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

Saturday, December 4

6:30 am       Check-In Opens
7:30 am - 8:45 am    Breakfast & Panel 1
9:00 am - 9:30 am     Fireside Chat
9:45 am - 10:40 am   Panel 2 & Panel 3
10:40 am - 11:00 am  Morning Break
11:00 am - 11:55 am   Panel 4 & Panel 5
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm   Keynote Address & Discussion
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm    Luncheon & Peace Through Strength Awards Ceremony
2:45 pm - 3:40 pm    Panel 6 & Panel 7
3:50 pm - 4:45 pm    Panel 8 & Panel 9
4:45 pm - 5:15 pm    Afternoon Break
5:15 pm - 6:15 pm    Panel 10 & Closing Session
6:15 pm - 7:30 pm    Closing Reception

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.

RNDF is by invitation only.
For more information, please visit RNDF.org
or contact Meredith Stasa at mstasa@reaganfoundation.org
Previous RNDF Keynote Guests & Peace Through Strength Award Winners

Keynote Addresses

2019

The Honorable Mark T. Esper
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Robert C. O’Brien
Former U.S. National Security Advisor

2018

The Honorable James Mattis
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

Congressman Adam Smith
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee

Congressman Mac Thornberry
Former U.S. Representative, Texas

2015

The Honorable Ash Carter
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

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

2017

Lt. General H.R. McMaster
Former U.S. National Security Advisor

The Honorable Patrick Shanahan
Former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense

2014

The Honorable Chuck Hagel
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr.
Former Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

2013

The Honorable Robert Gates
Former U.S. Sec. of Defense; Former Dir. of the CIA

The Honorable Leon Panetta
Former U.S. Sec. of Defense; Former Dir. of the CIA

2016

The Honorable Ash Carter
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr.
Former Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

2019

The Honorable Sam Nunn
Former U.S. Senator, Georgia

2018

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security

General Jack Keane
Former Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army

2017

Senator Jack Reed
Chairman, Senate Armed Services Committee

The Honorable George P. Shultz
Former U.S. Secretary of State

2014

The Honorable John McCain
Former U.S. Senator, Arizona

2013

The Honorable Richard Cheney
Former Vice President of the United States

2016

The Honorable Robert Gates
Former U.S. Sec. of Defense; Former Dir. of the CIA

The Honorable Carl Levin
Former U.S. Senator, Michigan

Peace Through Strength Award Winners

2019

The Honorable James Mattis
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Sam Nunn
Former U.S. Senator, Georgia

2018

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Former U.S. Sec. of State; Former U.S. Nat. Security Advisor

Congressman Adam Smith
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee

2017

Senator Jack Reed
Chairman, Senate Armed Services Committee

The Honorable George P. Shultz
Former U.S. Secretary of State

2014

The Honorable John McCain
Former U.S. Senator, Arizona

2013

The Honorable Robert Gates
Former U.S. Sec. of Defense; Former Dir. of the CIA

The Honorable Carl Levin
Former U.S. Senator, Michigan

*RNDF 2020 canceled due to COVID-19
About the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute

Ronald Reagan's leadership defined an era. His inspired leadership, his eloquent oratory skills, and his unshakeable belief in basic conservative principles left an indelible mark on our great nation—and indeed, changed the course of history. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute (RRPFI) is dedicated to preserving and promoting the legacy of Ronald Reagan. It sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Ronald Reagan Institute in Washington, DC, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion, and the award-winning Air Force One Discovery Center.

His legacy thrives at The Reagan Library where events and exhibits rediscover his values, actions, and spirit of determination. The Reagan Library houses over 60 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers, over 1.6 million photographs, a half million feet of motion picture film, 25,000 audio recordings, 22,000 video recordings, and over 83,000 objects chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan.

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.” It now also serves as the final resting place of America’s 40th President and First Lady Nancy Reagan.

www.ReaganFoundation.org

“We’ve been blessed with the opportunity to stand for something - for liberty and freedom and fairness. And these are things worth fighting for, worth devoting our lives to.”

- President Ronald Reagan, March 1, 1985

About the Ronald Reagan Institute

The Ronald Reagan Institute (RRI), the Washington, DC office of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute, promotes our 40th President’s ideals, vision, and leadership example through substantive issue-driven forums, academic and young professional programming, and scholarly work. RRI builds on the legacy and ideas of President Reagan through our three policy centers: the Center for Peace Through Strength, the Center for Civics, Education, and Opportunity, and the Center for Freedom and Democracy. Each of these centers ensure President Reagan’s legacy is advanced in our nation’s capital.

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Bob Cochran at 202.595.6371 or by email, bcochran@reaganfoundation.org

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The four U.S. military service chiefs at RNDF 2019