FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Ronald Reagan Institute Releases National Security Innovation Base Report Card
Policy Tool Measures Critical Factors Across Innovation Ecosystem

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute’s Center for Peace Through Strength released the inaugural National Security Innovation Base (NSIB) Report Card – an innovative policy tool to measure the effectiveness, productivity, and resilience of our nation’s innovation ecosystem and provide recommendations for improvement. The report card will guide the dialogue at the Reagan Institute’s first annual National Security Innovation Base Summit on March 14, 2023, in Washington, D.C.

“America’s ability to maintain our technological edge over our adversaries, especially China, depends on our government’s ability to rapidly acquire and scale innovative technology across the national security enterprise. Developing that technology requires a healthy innovation ecosystem that supports technologists, investors, and researchers from our most innovative defense industry and dual-use tech companies,” said Roger Zakheim, Director of the Reagan Institute. “The Reagan Institute’s new report card is a first-of-its-kind tool to measure the health of that ecosystem.”

Grading The Innovation Ecosystem

The Reagan Institute brought together innovators, policymakers, national security experts, and business leaders to produce the NSIB Report Card assessing and grading the national security innovation ecosystem across ten key indicators. Detailed assessments of each indicator can be found here.

- Customer Clarity: D
- Innovation Capital: B-
- Private Sector Innovator Base: B
- Public/ Civil Innovation Base: B-
- Government Alignment: C
- International Alliances & Partnerships: C-
- Talent Base: D+
- Innovation Leadership: A-
- Defense Modernization: C
- Pull-Through for Broader National Priorities: B-
Signature Recommendations

Included in the report card are five signature recommendations crafted to improve the lower-scoring aspects of the NSIB ecosystem. More information on these recommendations can be found here.

1. Foster stronger relationships with the private investment community.

2. Scale up workforce development programs to increase domestic STEM output and skilled trades.

3. Establish additional mechanisms to increase the foreign talent pipeline for critical national security technologies.

4. Create additional technology-focused international alliances and partnerships.

5. Make bigger, bolder, more flexible investments in new capabilities.

National Security Innovation Base Summit

The NSIB Report Card will guide conversations among thought leaders, policymakers, and innovators at the Reagan Institute’s National Security Innovation Base Summit on March 14, 2023. Reporters wishing to cover the summit in person should RSVP here. Those wishing to participate virtually can access the livestream here.

About the Reagan Foundation and Institute:

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the sole nonprofit organization created by President Reagan charged with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion, the award-winning Discovery Center and the Reagan Institute, which carries out the Foundation’s mission in Washington, D.C.

The Reagan Library houses over 55 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It also serves as the final resting place of America’s 40th President and former First Lady Nancy Reagan.