



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2024

Reagan Institute Announces National Security Innovation Base Summit Agenda

Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks joins key lawmakers, senior national security officials, and leading innovators at landmark summit

WASHINGTON, DC – The Ronald Reagan Institute’s Center for Peace Through Strength announced the [agenda](#) for the National Security Innovation Base (NSIB) Summit on March 20, 2024. The summit will convene leaders across the innovation ecosystem to discuss challenges the United States faces in maintaining and expanding its technological edge.

The summit features the release of the second annual Reagan Institute NSIB Report Card, an important policy tool that evaluates the health, effectiveness, and resilience of the national security innovation ecosystem. In 2023, this first-of-its-kind assessment delivered harsh grades, particularly when it came to U.S. government customer clarity and the failure to provide stable, sufficient funding to acquire and scale critical technology solutions.

Media wishing to request credentials to attend in-person can do so [here](#). Those wishing to attend virtually may register [here](#).

8:45 AM – 8:50 AM Welcome

- Mr. Roger Zakheim, Director, Ronald Reagan Institute

8:50 AM – 9:05 AM Unveiling the 2024 NSIB Report Card

- Ms. Rachel Hoff, Policy Director, Ronald Reagan Institute
- Mr. Dale Swartz, Partner, McKinsey and Company

9:10 AM – 9:35 AM Fireside Chat

- Rep. Adam Smith, Ranking Member, House Armed Services Committee
- Sen. Todd Young, U.S. Senate, Indiana
- Moderator: Mr. Joe Gould, Defense Reporter, *Politico*

9:40 AM – 10:15 AM Lessons Learned from New Innovation Initiatives

- Hon. Douglas R. Bush, U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology
- Mr. Raj Shah, Managing Partner, Shield Capital
- Gen. James C. Slife, Vice Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force

- Hon. Mac Thornberry, Former Chairman, House Armed Services Committee
- Moderator: Mr. Aaron Mehta, Editor in Chief, *Breaking Defense*

10:20 AM – 10:55 AM **The Farthest Frontier: Innovation in Space**

- Gen. Michael A. Guetlein, Vice Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force
- Sen. Mark Kelly, U.S. Senate, Arizona
- Mr. Joe Laurienti, Founder and CEO, Ursa Major
- Dr. Christopher Scolese, Director, National Reconnaissance Office
- Moderator: Ms. Jacqueline Feldscher, Managing Editor, *Payload*

11:00 AM – 11:20 AM **Fireside Chat**

- Sen. Joni Ernst, U.S. Senate, Iowa
- Ms. Anne Neuberger, Deputy National Security Advisor for Cyber and Emerging Technology
- Moderator: Ms. Ellen Nakashima, National Security Reporter, *The Washington Post*

11:25 AM – 12:00 PM **On Demand: Signaling to Suppliers**

- Ms. Katherine Boyle, General Partner, Andreessen Horowitz
- Mr. Eric M. DeMarco, President and CEO, Kratos Defense
- Dr. Jason Rathje, Director, Office of Strategic Capital, U.S. Department of Defense
- Mr. Trae' Stephens, Co-Founder and Executive Chairman, Anduril Industries
- Moderator: Ms. Courtney McBride, Diplomacy and National Security Correspondent, *Bloomberg News*

1:00 PM – 1:25 PM **Fireside Chat**

- Hon. Heidi Shyu, U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering
- Rep. Rob Wittman, Vice Chairman, House Armed Services Committee
- Moderator: Mr. Oren Liebermann, Pentagon Correspondent, *CNN*

1:30 PM – 1:45 PM **Conversation on Innovation from within the Defense Industrial Base**

- Ms. Toni Townes-Whitley, CEO, SAIC
- Moderator: Ms. Rachel Hoff, Policy Director, Ronald Reagan Institute

1:50 PM – 2:25 PM **The Future of Intelligence in the Age of Autonomy and AI**

- Mr. Steve Bowsher, President and CEO, IQT
- Mr. Akash Jain, CTO and President, Palantir USG
- Vice Adm. Frank Whitworth, Director, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

- Moderator: Mr. Julian Barnes, Intelligence Reporter, *The New York Times*

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM Keynote and Conversation

- Hon. Kathleen Hicks, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense
- Moderator: Mr. Roger Zakheim, Director, Ronald Reagan Institute

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM Networking Reception

About the Reagan Foundation and Institute:

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (RRPFI) is the sole nonprofit organization created by President Reagan charged with continuing his legacy and advancing his principles – limited government, individual liberty, economic opportunity, freedom and democracy, peace through strength, 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 Reagan Leadership Academy, 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 his First Lady. More information is available at www.reaganfoundation.org.