



AGE *of* REAGAN

CONFERENCE ★ JULY 30-AUG. 1, 2025

Overview

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute (RRPFI) is pleased to announce the second edition of its biennial *Age of Reagan Conference*, to take place at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, from July 30 – August 1, 2025. This academic and interdisciplinary conference is RRPFI's most significant effort to realize President Reagan's wish to make the Library "a dynamic intellectual forum where scholars interpret the past..."

The "Age of Reagan" has solidified its place as a vital lens through which to interpret the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Recent scholarship has revealed a surprising improvement in Reagan's standing among academics, highlighting his enduring influence on American politics and society. The ongoing release of Reagan-era records has deepened this reassessment. Approximately 45 percent of the Reagan records held by the presidential archives remain unprocessed, promising future revelations about the administration's policies and priorities. The Hoover Institution has broadened access to the collections of numerous Reagan officials, enabling new research and interpretations. Meanwhile, Reagan administration veterans continue to publish revealing memoirs, offering firsthand perspectives on key decisions and dynamics.

Echoes of Reagan's era for today's world have been brought to the broader public's attention by works such as Max Boot's recent biography and the Dennis Quaid-led biopic. Submissions that speak to these parallels are especially encouraged, including but not limited to: calls for limited government and their resonance for current DOGE proposals; Social Security reform; renewed applications of peace-through-strength policies; national security challenges; parallels in political violence and responses to presidential assassination attempts; tension between free trade and protectionism; and the emergence of new political coalitions.

Schedule

The conference will open on the evening of Wednesday, July 30, with a keynote address from Dr. Colleen Shogan, National Archivist of the United States. It will close on the afternoon of August 1 with the presentation of the biennial *Age of Reagan Book Prize*. These sessions will bookend 20 panels covering both domestic and international topics related to the Reagan presidency.



Submission, Funding, and Archival Access

RRPFI welcomes both individual and group submissions. Panel and paper abstracts must be submitted by March 20, 2025. Paper abstracts should be between 150-300 words and accompanied by a CV. Panel submissions must include a CV for each panelist, a 100-200 word panel description, and a 150-300 word abstract for each paper. Please contact Anthony Eames by March 5, 2025, if you intend to organize a panel. Successful paper and panel submissions will be announced by April 1, 2025. All submissions and questions may be directed to Anthony Eames at aeames@reaganfoundation.org and Jacob Bruggeman at jbruggeman@reaganfoundation.org.

RRPFI will provide lodging and meals. Funding is available to offset the cost of travel and participation in the conference upon request and RRPFI approval.

We particularly encourage the participation of scholars who intend to research in the archives of the Reagan Library, especially graduate students and early-career scholars. The Reagan presidential archives will extend research room hours and capacity immediately before and after the *Age of Reagan Conference*. If you plan to research at the Reagan Library immediately before or after your participation in the conference, please indicate your involvement in a direct email to Supervisory Archivist Ira Pemstein at ira.pemstein@nara.gov, and cc Anthony Eames at aeames@reaganfoundation.org.

Working Groups

The scholarship of RRPFI-funded working groups will be featured at the conference. RRPFI welcomes proposals to establish new working groups from *Age of Reagan Conference* participants. Current groups include:

- International History of the Strategic Defense Initiative
- Global Reaganomics
- Presidential Rhetoric
- Post-War Conservatism and the New Right

Partners

Finally, RRPFI is pleased to have the support of several leading scholarly institutions. Our partners include the America in the World Consortium, the School of Public Policy at Pepperdine University, the Chapman University Presidential Studies Program, and the History and Public Policy Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center. We are grateful for these partners' commitment to enriching the conference program and establishing new research opportunities in collaboration with RRPFI.



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