

**Video Transcript:
Annual Report 2020
A Video Message from President and CEO Jerrold D. Green**

I'm Jerry Green, President and CEO of the Pacific Council on International Policy. In light of current conditions, we have chosen to celebrate the Council's 25th anniversary with a multimedia presentation instead of an old-school annual report best suited to coffee tables in now empty waiting rooms.

Let me begin by thanking you – our members and supporters– for being the heart of our international affairs community. Together we continue to weather a difficult time with the Council seamlessly pivoting to providing virtual content that keeps us all informed about the world around us. What many regarded as a burden, we saw as an opportunity and we hope that you have enjoyed the benefits resulting from our new approach to communicating with you.

In early 2020, the Pacific Council's Board of Directors approved a five-year strategic plan that set us on a path toward greater community engagement. We decided to enhance our attention to Los Angeles and reaffirmed our mission and values by strengthening our commitment to global engagement by further emphasizing diversity, equity, inclusion, non-partisanship, civility, informed citizenship, and innovation. Three months into 2020 we found ourselves in a global pandemic, creating an imperative to accelerate our strategic shift as well as added motivation to be value driven in our work.

You will have seen this transformation in our programs which are all virtual and feature new faces and voices as well topics that were once thought to be domestic but which are in fact international in scope. For those who believe in democracy, as well as an indispensable United States serving as an exemplar while providing global leadership, we must be attentive to

issues of racial equity, immigration and immigrants, public health, climate change, homelessness, education, gender equity, a free press, the rule of law, and countless other issues, all central to a thriving and healthy democracy. The distinction between domestic and international issues no longer exists in our current world, and the Pacific Council is dedicated to emphasizing the crucial intersection of local-to-global.

We continue to partner with organizations in Los Angeles, in California, and around the world, including the World Affairs Council in San Francisco, the Leadership Council for Women in National Security, the office of the Mayor of Los Angeles, COMEXI in Mexico City, the Ditchley Foundation in the UK, and many others who are highlighted later in this report. With our partners we are reaching new audiences and collaborating on shared goals in order to have a greater collective impact.

I would like to take a moment to reemphasize the Pacific Council's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, which is part of our DNA. The Council remains critical of the lack of diversity – especially when it comes to gender and ethnicity – in the excessively narrow international affairs community. This remains a field dominated by people who look very much like me. And the Pacific Council is committed to assuming a leadership role in changing this. Across our membership, our staff, our speaker line up, and our leadership we are seeking to feature and include underrepresented voices including people of color, women, emerging leaders, and those who have traditionally not been part of international affairs conversations. As you review our annual report, you will see examples of where we have invested in this essential effort and where we believe we and so many others can do better. This is a process not an event, a marathon not a race. It is an omnipresent feature of everything that we do. And we encourage you to track our progress and support our efforts as success in a membership organization necessitates commitment and engagement by our entire community, not only the professional staff.

Before I conclude, I would like to report that in January 2021 we will be welcoming new co-chairs of our Board of Directors; Richard Goetz and Robert Lovelace, deeply engaged Board leaders. I am excited and energized about working with Rich and Rob as the Pacific Council continues to adapt to a rapidly changing world, strives to increase impact

on our community, and continues to increase diversity on our Board, in our membership, and in everything that we do.

I would also like to express my gratitude to our current co-chairs Marc Nathanson and Ambassador Rockwell Schnabel, while acknowledging all the chairs under whom I have served since joining the Council more than a decade ago --- Warren Christopher whom we still miss, John Bryson, Mickey Kantor, and Bob Tuttle who all exemplify what a truly special place Los Angeles is. Chairs of this caliber are every CEO's dream, and working with them continues to be a great privilege.

I would also like to offer a special thank you to the members of our Board of Directors for their continued commitment to and leadership of the Council and especially for their timely counsel as we continue to navigate a time of unprecedented political turmoil, economic uncertainty, and human suffering. One thing we have learned from the pandemic and related challenges is how closely tied we all are as borders, walls, and passports have shown themselves powerless in the face of illness, climate change, and global economic decline. Make no mistake, America first is America alone --- a selfish, irresponsible, and shortsighted fiction as we cannot deny our species or our responsibilities as Americans, humankind binds us together.

Finally, my most important thanks go to all of you, our members and our donors – who make our work possible through your generous and ongoing commitment to the Pacific Council. Your annual contributions sustain our efforts to promote global engagement and we are grateful to you. And you along with our dedicated and skilled staff make the Pacific Council the organization it has become today.

I hope you enjoy our 25th edition Annual Report where you will find highlights from the Council's past 18 months and previews of what is to come. Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions, comments, or feedback.

Thank you.