Our Story

The Los Angeles-based Pacific Council on International Policy (pacificcouncil.org) is an independent, nonpartisan organization committed to building the vast potential of the West Coast for impact on global issues, discourse, and policy. Since 1995, the Pacific Council has hosted discussion events on issues of international importance, convened task forces and working groups to address pressing policy challenges, and built a network of globally-minded members across the West Coast and the world.

The Pacific Council’s activities in Los Angeles – conferences, speaker events, task forces, working groups, and delegations – offer a forum for the creation and exchange of ideas and tools to advocate for sound global policy. The Council is governed by a Board of Directors. Dr. Jerrold D. Green serves as President and CEO.

As a West Coast organization focused on international affairs, the Pacific Council applies significant energy to making an impact through programs and projects with special resonance for our region of the world.

Our professional network for foreign policy practitioners and enthusiasts provide opportunities in leadership development, community engagement, and idea incubation for our members.

The Pacific Council offers:
➤ Educational programs, including conferences, high-level speaker series, and situation briefing teleconferences (and in the appropriate environment, international, and national delegations);
➤ Community partnerships with public and private institutions to create a network of global affairs actors;
➤ Trainings and skills-building workshops;
➤ A unique view on issues that reveal local-to-global connections.

The Pacific Council is driven by the desire of our members to be global citizens and have an impact both locally and globally so that our city can become a hub for critical global engagement.
MISSION
The Pacific Council on International Policy builds the capacity of Los Angeles and California to have impact on global issues, discourse, and public policy.

VISION
The Pacific Council envisions a world in which a spirit of internationalism drives global engagement and diverse perspectives inform policy.

VALUES
The Pacific Council believes that living by a set of values is critical, especially in today’s policy environment. Our values define and distinguish us. We are committed to:

➤ Global engagement:
    American participation in international institutions and working with countries around the world.
➤ Inclusivity:
    The act of creating environments in which any individual or group can be and feel welcomed, respected, supported, and valued within our community.
➤ Nonpartisanship:
    Focusing on facts and expertise when it comes to the issues, not party lines.
➤ Civility and respect:
    Listening to different viewpoints in order to understand one another.
➤ Innovation and entrepreneurship:
    Empowering our community to take risks with new ideas.

OUR COMMITMENT TO INCLUSION
The Pacific Council embraces the inclusion of all voices in our community, across our membership, staff, Board of Directors, event speakers, and guests, regardless of race, ethnicity, ability, class, religion, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, or any other differentiating characteristic.

As we move toward the future, we hope to better mirror the broader community in Los Angeles, the city we call home. We are aiming for more diverse representation across our membership, staff, and Board of Directors, especially in the area of gender parity.

DIVERSITY AT THE PACIFIC COUNCIL IS
Our organization’s commitment to representation reflects the broader elements of human difference in society.

We currently focus on five key diversity indicators: race and ethnicity, gender, age, geography, and profession, but recognize a broader understanding of the wide psychological, socioeconomic, and physical differences among individuals.

EQUITY AT THE PACIFIC COUNCIL IS
Access to fair treatment and the opportunity to contribute ideas, perspectives, and leadership within the organization.

We strive to identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of underrepresented groups in international affairs, supplanting those barriers with new platforms for speech and inquiry.

INCLUSION AT THE PACIFIC COUNCIL IS
The act of creating environments in which any individual or group can feel welcomed, respected, supported, and valued within the Pacific Council community. An inclusive and welcoming climate acknowledges historical barriers to full participation, embraces differences, and offers respect through all community members’ words, actions, and thoughts.
Local-to-Global
The Pacific Council seeks to inspire a culture of global engagement. We take an approach that reflects our geography, identity, and appreciation for the long-term international policy interests of the United States.

As such, we apply a “local-to-global” lens to everything we do, which means we help people who live and work in their local communities understand how their movements, choices, and especially their local policies can have a global impact. Likewise, make international leaders and decision-makers aware of how global policies affect small communities every day.

We are unique in the way we bring new, credible voices from all backgrounds to be part of the conversations that shape U.S. foreign policy. We aim to make policy reflective of the needs and values found in a diverse and global city like Los Angeles. We forge stronger community connections and institutional partnerships to build local leadership on global issues. We leverage that network to contribute to policy outcomes driven by the needs of Los Angeles.

MESSAGING

Global Los Angeles
The Pacific Council on International Policy emphasizes a Global Los Angeles perspective on all programming efforts with the goal to help people draw connections between local conditions and global affairs. We’ve identified a need to more proactively create opportunities that directly connect local issues—such as immigration, homelessness, climate change, water access, trade, and entertainment—to global trends.

We’ll work with partner organizations in Los Angeles as we execute our slate of activities to expose our members to like-minded institutions, provide additional opportunities to take action in their community to improve local and global conditions, and expand our own network.

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Since 1995, the Pacific Council on International Policy has promoted global engagement in Los Angeles and across the West Coast. To summarize our success, we have created this compilation of key messages:

OUR IDENTITY
The Pacific Council on International Policy is a nonpartisan nonprofit membership organization committed to global engagement in Los Angeles and California.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE
The Pacific Council envisions a world in which a spirit of internationalism drives global engagement and diverse perspectives inform policy.

We are committed to building the capacity of Los Angeles and California for impact on global issues, discourse, and policy.

OUR COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND INCLUSION
We are values-driven and stand for American engagement in the world and creating space for all to feel welcomed, respected, and valued in our community.
INITIATIVES

Learn about the Pacific Council’s initiatives and how you can get involved. These projects focus on specific areas where the Pacific Council is poised and pledged to make a difference.

CURRENT PROGRAMS

AMPLIFY

An opportunity for emerging leaders doing globally-oriented work in their communities.

GLOBAL CITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Pacific Council’s Global City Fellowship engages partners around the world on city and subnational diplomacy.

MEXICO INITIATIVE

The United States and Mexico enjoy one of the most interdependent, successful economic partnerships in the world, and their populations share deep cultural, linguistic, and often familial ties.
EVENTS & DELEGATIONS

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS
The Pacific Council convenes meetings and roundtables covering a variety of timely international issues. The Council has hosted a number of influential speakers, including former Secretaries of State Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, and Condoleezza Rice, former President George W. Bush, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, former CIA Directors Leon Panetta and John Brennan, former Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker, Congresswoman Karen Bass, General James Mattis, Dr. Joseph S. Nye, foreign dignitaries, U.S. ambassadors, members of Congress, and foreign policy experts, among others.

Event recordings and recaps are published in the Pacific Council’s online magazine at pacificcouncil.online/event-recaps.

CONFERENCES
The Pacific Council’s annual fall conference is the West Coast’s premier forum on global affairs. The summit convenes business, civic, government, and academic leaders to exchange ideas and collaborate on pressing global issues. Members and guests of the Pacific Council take part in lively discussions and debates, keynote interviews, TED-style talks, and panels every fall.

Past topics of discussion at PolicyWest include international trade, democracy, climate change, and the global work of local leaders. You can view event details for PolicyWest 2021 at pacificcouncil.org/activities/policywest-2021.
DELEGATIONS

Members often travel abroad on Pacific Council delegations, during which members meet with government officials and business leaders. Previous destinations include Mexico, North Korea, Cuba, Iraq, Afghanistan, South Sudan, China, and France, among others.

The Council also sends members on local and national delegations. Recent national delegations include our trip to the U.S.-Mexico border in El Paso, Texas, to explore immigration policy, and our delegation to Alabama to explore race relations and their implications both nationally and abroad.

IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL EVENTS

Pacific Council virtual events provide Pacific Council members with expert, nonpartisan analysis on critical global issues no matter the location. Virtual events include webinars, roundtable discussions, keynote speeches, etc.

Please email info@pacificcouncil.org if you would like to learn more about our events or attend as media.

FEATURED EXPERTS

The Pacific Council is an organization of people. We are business and civic leaders, big thinkers, policy wonks, and aspiring leaders with a commitment to international affairs. Our members and staff are experts in these foreign affairs topics:

➤ Development & Human Rights;
➤ Economics & Finance;
➤ Education, Society, and Culture;
➤ Energy, Resources, and the Environment;
➤ Foreign Policy & Diplomacy;
➤ Governance & International Law;
➤ National Security & Defense
➤ plus, all of the world’s regions

Our experts are available for a variety of media requests and are often published in the Pacific Council’s Online Magazine at pacificcouncil.online. Refer to our member directory, or contact us for a full list of featured experts. The member directory is available at pacificcouncil.org/about/network/member-directory.

Learn more about the Pacific Council’s President & CEO Dr. Jerrold D. Green, our executive team, staff, and Board of Directors. Our Leadership page is available at pacificcouncil.org/about/leadership/board and our staff page is available at pacificcouncil.org/about/team.
WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on social media for more information on our member commentary and upcoming events.

Website - pacificcouncil.org

Online Magazine - pacificcouncil.online

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