COUNCIL *on* FOREIGN RELATIONS



Legacy Society

Strengthening CFR for the Future

For over a century, the United States has turned to the Council on Foreign Relations for clarity. Founded in 1921 on the belief that informed dialogue and rigorous analysis are essential to sound U.S. foreign policy, CFR has shaped the thinking of presidents, diplomats, business leaders, as well as the engaged citizens who hold them accountable.



CFR President Mike Froman speaks with Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada at the Russell C. Leffingwell Lecture.

That mission has never mattered more. In an era defined by great power competition, fracturing alliances, and the resurgence of authoritarianism, the United States needs an institution with the independence and depth to cut through noise and illuminate what's at stake.

The CFR Legacy Society

One of the most heartfelt decisions a person can make is not just how to engage with CFR today, but how to extend that commitment beyond oneself into the future.

When you notify CFR that you have included the Council on Foreign Relations in your estate plans—through a bequest or another planned giving vehicle—you will be welcomed into the Legacy Society: a distinguished community of members who have chosen to make CFR part of their enduring story.

Planned gifts are a deeply valued way to honor your commitment to the Council. Bequests often also enable CFR to do things that sustain the institution for generations: endow chairs and fellowships that anchor the Studies Program; expand Meetings programming to engage broader constituencies; develop innovative educational resources that reach students and educators across the country; uphold the editorial excellence of *Foreign Affairs*; and modernize the infrastructure needed to lead in an age of artificial intelligence.

As a Legacy Society member, you will enjoy:

- **Additional exclusive briefings** with CFR fellows and senior staff on emerging global issues
- **Recognition** in CFR's annual report and at select Legacy Society gatherings
- **Invitations** to events and activities designed to deepen your engagement with CFR's mission



CFR Chairman David Rubenstein speaks with Michael Beschloss and Annette Gordon-Reed at the 2026 CEO Summit.

"Over the course of my life, I've learned that the institutions that matter most are those that intrinsically take a long view. The Council on Foreign Relations is one of those rare and enduring institutions.

I first joined CFR in 1988 because I valued the seriousness with which it approaches the world—its insistence on thoughtful analysis, respectful discussion, and independent thinking. Over time, I came to appreciate something even deeper: the Council's ability to bring together people with vastly different experiences and perspectives who share a commitment to understanding the world beyond our own borders.

Including the Council in my estate plans felt like a natural extension of my deep affection for the institution. It is a way to ensure that the conversations, research, and leadership development that have shaped my own understanding of global affairs will continue to shape others for generations to come. And it can be as easy as adding a codicil to one's testamentary plans.

I chose to join the Legacy Society because I believe deeply in CFR's mission and its future. Now serving as Chair of this group, it is a true honor to help others consider the same choice. Please think about what CFR has meant to you, and how becoming part of the Legacy Society might reflect your own commitment to informed engagement with the world. It was an easy decision for me and my husband—and I hope it will be an easy one for you, too."

—Leslie E. Bains, Legacy Society Chair





CFR Distinguished Fellow Gina Raimondo speaks with fellow Cochairs Jim Taiclet and Justin Muzinich at the launch of CFR's Task Force report on U.S. economic security.



Welcome reception hosted by CFR member, Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff, for INDOPACOM trip in Honolulu, HI

Philanthropic Impact

CFR's advantage has always resided in its members—a community of leaders who understand that the decisions made in Washington, Beijing, Brussels, and elsewhere will define the future of peace, prosperity, and democratic values for the world. For more than a hundred years, CFR member generosity has made it possible for the council to convene the world's most consequential voices, publish authoritative analysis, and educate the next generation of global leaders. A long history of planned gifts has played a critical role in our success and we hope that you will consider joining the Legacy Society today.

www.cfr.org/support-cfr

Take the Next Step

If you have already included CFR in your estate plans, we would be grateful to know and welcome you formally into the Legacy Society. If you are considering it, we would invite you to speak with us.

Letting us know requires no commitment of a specific amount, and your plans can remain entirely confidential if you prefer.

For more information, please contact:
Matt Quam, Vice President and Chief Development Officer
at 212.434.9781 or mquam@cfr.org

This brochure is intended as an introduction, not a comprehensive guide to tax or estate planning. Please consult your attorney, accountant, or financial advisor to determine the approach best suited to your personal circumstances.

The Council on Foreign Relations is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

For more information, please contact:
Matt Quam, Vice President and Chief Development Officer,
at 212.434.9781 or mquam@cfr.org

cfr

Council on Foreign Relations
cfr.org

Development Office

tel 212.434.9462
development@cfr.org

New York

58 East 68th Street
New York, NY 10065
tel 212.434.9400

Washington, DC

1777 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
tel 202.509.8400