American Power, Prosperity & Democracy

LA FOLLETTE FORUM

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 4, 2022
Madison, WI
Today's conference was made possible by the generous support of the Kohl Initiative, funded by former U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl, and the Center for European Studies. The Kohl Initiative focuses on three La Follette School priorities: expanding its public outreach mission, advancing the training of future public leaders, and supporting influential research by faculty and students.

Announced in May 2019, the Kohl Initiative demonstrates Sen. Kohl’s deep commitment to public service and his ethos of civility in public debate and policymaking. The $10 million gift from Herb Kohl Philanthropies extends the reach of that legacy. To date, it is the largest donation in La Follette School history.

In 2016, Sen. Kohl’s $1.5 million donation to the La Follette School launched the Herb Kohl Public Service Research Competition, which has provided financial support for collaborative faculty–student research that informs critical public policy and governance debates. Community outreach is a key component of the research competition.

The UW–Madison Center for European Studies, which was created in 1972, aims to bring together scholars from across campus and link departments, courses, and people to specialized knowledge on Europe, its history, languages, and cultures, and the European Union as an international actor.

ABOUT THE LA FOLLETTE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Founded in 1967 as the Center for the Study of Public Policy and Administration, the La Follette School of Public Affairs is a highly ranked program that offers domestic and international master’s degrees in public management and policy analysis. Students are admitted in comparatively small numbers that encourage collaboration with faculty, staff, and peers. The school’s faculty have international reputations in their academic disciplines, and they have spent the greater part of their careers working on problems of public policy and governance.

With more than 2,400 alumni, the La Follette School also offers dual- and double-degree programs in urban planning, law, neuroscience, and public health, as well as a graduate certificate program in energy analysis and policy. La Follette School alumni work in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors and serve their communities in various capacities.

With support from the Kohl Initiative, the La Follette School launched two new undergraduate certificate programs in recent years: one in public policy and one in health policy. The certificate programs allow undergraduate students to apply a policy perspective to their major course of study and bolster their skills for success in the workforce or in their graduate school coursework.
8:15–9 a.m.  CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST

9–9:15 a.m.  OPENING REMARKS
Madison Ballroom

9:15–10:45 a.m.  SESSION 1
Prosperity: Crises, Debt & the Future of American Economic Policy
Adam Posen & Catherine Rampell
Madison Ballroom

10:45–11 a.m.  BREAK

11 a.m.–1 p.m.  LUNCH & BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS 1 & 2
Hall of Ideas - Ballrooms E, F, G, H, I & J
Visit go.wisc.edu/LaFolletteForum for times, speakers, and topics

1–1:15 p.m.  BREAK

1:15–2:45 p.m.  SESSION 2
Power: The Rise of China & the Future of American Foreign Policy
Paul Blustein & Oriana Skylar Mastro
Madison Ballroom

2:45–3 p.m.  BREAK

3–4:30 p.m.  SESSION 3
Democracy: The Authoritarian Challenge & the Future of American Democracy
Jamelle Bouie & Daniel Ziblatt
Madison Ballroom

4:30 p.m.  CLOSING REMARKS
Madison Ballroom

4:30–6 p.m.  RECEPTION & NETWORKING
Grand Terrace

For more information visit: go.wisc.edu/LaFolletteForum

THE GUEST WIFI NETWORK IS “MONONA-GUEST” ON MONONATERRACE.COM, SELECT “FREE SERVICE”
One of the primary goals of the La Follette Forum: American Power, Prosperity & Democracy is to bring together policymakers, practitioners, community leaders, and researchers for engaging conversation about how global economics, domestic politics, and international relations are interconnected and shape public policy on a global scale, for the U.S., and for the citizens of Wisconsin. Throughout the day-long conference, participants will have several networking opportunities, including lunch and a closing reception.

Participants also are encouraged to make connections during or after the conference with fellow attendees.

**PANEL Session 1**

**Prosperity: Crises, Debt & the Future of American Economic Policy**

The global financial crisis, the Great Recession, and the Covid-19 pandemic have fundamentally reshaped the U.S. economy and highlighted persistent problems, including rising inequality and the distributional costs of globalization and deindustrialization. Panelists will discuss their views on how the U.S. has handled these crises, the challenges posed by inflation, debt, and political polarization for the U.S. economy, and what should be done to address these issues in the years ahead.

**PRESENTERS**

Adam Posen, President, Peterson Institute for International Economics

Since 2013, Adam Posen has been president of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, an economic think tank that conducts research and provides policy recommendations on the U.S. economy and international economics. He has contributed to research and public policy regarding monetary and fiscal policies in the G20, the challenges of European integration since the adoption of the euro, and China–U.S. economic relations.

Catherine Rampell, Columnist, The Washington Post; Politics & Economics Commentator, CNN; Special Correspondent, PBS NewsHour

Catherine Rampell is a Washington Post columnist who takes a data-driven approach to her coverage of economics, public policy, immigration, and politics. Rampell is also a political and economic commentator for CNN and a special correspondent for PBS NewsHour. Before joining the Post, Rampell was a reporter and editor for the New York Times and launched, edited, and produced the blog Economix.

**PANELISTS**

Mark Copelovitch, Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison

Mark Copelovitch is a professor in the La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Department of Political Science at UW–Madison who studies international political economy and international organizations, with a focus on international trade, international finance, the International Monetary Fund, and European integration.

Menzie Chinn, Professor of Public Affairs & Economics, UW–Madison

Menzie Chinn is a professor in the La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Department of Economics at UW–Madison who studies the empirical and policy aspects of macroeconomic interactions between countries.

Michael Knetter, President & CEO, Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association

Michael Knetter is president and chief executive officer of the Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association, and has also served in other leadership positions, as a professor of international economics, and as senior staff economist under former presidents George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION ONLINE BY USING #LAFOLLETTEFORUM IN YOUR POSTS.

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Over lunch, attendees will have the chance to participate in small, informal breakout discussions centered on the three main Forum topics: Prosperity, Power, and Democracy.

**Breakout Discussion Times:** 11:20–11:55 a.m. and 12:10–12:45 p.m.

**Breakout Discussion Locations:** Hall of Ideas - Ballrooms E, F, G, H, I & J

For specific discussion times and location, visit go.wisc.edu/LaFolletteForum

**Prosperity**

**INFLATION**
Inflation and the macroeconomy: What does it mean for households and businesses in Wisconsin?

**Panelists:** Mike Knetter, CEO, Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association; Menzie Chinn, Professor of Public Affairs & Economics, UW–Madison

**CLIMATE CHANGE**
Energy, climate change, and the new economy: Opportunities and challenges in Wisconsin

**Panelists:** Randy Romanski, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection; Morgan Edwards, Assistant Professor of Public Affairs, UW–Madison

**REMOTE WORK**
Remote work and the future of economic development: How has the pandemic reshaped labor markets for workers and employers?

**Panelists:** Missy Hughes, Secretary & CEO, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation; Jason Fields, President & CEO, Madison Region Economic Partnership

**POVERTY**
Inequality and poverty: How has the pandemic affected Wisconsin?

**Panelists:** Zach Brandon, Chamber President, Greater Madison Chamber of Commerce; Sarah Halpern-Meekin, Associate Professor of Public Affairs & of Human Development & Family Studies, UW–Madison

**Power**

**CHINA & TAIWAN**
Will China invade Taiwan? What if they do?

**Panelists:** Andrew Kydd, Professor of Political Science, UW–Madison; Jonathan Renshon, Associate Professor of Political Science, UW–Madison

**United States–China Economy**
What is next in the U.S.–China economic relationship?

**Panelists:** Jay Nash, President, Madison International Trade Association; Tana Johnson, Associate Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison

**United States–China Politics**
U.S. and China: Domestic politics, and foreign policy

**Panelists:** John Ohnesorge, Professor of Law, UW Law School; Jon Pevehouse, Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison; Reed Lei, Assistant Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison

**Russia & Ukraine**
Russia, Ukraine, and the West

**Panelists:** Jessica Weeks, Professor of Political Science, UW–Madison; Yoshiko Herrera, Professor of Political Science, UW–Madison

**Democracy**

**Redistricting & Gerrymandering (Virtual)**
Panelists: Christopher Ford, Chair, The People’s Maps Commission; Robert Yablon, Associate Professor of Law, UW Law School

**Media**
Media and politics in a divided Wisconsin

**Panelists:** Jessie Opoin, Capitol Bureau Chief, The Cap Times; David Haynes, Ideas Lab Editor, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel; Lewis Friedland, Professor Emeritus of Journalism & Mass Communication, UW–Madison

**Race**
Race, civic conversation, and censorship

**Panelists:** Rachelle Winkle-Wagner, Professor of Education, UW–Madison; Kevin Lawrence Henry, Jr., Assistant Professor of Education, UW–Madison

**Elections**
Fostering competence and stability in the election system

**Panelists:** Barry Burden, Professor of Political Science, UW–Madison; Kevin Kenney, Former Director & General Counsel, Wisconsin Government Accountability Board; Maribeth Witzel-Behl, City Clerk, City of Madison
Power: The Rise of China & the Future of American Foreign Policy

China’s rapid growth and rising economic and military power raise serious questions about America’s role on the world stage and shifting power in the international system. Panelists will offer their views on whether—and to what extent—China’s rise and other geopolitical shifts pose a serious security and economic threat to the U.S., what they mean for the future of international cooperation and world order, and how they will shape U.S. foreign, trade, and security policy in the years to come.

PRESENTERS

Paul Blustein, Author & Journalist; Senior Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation; Senior Associate, Center for Strategic & International Studies
Paul Blustein has been writing about economic issues throughout his career, focusing on international financial crises and major developments in globalization and trade. He has worked as a reporter for the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post, including five years in the Post’s Tokyo bureau covering the economics of Asia.

Oriana Skylar Mastro, Center Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University; Non-Resident Senior Fellow, American Enterprise Institute
Oriana Skylar Mastro is a center fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University, where her research focuses on Chinese military and security policy, Asia-Pacific security issues, war termination, and coercive diplomacy. Her book, The Costs of Conversation: Obstacles to Peace Talks in Wartime, discusses the factors that influence warring parties’ decisions about whether to talk to their enemies.

PANELISTS

Jon Pevehouse, Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison
Jon Pevehouse is a professor at UW–Madison. His research focuses on international political economy, international relations, and American foreign policy.

Tana Johnson, Associate Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison
Tana Johnson is an associate professor at the La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Department of Political Science at UW–Madison who studies big puzzles in international relations and operations and design of international institutions.

Jessica Weeks, Professor of Political Science & H. Douglas Weaver Chair in Diplomacy & International Relations, UW–Madison
Jessica Weeks is a professor at UW–Madison whose research focuses on links between domestic politics and foreign policy, the domestic and international politics of authoritarian regimes, and how public opinion affects foreign policy.

Democracy: The Authoritarian Challenge & the Future of American Democracy

Democracy, both at home and abroad, faces rising populist and authoritarian challenges. Panelists will assess the scope and scale of these threats and offer their views on what reforms are necessary to secure the future of American democracy. They will also address what lessons can be learned from both American history and other countries’ experiences with authoritarian challenges and democratic backsliding.

PRESENTERS

As a columnist for the New York Times and political analyst for CBS News, Jamelle Bouie covers U.S. politics, public policy, elections, and race. He provides his unique perspective on critical national affairs issues, and he dives into how policymakers and citizens can use the power of information and their knowledge of history to make a difference.

Daniel Ziblatt, Eaton Professor of the Science of Government, Harvard University & Director, Transformations of Democracy
Dan Ziblatt is Eaton Professor of the Science of Government at Harvard University, and since October 2020 he has been the director of the Transformations of Democracy research unit at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center. He is the award-winning author of the books How Democracies Die and Conservative Parties and the Birth of Democracy, an account of Europe’s historical democratization.

PANELISTS

Michael Wagner, Professor of Journalism & Mass Communication & La Follette School Faculty Affiliate, UW–Madison
Michael Wagner is a professor at UW–Madison whose research is guided by the question, “How well does democracy work?” His study of political communication, political parties, journalism, public opinion, and political psychology and behavior shape his approach to this question.

Mark Copelovitch, Professor of Public Affairs & Political Science, UW–Madison
Mark Copelovitch is a professor in the La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Department of Political Science at UW–Madison who studies international political economy and international organizations, with a focus on international trade, international finance, the International Monetary Fund, and European integration.

Yoshiko Herrera, Professor of Political Science & La Follette School Faculty Affiliate, UW–Madison
Yoshiko Herrera is a professor of political science at UW–Madison who studies Russian politics; nationalism, identity, and ethnic politics; political economy and state statistics; and international norms. She is a former director of the Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia.
The 2023 La Follette Policy Forum will bring together leading experts from academia, journalism, and public policy to wrestle with issues surrounding trust and confidence in public institutions.

To sign up for Forum and future event updates, visit: go.wisc.edu/LFS-Updates

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK!
Thank you for attending the La Follette Forum 2022. To continue providing our community with meaningful, innovative programming and events, we are always open to feedback that will help us continuously improve. Please share your experience by completing our Post-Event Survey at go.wisc.edu/LaFolletteForum.