



# *Summit.Ahead.*

## *Executive Summary*

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### *Extraordinary Talent Needed to Create a New Social Compact Dedicated to Making Opportunity Accessible to All*

Summit.Ahead. is a convening of the best and brightest policy entrepreneurs on how we can combine policies, technology, and human capital to ensure that innovation, automation, trade, and other major economic forces contribute to meaningful employment and opportunity for those who feel left out and left behind in the new economy.

At Summit.Ahead., over three extraordinary days in Reykjavik, Iceland, a transatlantic Fellowship of innovators will imagine society where abundant, good jobs and technological innovation reinforce each other, and create strategies and approaches that will build the business case, political momentum, and public will within to achieve them.

This is not a conference to produce reports. We are looking for people who want to move the needle, create impact, and measure their results to achieve the best possible outcomes. From the Summit, Fellows will go back to their homes and enact pilot programs in the United States, Europe, and beyond.

We are looking for exceptional talents with fresh ideas, bold vision, deep pragmatism, strong conceptual thinking, and an appetite for action. We envision this group as the core of an expanding network committed to rapid prototyping, experimentation, and joint learning on how to maximize the benefits and manage the risks of accelerated economic, social, and political change on both sides of the Atlantic.

Together, the Fellows will imagine the US, Europe, and other capitalist democracies ten years from now as societies where abundant, good jobs and technological innovation reinforce each other; to understand the most important shifts that business, governments, and workers need to make in the next five years to help realize these goals; and to create strategies and approaches for the next two years that will build the business case, political momentum, and public will within and across all three countries.

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### *Summit. Ahead. is about forging New Social Compacts.*

We need New Social Compacts among each country's key economic and social actors - labor, business, government, and civil society - making clear individual and common responsibilities and setting the accountabilities that will ensure common progress. The Compacts should be the basis for public and private initiatives that enable people to chart their own economic futures, with the economic and social assets they need to take advantage of new opportunities.

We need Summit.Ahead. and its resulting New Social Compacts because economic disenfranchisement is allowing demagogues and authoritarians to disconnect their constituencies from hope and opportunity and replace them with despair, fear, and hate.

Defeating these leaders is at best only half the battle--and misses the moral, political, and societal obligation of all of us: left, right conservative, liberal, agnostic, cynical and optimistic--to make a difference for the better.

With governmental institutions under fire, and traditional politics destabilized, it is essential that we find a new way with emerging and established leaders from labor, business, and government to listen to the fears, create new paradigms, and then articulate them in such a way that the disaffected have justified optimism in their economic future.

The Summit will bring together 25 policy entrepreneurs and thought leaders from government, business, labor and academe, representing the US, Europe, and beyond. The multi-disciplinary group of Summit Fellows will apply their combined expertise to launch a new movement aimed at re-imagining and achieving a future:

- All citizens are technology-literate, economically engaged, and empowered in making major economic decisions for themselves and their families
- Workers are fully networked to gain access to skills, knowledge, and opportunity
- Businesses, workers, and government share responsibility and agency for maintaining competitive and innovative businesses, meaningful work, and decent living standards for all in a rapidly evolving economy

### *A Fundamentally Different Approach.*

We are seeking to achieve massive leverage for the discussions in Reykjavik by creating a real time, live engagement with people working to translate the ideas into action as they are generated.

We are 25 to the power of hundreds and thousands. The 25 transformational change agents-- Summit Fellows-- will have their voices leveraged by people from around the world--authors to psychologists to technologists--who will work to take the ideas and plans discussed at the Summit and put them into actionable, intelligent plans. Each attending Fellow will select a team to support her ideas and bring those ideas into the field for undertaking pilots.

Big ideas need big thinkers and doers. And since time is limited, leveraging the thinking and collaboration of dozens by thousands will allow Summit.Ahead. to put actionable intelligence into the field, right away.

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## *Measured by Results. Moved by a Positive Story about our Future.*

Summit.Ahead. is not only delivering an action plan of measurable outcomes-- but with the help of thinkers and movie makers and philosophers and writers and artists and laborers--seeking to bridge the divides and to tell the story of a future opportunity and abundance in a way that cuts across demographics. By telling a story filled with meaning and measured by results, Summit.Ahead. will bridge left-right divides and transform the way we interact in charting our economic future.

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## *An Initiative of Forum280*

Forum280, Inc. ("Forum280") is a California nonprofit public benefit corporation and is registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the Internal Revenue Service. All donations to Forum280 are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Our tax identification number is 81-1794193 and our mailing address is P.O. Box 268, Palo Alto, California, 94302.

## *Our Mission*

Our mission is to apply the innovative and disruptive thinking of Silicon Valley to help solve society's greatest challenges.

## *And Our Vision*

Major societal challenges, when well understood, can be deconstructed, turned into actions, made accessible, and, with the use of technology, be addressed by people around the world working in concert to move us all ahead.

To participate, fund, or learn more about Summit.Ahead., email [summit@forum280.org](mailto:summit@forum280.org).