



Co-Chairs Statement

July 10, 2025

The North American Forum (NAF) met in La Jolla, California on June 25-26, 2025, to continue its annual review and assessment of economic, social, and political relations between and among the United States, Mexico, and Canada. The Forum's panels, speakers, and public events highlighted the continuing importance of understanding the peace, security, and prosperity of our three countries within the continental context of North America.

Participants underscored the integrated nature of our economies, the secure continental supply chains that drive our manufacturing sectors, the thriving innovation, technology, and financial ecosystems that create our economic growth and advancement, and the dynamism of the world's largest trading bloc. Combined with common political values and commitment to democratic practice and institutions, common commitment to open economies and regional economic integration, abundant energy, arable land, and freshwater, and two of the world's longest and most peaceful borders, North America is a strategic reserve that protects and enhances our diverse populations in an increasingly complex and contested world.

Participants, at the same time, recognized the significant challenges facing all three countries. New political leadership in each of our countries has opened up new avenues for our citizens to redefine national interests and requires deepened diplomatic engagement among the three countries to redefine our common approach on matters of national importance. Imposing tariffs and non-trade barriers on each other undercuts the potential of our manufacturing sectors. Enhancing border security, addressing irregular migration, and combatting drug trafficking are necessary components of ensuring safe, legal and orderly crossing of our frontiers, while preserving the rich and vibrant economies of our nations. Addressing the threats posed by organized crime, weapons trafficking, money laundering and cyber threats remain a central feature of security cooperation and dialogue in order to ensure the safety of our citizens.

These challenges, however, are outweighed by the tremendous opportunities offered by continued dialogue, cooperation, and economic integration. As the North American Forum anticipates its next meeting in Mexico in 2026, it looks forward to a meaningful and successful review of the United States, Mexico, and Canada Agreement (USMCA), and its extension by all three countries. It also urges all three countries to continue the practice of regular high level trilateral meetings between our governments to fashion common agendas that will enhance and protect our societies and economies. The North American Forum will continue to build such bridges of common understanding and action within and among the civil societies of our great nations.

About the North American Forum:

Consisting of a distinguished and diverse mix of private sector, civil society, academic, and opinion leaders from all three countries, the NAF was founded in 2004 by former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, former Mexican Finance Minister Pedro Aspe, and the former Premier of the Canadian Province of Alberta Peter Lougheed.

Since its inception, NAF has sought to bring together leaders from business, government, and academia annually to explore the interactions among the mutually reinforcing goals of security, prosperity and enhanced quality of life. The NAF meetings seek to identify actions that governments and private actors can take to help build societal resilience so that the three countries can avoid shocks when possible—be they natural or man-made—and withstand and rebound from shocks when necessary. NAF participants are selected each year based on their commitment to the NAF's goals and their ability to effect positive change. The NAF has Co-Chairs representing each of the three countries in North America.