

**Daniel Clifton**

Partner & Head of Policy  
Research  
Strategas Securities, LLC



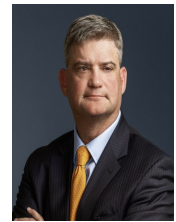
**Loretta J. Mester**

Former President and Chief  
Executive Officer of the  
Federal Reserve Bank of  
Cleveland



**Robert Lighthizer**

Former US Trade  
Representative under  
President Donald Trump  
Chair of the Center for  
American Trade at AFPI



**Warren Payne**

Senior Advisor  
Mayer Brown



**Neil Bradley**

Executive Vice President,  
Chief Policy Officer, and  
Head of Strategic Advocacy  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



**Liam Donovan**

Senior Political Strategist  
Bracewell



**Larry Kudlow**

Host of "Kudlow", Radio host  
of "The Larry Kudlow Show"  
Fox Business Network



**Bruce P. Mehlman**

Partner  
Mehlman Consulting



**Mike Gallagher**

Head of Defense  
Palantir Technologies



**Thursday, February 6, 2025**

07:15 AM to 08:00 AM  
Top of the Hay

**Breakfast and Registration**

08:00 AM to 08:45 AM

**US Political, Policy, and Economic Environment**

- **Bruce P. Mehlman**  
Partner  
Mehlman Consulting

08:45 AM to 09:30 AM

**US Tax Policy Outlook**

- **Warren Payne**  
Senior Advisor  
Mayer Brown

09:30 AM to 09:45 AM

**Break**

09:45 AM to 10:45 AM

**US Trade Policy Outlook**

- **Robert Lighthizer**  
Former US Trade Representative under President Donald Trump  
Chair of the Center for American Trade at AFPI

10:45 AM to 11:30 AM

**Defense/Geopolitical Outlook**

- **Mike Gallagher**  
Head of Defense  
Palantir Technologies

11:30 AM to 11:45 AM

**Break**

11:45 AM to 12:00 PM

**Lunch is served**

12:00 PM to 12:50 PM

**US Economic Policy Under Trump**

- **Larry Kudlow**  
Host of "Kudlow", Radio host of "The Larry Kudlow Show"  
Fox Business Network

12:50 PM to 01:00 PM

**Break**

01:00 PM to 01:50 PM

**Federal Reserve, Economic Outlook**

- **Loretta J. Mester**  
Former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland



01:50 PM to 02:00 PM

---

**Break**

02:00 PM to 03:00 PM

---

**Congressional Outlook**

- **Neil Bradley**

Executive Vice President, Chief Policy Officer, and Head of Strategic Advocacy  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

---

- **Liam Donovan**

Senior Political Strategist  
Bracewell

---

03:00 PM to 03:45 PM

---

**Policy and Investments**

- **Daniel Clifton**

Partner & Head of Policy Research  
Strategas Securities, LLC

## SPEAKERS

---



### Daniel Clifton

Partner & Head of Policy Research  
Strategas Securities, LLC

Daniel Clifton is a Partner and Head of Policy Research for Strategas Securities. In this capacity, Mr. Clifton evaluates the financial market implications of policy and political developments. This includes analyzing tax, trade, infrastructure, healthcare, energy, defense and other policy initiatives to determine how public policy changes impact the economy and financial markets for institutional investors.

Daniel leads Strategas' Washington policy research team, which is the #1 ranked Washington policy team on Wall Street, according to *Institutional Investor (II)*. Dan and his team have been ranked as one of the top Washington policy teams in each of the past 16 years. Mr. Clifton is also a top ranked analyst in the category of Accounting and Tax Policy according to the same *II* report.

Mr. Clifton's research on the interaction between policy, elections, and financial markets is widely cited in the media and Daniel is a frequent guest on CNBC, Bloomberg, and Fox Business.

Prior to joining Strategas, Mr. Clifton was Executive Director of the American Shareholders Association (ASA), a non-partisan, non-profit organization which analyzes public policy affecting shareholders. Daniel also worked on tax policy issues prior to the ASA and has been involved in every major tax policy change over the past twenty years. Prior to moving to Washington, Mr. Clifton served as a senior staff member in two gubernatorial administrations working on economic and fiscal policy issues.

Mr. Clifton received both his BA in Urban Planning and his MS in Public Policy from Rutgers University where he was a Fellow at the Eagleton Institute of Politics and a Harold Martin Fellow for Public Policy.



## Loretta J. Mester

Former President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland

Loretta Mester was president and chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland from June 1, 2014 through June 30, 2024. In that role, she participated in the formulation of U.S. monetary policy and oversaw more than 1,000 employees based at the Bank's Cleveland office and Branch offices in Cincinnati and Pittsburgh who were engaged in conducting economic research, supervising banking institutions, promoting community development, and providing payment services to depository institutions and the U.S. Treasury. Mester was the 11th president of the Cleveland Fed and represented the Fourth District on the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC).

Mester began her career at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia in 1985 as an economist and was executive vice president and director of research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia prior to her appointment as president and CEO of the Cleveland Fed.

Mester is an adjunct professor of finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. She has also taught in the undergraduate finance and M.B.A. programs at Wharton and in the Ph.D. program in finance at New York University.

Mester is a trustee of the Cleveland Clinic, a trustee of the Musical Arts Association (Cleveland Orchestra), a director of the Council for Economic Education, a founding director of the Financial Intermediation Research Society, a member of the senior council of the Central Bank Research Association (CEBRA), a member of the advisory board of the Financial Intermediation Network of European Studies (FINEST), a member of the advisory board of Haverford Trust Company, and an editor of the *Journal of Financial Services Research*. She is a member of the American Economic Association, the American Finance Association, the Econometric Society, and the Financial Management Association International.

Mester graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics and economics from Barnard College of Columbia University. She earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in economics from Princeton University, where she was a National Science Foundation Fellow.



## Robert Lighthizer

Former US Trade Representative under President Donald Trump  
Chair of the Center for American Trade at AFPI

Robert Lighthizer is originally from Ashtabula, Ohio, and serves as the Chair of the Center for American Trade at AFPI. Prior to joining AFPI, Lighthizer served as the 18th United States Trade Representative (USTR) under President Donald Trump. Alongside President Trump, Lighthizer engineered a historic trade agreement with China that put American workers, farmers, and manufacturers first. An experienced trade negotiator and litigator, Lighthizer has dedicated his life working for equitable trade enforcement for the U.S. and has an impressive record of fighting for American workers, farmers, manufacturers, and businesses. Prior to joining the Trump Administration, Lighthizer was a partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP (Skadden), where he practiced international trade law for over 30 years. Before joining Skadden, Lighthizer served as Deputy USTR for President Ronald Reagan. During his tenure, Lighthizer negotiated over two dozen bilateral international agreements, including agreements on steel, automobiles, and agricultural products. As Deputy USTR, he also served as Vice Chairman of the Board of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. Lighthizer earned a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and his Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center. He has two children and in his free time enjoys playing golf.



## Warren Payne

Senior Advisor  
Mayer Brown

Warren S. Payne helps clients to address a wide range of tax issues. He joined Mayer Brown from the US House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, where he held several of staff leadership roles from 2007 to 2015, including serving as policy director.

As the Committee's policy director Warren was responsible for developing policy in all areas within the Committee's jurisdiction. Major legislation that Warren worked to enact into law includes the Tax Increase Prevention Act, the ABLE Act, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act, two highway and infrastructure funding bills in 2012 and 2014, and free trade agreements with Colombia, Peru, Panama and South Korea. In addition, Warren was responsible for the development and introduction of the first detailed legislation since 1986 to comprehensively reform the US Tax Code with the introduction of the Tax Reform Act of 2014. Other major pieces of legislation developed by the Committee during Warren's tenure as policy director include the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act of 2014 and the SGR Repeal and Provider Payment Modernization Act.

Warren served as a senior staffer to both the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction. In his role as Policy Director, Warren was responsible for working with Subcommittee Staff Directors to develop and implement the Committee's priorities and coordinated those efforts with House of Representative Leadership-serving as a key liaison with the Administration, the Senate as well as House Leadership. Originally, Warren served as one of the Committee's primary economists focused on trade policy, where he crafted the economic analysis behind the recent trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, Peru, and South Korea.

Before joining the Ways and Means Committee, Warren served as an economic advisor and international trade analyst at the US International Trade Commission. He also consulted on international trade and tax issues at Economic Consulting Services.





## Neil Bradley

Executive Vice President, Chief Policy Officer, and Head of Strategic Advocacy  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

As executive vice president, chief policy officer, and head of strategic advocacy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Neil Bradley is responsible for the organization's overall advocacy efforts. In addition to managing policy development for the Chamber, Bradley oversees its government affairs activities, political program, and relations with other business organizations.

At the Chamber, Bradley has led the national discussion on hundreds of high-profile policy issues, influencing legislation at the federal, state, and local levels. He frequently appears on broadcast and cable news networks to present the business community's priorities.

Prior to joining the Chamber, Bradley spent nearly 20 years working in the House of Representatives, including 11 years working for the House Republican leadership. He served as deputy chief of staff for then-Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA) where he developed the legislative agenda for House Republicans, oversaw policy formulation in the leader's office, and coordinated committee activity in the House. Bradley held the same position for Eric Cantor (VA) during his tenure as majority leader. Before that, he was policy director for House Republican Whip Roy Blunt (MO).

While working on Capitol Hill, Bradley was regularly named to *Roll Call's* list of 50 top congressional staffers. *The Hill* recognized Bradley on its list of top lobbyists, and the *Washingtonian* magazine listed him as one of the Most Influential People in Washington.

Bradley serves on numerous boards, including the advisory board for the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University; the board of the Convergence Center for Policy Resolution; and the board for the Center for International Private Enterprise, where he is president and permanent secretary.

Bradley, a graduate of Georgetown University, resides in Chevy Chase, Maryland, with his wife, Kiki, and their son, Peter. He is a native of Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

After leaving Capitol Hill, Bradley founded Chartwell Policy Solutions, LLC, a research, analysis, and advisory firm focused on public policy issues.



## Liam Donovan

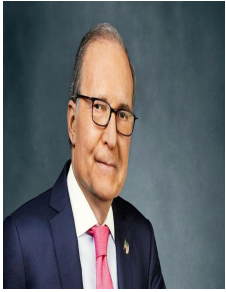
Senior Political Strategist  
Bracewell

Liam Donovan is a veteran government relations strategist with nearly two decades of experience working at the intersection of politics and policy. He advises leading corporations, trade associations and non-profit organizations on the federal legislative and regulatory process, and helps plan and execute campaigns to advance their policy goals. He also provides strategic analysis and intelligence to institutional investors, executives and other clients who are looking to separate the signal from the Beltway noise.

Liam joined Bracewell from Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), where he served as the association's lead on tax, energy and fiscal issues for more than six years, representing the construction industry before the House, Senate, White House and federal agencies, while providing strategic guidance on the association's political activities.

Before beginning his career as an advocate, Liam spent four years and two elections cycles on the staff of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, ultimately serving as a regional finance director under Senator John Cornyn (R-TX.) He maintains strong ties to Republican leadership in both chambers.

Liam is a frequent commentator and writer on national politics. His work has been published in *National Review*, *POLITICO Magazine* and the *New York Post*. He is frequently quoted in national media outlets from the *Washington Post* to *The New York Times*, and he has appeared as a political analyst on CNN, CNBC, MSNBC and Fox News Channel. A recent *POLITICO* feature called him "a keen, clear-eyed analyst of legislative maneuvering."



## Larry Kudlow

Host of "Kudlow", Radio host of "The Larry Kudlow Show"  
Fox Business Network

Lawrence "Larry" Kudlow is a Fox News Media contributor. His show "Kudlow" airs at 4 pm ET weekdays on the Fox Business Network. He is also radio host of "The Larry Kudlow Show" that broadcasts every Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm ET on 77WABC Radio. Mr. Kudlow served as Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Director of the National Economic Council. He led the coordination of President Donald J. Trump's domestic and global economic policy agenda.

Prior to the White House, Mr. Kudlow was a CNBC Senior Contributor and host of CNBC's primetime show "The Kudlow Report." He also served as chief economist and senior managing director of Bear Stearns & Company.

During President Reagan's first term, Mr. Kudlow was associate director for economics and planning at the Office of Management and Budget, where he was engaged in the development of the Administration's economic and budget policy.

He started his career at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Mr. Kudlow has been a nationally syndicated columnist. He was a senior editor of National Review magazine, as well as a columnist and economics editor for National Review Online. He is also the author of "JFK and the Reagan Revolution: A Secret History of American Prosperity" and "American Abundance: The New Economic and Moral Prosperity."

He previously served as the president of St. Patrick's Church Parish Council in Redding, Connecticut and on the Fordham University Board of Trustees. Mr. Kudlow has won numerous awards, including the Bishop's Humanitarian Award from the Catholic Charities of Brooklyn & Queens, the New York Police

Department Holy Name Society's Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Ambassadors for Mission Award from the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States. He recently received the Ronald Reagan Freedom Award from the Texas Public Policy Foundation.

Mr. Kudlow was educated at the University of Rochester and Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs



## Bruce P. Mehlman

Partner  
Mehlman Consulting

With over two decades experience in public policy, business and the law, Bruce helps leaders and organizations understand, anticipate and navigate political risk.

Mehlman is a highly sought-after keynote speaker on policy and political trends, regularly headlining business conferences and strategic planning sessions. His quarterly infographic analyses are consistently picked-up by national media and eagerly consumed by tens of thousands of readers around the world. Television networks such as CNBC, Fox News, Fox Business and Hearst often ask Bruce to appear to discuss trends and their implications.

Bruce previously served as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Technology Policy under President George W. Bush. He also worked as a senior leadership aide in the House of Representatives, general counsel to a national political party committee and policy counsel to Cisco Systems.

Bruce is widely-regarded as an expert in running coalitions, quarterbacking issue campaigns and managing C-suite associations, bringing innovative approaches and determined execution to achieve impactful outcomes. An Adjunct Professor and Board Member of The Washington Campus, Bruce frequently lectures MBA candidates on “effective business-government relations.”

Bruce serves on the advisory boards of start-up companies including FiscalNote, iLearningEngines, and Virtu, in addition to serving on the Boards of the Center for Democracy & Technology, the Washington Campus, and the State Science & Technology Institute.

Bruce received a BA degree from Princeton University and a JD from the University of Virginia Law School where he served on the Virginia Law Review.



## Mike Gallagher

Head of Defense  
Palantir Technologies

Few have had as immense an impact on American politics and policy by the age of 40 as Dr. Mike Gallagher. Elected to the United States House of Representatives as the representative for Wisconsin's 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district, Dr. Gallagher was the youngest man in Congress and later became the youngest committee chairman in the modern Congress. Having dedicated his career to public service, Dr. Gallagher was previously a Marine Corps counterintelligence/human intelligence officer and is regarded among the most authoritative voices on the U.S.'s role in military, economic, and technological competition on the global stage, as well as how shifts in relations with our allies and adversaries impact our businesses and society. Today, he is a Distinguished Fellow at the Hudson Institute and senior strategic advisor for TitledTownTech, where he is focused on driving tech innovation and growth across the Midwest and thereby advancing America's national security interests.

Exclusively represented by Leading Authorities speakers bureau, Dr. Gallagher masterfully relates hot-button issues in politics, foreign policy, strategic intelligence, and cybersecurity to what's going on in our organizations and industries. Covering topics ranging from the current political outlook to great power competition to the intersection of tech innovation and national security, he dissects complex issues and presents them in a clear and engaging manner. Dr. Gallagher brings nuance (and humor) to any discussion, and audience members will gain a deeper understanding of how national security and geopolitical challenges affect their organizations and industries, and how they can get ahead of the curve.

As a Republican congressman, Dr. Gallagher was front and center in passing some of the most significant pieces of legislation of the last decade. He was named the founding Chairman of the Select Committee on China, served as Chairman of the Cyberspace Solarium Commission, and Chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation.

Prior to being elected to Congress, Dr. Gallagher served seven years on active as a military intelligence officer. He was twice deployed to Iraq as a commander of intelligence teams and worked for General David Petraeus' Central Command Assessment Team in the Middle East. He also spent three years working in the US intelligence community, including tours in the National Counterterrorism Center and the Drug Enforcement Agency. He subsequently served as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's lead Republican staffer for the Middle East, North Africa, and Counterterrorism and as the national security advisor for Governor Scott Walker's presidential campaign. Now he serves as Head of Defense for Palantir Technologies, helping organizations protect their big data.

*The Wall Street Journal* described Dr. Gallagher as "a rare Member these days who wants to do something other than promote his social media brand," while *Time* called him a "fast-rising star in his party, for both is political acumen and foreign policy chops." In recognition of his influence and willingness to work across the aisle to get things done, Dr. Gallagher has received the Navy's Distinguished Public Service Award (the highest award bestowed upon an individual outside of the Department of the Navy), as well as the Panetta Institute's Jefferson-Lincoln Award, and several other honors.