



Aspen-Brookings Business Leaders Roundtable

January 10, 2014 | New York, NY

Agenda

All dialogue sessions will be conducted under the Chatham House Rule.

American capitalism is falling short of the aspirations of many of the system's participants. Dissatisfaction comes from many corners--from investors to frontline workers, CEOs to millennials. This roundtable explores some **actionable policy levers** for putting 21st century American capitalism on track to meeting the needs of its participants and solving problems in society with the right balance of productivity, accountability, and fairness. Historically, the United States has responded to periods of dissatisfaction with business and capitalism with innovative vigor buttressed by sensible policy to address the deepest concerns with the system. Today, government, business leaders, and investors all have influential roles to play. What policy solutions can move us in the right direction?

Meeting Location: Egon Zehnder, 485 Madison Avenue (between 51st and 52nd), 10th Floor

- 8:30 Check-in
- 9:00 Welcome from **Judith Samuelson**, Executive Director, Aspen Institute Business and Society Program and **Greig Schneider**, Managing Partner, Egon Zehnder U.S.
- 9:15 **Session I: Corporate Purpose and the Revival of American Capitalism**
Provocateur: **Steven Pearlstein** (Washington Post)
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 **Session II: Incentives in the investment chain.**
What policies can:
- *Elevate the interests of the end investor above the short-term interests of intermediaries?*
 - *Better align investment chain incentives with the public welfare?*
 - *Focus corporate disclosure on the drivers of long-term performance?*
- Provocateurs: **Stephen Davis** (Program on Corp. Gov. at Harvard Law); **Michelle Edkins** (BlackRock)
- 11:15 Break
- 11:30 **Session III: Tax Policy: Corporate Tax and Capital Gains**
What policies can:
- *Reduce incentives for short-termism and tax avoidance?*
 - *Enhance America's global competitiveness?*
 - *Address the real and/or perceived inequalities of taxing capital gains at lower rates than other income?*
- Provocateurs: **Thomas Hungerford** (Economic Policy Institute); **Robert Carroll** (Ernst & Young)
- 12:30 **Session IV: Towards core principles for 21st Century Capitalism** (*Over lunch*)
- *Where might we find common ground in the current political environment?*
- 1:30 Adjourn