

STATEMENT FROM THE TASK FORCE FOR THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL'S ADRIENNE ARSHT CENTER FOR RESILIENCE

DECEMBER 9, 2016

In an increasingly interconnected world, disruptions—both positive and negative—are accelerating. This trend poses new challenges for maintaining stability, promoting prosperity, and developing ethical and effective governance. We congratulate the Atlantic Council and, in particular, Adrienne Arsht, for the foresight and initiative to establish the Adrienne Arsht Center for Resilience in order to promote policies designed to create a more stable and resilient world.

A single event or disruption can spark any number of unexpected, reverberating consequences which make responding to the initial challenge ever more difficult. Today, we have convened as a Task Force to help inform and support the work of this new Center. We believe that the following tenets should be the core of the Adrienne Arsht Center for Resilience:

- Resilience is one of the principal antidotes to turbulence. It is a policy strategy to manage shocks, recover from the worst effects, and gain in the process.
- The international system – both its institutions and its architecture – must be made more resilient to sudden and disruptive change by identifying links between issues as diverse as severe weather events, global health, refugees, violent extremism, natural disasters, cyber security, and critical infrastructure. Given the interconnectivity of today's society, these problems are impossible to isolate from each other.
- The Adrienne Arsht Center for Resilience will demonstrate and promote the need for resilient solutions at a local, national, and international scale using its convening power and creative communications mechanisms to reach the relevant stakeholders.

The Task Force strongly endorses the Adrienne Arsht Center for Resilience's commitment to impact-driven programming, working directly with community leaders and individuals in cities, states, and international organizations as they respond to crises and disruptions, and return stronger than before. This innovative approach distinguishes itself in the think-tank community as programming designed for policy makers, elected officials, and those on the front lines of disruption-response. The recommendations put forth by the Center will use local and international approaches to inform one another and ensure that best practices are used to empower people worldwide.

As a global organization, the Atlantic Council possesses the attributes to promote resilient thinking and strategies around the world. By leveraging the strength of the Council's impressive international network of partnerships, we urge the Center to successfully identify, highlight, and network together those individuals, organizations, communities, policies, and practices that together help build resilient societies.

Signed:

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