

CELEBRATING OUR  
60th ANNIVERSARY



**Atlantic Council**

# DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARDS

WASHINGTON, DC  
NOVEMBER 10TH

2021



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN & THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining the Atlantic Council's 2021 Distinguished Leadership Awards, where we at the same time are celebrating our 60th anniversary.

Since its founding in 1961 during the first year of the Kennedy administration, the Atlantic Council has held true to its mission of "shaping the global future together" with partners and allies. Throughout those six decades, we have worked to unite not only the transatlantic community, but also an increasingly global community.

It is appropriate that we gather for this annual awards dinner for the first time in the historic Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium, where the North Atlantic Treaty establishing NATO was signed in April 1949. Never since our founding has the Atlantic Council been more robust as an institution; never have the challenges facing our community been as complex, multifaceted, and global.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to raise public health, economic, and geopolitical issues. The United States has ceded Afghanistan to the Taliban following the withdrawal of US troops, raising new dangers of violent extremism. The US confronts a peer competitor in China that is far more capable economically and technologically than the Soviet Union was at the height of the Cold War.

And our transatlantic community confronts new issues that will require global common cause, ranging from climate threats to rising dangers of the unraveling of the international liberal order.

In the face of these challenges, the Atlantic Council is emerging from the COVID-19 crisis financially stronger, substantively more robust, operationally improved and enhanced by a series of technological and digital investments.

In that spirit, we are delighted to celebrate five distinguished individuals this evening who embody the sort of leadership we believe is required in our demanding times.


We will salute European Commission President **Ursula von der Leyen**, with our highest honor for international leadership. We will honor Chairman and CEO of Pfizer **Albert Bourla** and BioNTech Co-Founders **Ugur Sahin** and **Özlem Türeci** for their contributions to global public health through the ground-breaking development of their COVID-19 vaccine. We will recognize Grammy award-winning artist and activist **Dua Lipa** for her musical achievements as well as her philanthropic efforts, particularly in the Balkans region.

We are grateful to this evening's Co-Chairs, the Atlantic Council's Board of Directors, the International Advisory Board, and other generous friends and partners who have made tonight - and, indeed, all of our work - possible.

Thank you for being with us this evening.

Onward and upward,



  
**John F.W. Rogers**  
Chairman  
Atlantic Council



  
**Frederick Kempe**  
President and CEO  
Atlantic Council

 Atlantic Council

# DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARDS

HONORING

**H.E. URSULA VON DER LEYEN**

President, European Commission

**DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**ALBERT BOURLA, DVM, PH.D.**

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer

**DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**ÖZLEM TÜRECI, M.D.**

Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech

**DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**PROFESSOR UGUR SAHIN, M.D.**

Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech

**DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**DUA LIPA**

Grammy Award-winning Artist; Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation; Activist

**DISTINGUISHED ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Special remarks by: H.E. Dr. Vjosa Osmani

Featuring

**A SPECIAL TRIBUTE  
TO THE VETERANS OF AFGHANISTAN**

# 2021 DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP



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*Chief Executive Officer*  
 Majid Al Futtaim



**Adam Boehler**  
*Founder and CEO*  
 Rubicon Founders



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*Chairman and CEO*  
 Pfizer Inc.



**Ahmed Charai**



**Tae-won Chey**  
*Chairman*  
 SK



**Larry Di Rita**  
*Greater Washington DC  
 Market President*  
 Bank of America



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*CEO*  
 Penguin Random House



**Richard Edelman**  
*CEO*  
 Edelman



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*Founder, Chairman, and CEO*  
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**Mehmet Nazif Günal**  
*Founder, Chairman*  
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**Karl Hopkins**  
*Global Chief Security Officer*  
 Dentons



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*CEO*  
 Hunt Consolidated Energy, LLC



**Andre Kelleners**



**C. Jeffrey Knittel**  
*Chairman & CEO*  
 Airbus Americas

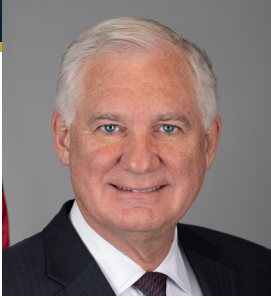


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**George & Kristen Lund**

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Co-Founder and  
Chief Medical Officer  
BioNTech



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# H.E. Ursula von der Leyen

## **DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Ursula von der Leyen, Dr., born in 1958, was a member of the German Bundestag from 2009 to 2019 and a Federal Minister in Germany for more than 14 years, responsible for Family Affairs (2005-2009), then for Labour and Social Affairs (2009-2013) and later for Defence (2013-2019).

She completed her medical studies with a state examination and licence to practise medicine in 1987, followed by a doctorate in 1991 and a Master of Public Health in 2001. She has been a member of the CDU since 1990. From 2003 to 2005, she was a member of the CDU Parliamentary Group in the Lower Saxony State Parliament.

In 2019, she was elected President of the European Commission. As the head of the European executive, she has defined six headline ambitions for Europe for her mandate: a European Green Deal, a Europe fit for the digital age, an economy that works for people, a stronger Europe in the world, promoting our European way of life, and a new push for European democracy.



## Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.

### **DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Dr. Albert Bourla leads Pfizer in its purpose: Breakthroughs that change patients' lives, with a focus on driving the scientific and commercial innovation needed to have a transformational impact on human health.

During his more than 25 years at Pfizer, he has held several senior global positions across a range of markets and disciplines. Before becoming CEO, he served as COO, overseeing commercial strategy, manufacturing, and global product development.

Previously, he served as Group President of Pfizer Innovative Health, which comprised the Consumer Healthcare, Inflammation & Immunology, Internal Medicine, Oncology, Rare Disease and Vaccines business groups. He also created the Patient and Health Impact group, dedicated to increasing patient access, demonstrating the value of Pfizer's medicines, and broader business model innovation. Prior to that, he was president and General Manager of the Established Products business.

Albert is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine with a Ph.D. from the Veterinary School of Aristotle University and began his Pfizer career in 1993 in the Animal Health division. In 2020, he was ranked America's top CEO in the pharmaceuticals sector by Institutional Investor magazine. He is on the executive committee of the Partnership for New York City, a vice president of the IFPMA, a trustee of the US Council for International Business, and a director on multiple boards, including Pfizer Inc., the Pfizer Foundation, PhRMA, and Catalyst.



## Özlem Türeci, M.D.

### **DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Özlem Türeci, M.D., Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer of BioNTech, is a physician, immunologist, and cancer researcher with translational and clinical experience.

Türeci has helped lead the discovery of cancer antigens, the development of mRNA-based individualized and off-the-shelf vaccine candidates and other types of immunotherapies which are currently in clinical development.

Türeci leads the clinical development of BioNTech's "Project Lightspeed," the company's successful effort to develop and distribute an mRNA-based vaccine against COVID-19, a historic achievement completed in less than one year.

Türeci previously served as CEO and Chief Medical Officer of Ganymed Pharmaceuticals AG, which she co-founded with Ugur Sahin and Christoph Huber. The company was acquired by Astellas in 2016.

She currently serves as President of the Association for Cancer Immunotherapy (CIMT) in Germany. She is a recent recipient of the German Sustainability Award, among other notable recognitions.

Türeci is married to Prof. Ugur Sahin.





## Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.

### **DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Prof. Ugur Sahin, M.D., Co-Founder and CEO of BioNTech, is a physician, immunologist and leader in the development of novel approaches to fight cancer and infectious diseases.

Sahin is one of the world's foremost experts on messenger ribonucleic acid (mRNA) medicines. He has pioneered several breakthroughs enabling the development of mRNA vaccines and other types of immunotherapies.

Sahin initiated and oversees "Project Lightspeed," the historic development of the first mRNA vaccine for COVID-19, moving from lab and clinical testing to conditional approval within an unprecedented 11-month period. He also leads BioNTech's research and development of neoantigen specific mRNA cancer vaccines which are individually tailored and produced on demand according to the profile of non-synonymous mutations identified by next-generation sequencing in patients' tumors.

Ugur Sahin is co-inventor of more than 500 filed patents applications and patents. Sahin's academic credentials include serving as a Full Professor (W3) in Translational Oncology & Immunology at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, where he was the supervisor for more than 50 PhD students. He also holds the role of Chairman of the Scientific Management Board of the Helmholtz Institute for Translational Oncology (HI-TRON), also in Mainz.

Based on his contributions to scientific discovery, Dr. Sahin has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the German Sustainability Award, the Mustafa Prize, and the German Cancer Award.

He is married to Dr. Özlem Türeci.



## Dua Lipa

### **DISTINGUISHED ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Since the release of her first single in 2015, Dua Lipa has become one of the music world's hottest artists. Her eponymous debut album has eclipsed 6 million sales worldwide, with overall global single sales reaching 80 million and with over 8 billion streams on Spotify alone. She made BRIT Award history in 2018 as the first female artist to pick up five nominations, with two wins for British Breakthrough Act and British Female Solo Artist. She then went on to receive two Grammy awards for Best New Artist and Best Dance Recording for "Electricity", her collaboration with Silk City the following year.

Her sophomore album "Future Nostalgia" was released in March 2020 and has been certified platinum in the UK, US, Brazil, France and many more territories. It includes the massive worldwide hits "Don't Start Now", "Physical", "Levitating" and "Break My Heart". Dua currently tops Spotify's artist chart as the most streamed female artist on the platform and "Future Nostalgia" now has 7 billion streams across all platforms worldwide. She also broke the record for most viewed live stream by a music artist with her incredible "Studio 2054" online extravaganza.

Dua received six nominations at the 2021 Grammy Awards, winning the award for Best Pop Vocal Album. She also scooped 'Best Solo Female' & 'Album of the Year' at the 2021 BRIT Awards, making her a 5-time BRIT Award winner and 3-time Grammy Award Winner.

Dua takes great pride in her Albanian heritage and in 2016 she created the Sunny Hill Foundation to raise funds to support people and communities in Kosovo, particularly through arts and cultural programmes.

Dua also actively helps promote Sunny Hill Festival, the festival founded and organized by her father Dukagjin Lipa since 2016, now quickly becoming one of the biggest festivals in the region.

Dua frequently uses her platform to advocate for women's rights, the rights of refugees around the world, and the LGBTQ+ community.

 Atlantic Council

# DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARDS

**SAVE THE DATE**

MAY 11TH, 2022



# SALUTE TO VETERANS

As we recognize the courage and sacrifice of veterans this evening, the Atlantic Council would like to thank our previous military honorees once again for their service.



General Curtis M. Scaparrotti - 2018



Admiral Michelle Howard - 2017



General Joseph L. Votel - 2016



General Philip M. Breedlove - 2015



General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr.,  
USMC - 2014



The Enlisted Men and Women of the United States Armed Forces - 2012



Admiral James Stavridis - 2011



General Stéphane Abrial & General James Mattis - 2010



General David Petraeus - 2009



Admiral Michael Mullen - 2008



General James L. Jones, Jr., USMC (Ret.) - 2007

# VETERANS OF AFGHANISTAN

The last sixty years of our work at the Atlantic Council would not be possible without a small group of young people.

People who were willing to dedicate their lives to travel to distant shores to fight for freedom. Overseas. Under the seas. And high above a weary world.

That genealogy of guardians continues today with the veterans of the War in Afghanistan.

Confronted by cruelty and cowardice, they answered with fearsome determination.

Amidst doubt and pessimism, they brought a fighting faith.

They gathered our nation's greatest strengths – courage, hope, dedication – and freely gave it to those who needed it most.

There are opposing views on the wisdom, effectiveness, and longevity of the War in Afghanistan, but the sacrifice and courage of its veterans is without dispute.

The Atlantic Council pays tribute to these heroes at our 2021 Distinguished Leadership Awards.

Alongside their allies, from Afghanistan, from NATO, from around the world, these soldiers demonstrated bravery and commitment.



***U.S. Army Major General Chris Donahue, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division, steps on board a C-17 transport plane as the last U.S. service member to leave Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan August 30, 2021 in a photograph taken using night vision optics.***


*XVIII Airborne Corps/Handout via REUTERS.*

True in heart, the veterans of Afghanistan teach our nation, their allies, and their enemies, that warriors still walk the earth. For what you gave, for what you endured, for who you lost, for who you saved, for who you inspired, you have our unending gratitude, and our solemn promise: that as we work to shape the global future together, we will live by your example.

With hope, with honor, and with true faith and dedication.

***Nearly 800,000 people served in the U.S. military in Afghanistan between 2001 and 2021. About 2,500 U.S. service members died in the conflict, and 20,000 more were wounded in action. More than a thousand other allied service members, including from other NATO member states, were also killed.***

# ONE AMERICAN BANK



We are proud to support the Atlantic Council's Distinguished Leadership Awards and honor this year's recipients **H.E. Ursula von der Leyen, Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D., Özlem Türeci, M.D., Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D., and Dua Lipa**



JACKSONVILLE, FL

SCOTTSDALE, AZ

SOUIX FALLS, SD

# CELEBRATING THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF

# General Colin Powell

1937-2021

The Atlantic Council joins the nation in mourning the passing of Colin Powell, an Atlantic Council honorary board director and a highly decorated Army general, former secretary of state and chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, trailblazing leader, and friend to many of us at the Council.

From serving two formative tours in Vietnam to advising four presidents through some of the most consequential moments of the last four decades, General Powell both witnessed and made history—becoming the youngest and first Black chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and first Black secretary of state. Throughout his remarkable career, General Powell distinguished himself as a dedicated and principled leader. He was an inspiration to many around the world.

An Atlanticist at heart, General Powell was a strong proponent of international alliances and an advocate of NATO. He observed firsthand the Alliance's success in competing with the Soviet Union during the Cold War, and believed that it would continue to play a crucial role in responding to the challenges of the 21st century—albeit even as he recognized that the alliance would need to change and adapt first.

In 2005, we presented General Powell with our Distinguished International Leadership Award. In accepting the award that evening, he stated, “America needs to make sure that it never allows the transatlantic link to weaken; it is the surest guarantee of the movement toward peace and freedom.”



He was generous with his time, and I profited personally from his advice, counsel, and friendship. At the end of one lengthy one-on-one session at his home, which we spent discussing all manner of global affairs, he said to me, “You know, I spend less time these days thinking about geopolitics and more time preparing the next generation of leaders. I can’t predict what might happen in the world in the years ahead, but I do know that we are going to need a very special group of young leaders who are equipped with the character and capabilities to deal with this challenging world.”

His conviction about serving future generations—concentrated most in his work with the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership at the City College of New York—inspired us to double down on the Atlantic Council’s next-generation efforts on three fronts: our Millennium Leadership Program, our Young Global Professionals paid internship program, and the recruiting and mentoring of our own staff, 65 percent of whom are under 35 years of age.

General Powell’s legacy and contribution to the United States will continue to inspire future leaders and generations. And they will continue to inspire the Atlantic Council as we, in the words of General Powell, advance our “noble work that is [never] finished.”

— Frederick Kempe, President and CEO of the Atlantic Council

# PREVIOUS HONOREES 2000-2020



## 2020

**Kristalina Georgieva**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**His Excellency Luis Alberto Moreno**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Lionel Richie**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

## 2019

**North Atlantic Treaty Organization**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Adrienne Arsht**  
*Distinguished Service*

**Christine Lagarde**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Frederick W. Smith**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

## 2018

**The Honorable George W. Bush**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Gloria Estefan**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

**General Curtis M. Scaparrotti**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Howard Schultz**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

## 2017

**Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein**  
*Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership*

**Renée Fleming**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership Award*

**William C. Ford, Jr.**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**Admiral Michelle Howard**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**His Excellency Jens Stoltenberg**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2016

**Robert Gates**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Henry Kravis**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**General Joseph L. Votel**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Vittorio Grigòlo**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

## 2015

**President Ashraf Ghani**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Marillyn A. Hewson**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**General Philip M. Breedlove**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Toby Keith**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

## 2014

**President José Manuel Barroso**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Chuck Hagel**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Thomas Enders**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**General Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., USMC**  
*On Behalf of the Men and Women of ISAF and USFOR-A*  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Ruslana Lyzhychko**  
*Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership*

## 2013

**Hillary Rodham Clinton**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

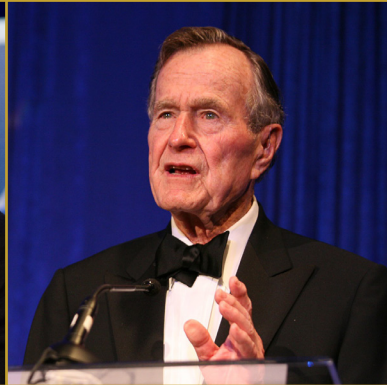
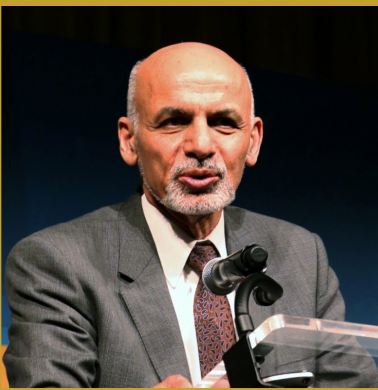
**Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**John S. Watson**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**Tony Bennett**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

**Juanes**  
*Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership*





## 2012

**Secretary General Ban Ki-moon**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Paul Polman**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**The Enlisted Men and Women  
of the United States Armed Forces**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Anne-Sophie Mutter**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

**HRH Prince Henry of Wales**  
*Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership*

## 2011

**Vice President Joe Biden**  
*Distinguished Keynote Address*

**Muhtar Kent**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**Admiral James Stavridis**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Plácido Domingo**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

## 2010

**President William J. Clinton**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Josef Ackermann**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**General Stéphane Abrial**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**General James Mattis**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Bono**  
*Distinguished Humanitarian Leadership*

## 2009

**President George H.W. Bush**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Chancellor Helmut Kohl**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Samuel Palmisano**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**General David Petraeus**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Thomas Hampson**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

## 2008

**Prime Minister Tony Blair**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Rupert Murdoch**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**Admiral Michael Mullen**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

**Evgeny Kissin**  
*Distinguished Artistic Leadership*

## 2007

**Alan Greenspan**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Stephen Schwarzman**  
*Distinguished Business Leadership*

**General James L. Jones, Jr., USMC (Ret.)**  
*Distinguished Military Leadership*

## 2006

**John Warner**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2005

**General Colin Powell**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2004

**Chuck Hagel**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2003

**General Joseph Ralston**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

**Lord Robertson of Port Ellen**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2002

**Robert Rubin**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2001

**Henry Kissinger**  
*Distinguished International Leadership*

## 2000

**Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft**  
*Distinguished International Leadership  
Security*



# Rising to the Challenge

For over 50 years, the Atlantic Council and its supporters have worked to strengthen and elevate the transatlantic alliance. Airbus is proud to recognize those who have demonstrated extraordinary resilience, global leadership, and heroism during these tumultuous times.

We congratulate tonight's distinguished honorees, and are committed to leveraging global resources to support those impacted by the pandemic.

Airbus salutes this year's honorees:  
**Her Excellency Ursula Von Der Leyen**  
*President, European Commission*  
Distinguished International Leadership Award

**Albert Bourla, DVM, Ph.D.**  
*Chairman and CEO, Pfizer*  
Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Özlem Türeci, M.D.**  
*Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech*  
Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.**  
*Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech*  
Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Dua Lipa**  
*Grammy Award-Winning Artist; Activist;  
Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation*  
Distinguished Artistic Leadership Award

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\*EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

# ENABLING TRUST

SICPA is proud to support the Atlantic Council's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and this year's Distinguished Leadership Awards. We congratulate

- **H.E. Ursula von der Leyen**, *President, European Commission,*
- **Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.**, *Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer,*
- **Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.**, *Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech,*
- **Özlem Türeci, M.D.**, *Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech,*
- **Dua Lipa**, *Grammy Award-winning Artist; Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation; and Activist,*

on their positive contribution to global economy and society.

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*In honor of Veterans Day,  
my sincerest admiration and  
appreciation to all who served.*

***Adrienne Arsht***

**Distinguished  
Leadership Awards  
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## ABOUT THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL

“ The Atlantic Council has tirelessly worked to promote ever-closer transatlantic cooperation, and in today’s dangerous world, transatlantic cooperation is needed more than ever. ”

NATO Secretary General  
Jens Stoltenberg

**The Atlantic Council promotes** constructive US leadership and engagement in the world based on the central role of the Atlantic community, working with its allies and partners, to meet global challenges.

**Through the ideas we generate,** the papers we write, and the communities we build, the Council informs public debates, shapes policy choices, and forges sustainable strategies to create a more secure, free, and prosperous world.

**The Council comprises** fifteen programs and centers that span the range of geographic and functional global issues—all animated by our mission and our core strategy:

### SCOWCROFT CENTER FOR STRATEGY AND SECURITY

develops strategy on emerging transatlantic and global security issues

### GEOECONOMICS CENTER

shapes a better global economic future by serving as a translation hub at the intersection of foreign policy, finance, and economics

### MILLENNIUM LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

connects the emerging generation of global leaders to facilitate dialogue and collaboration

### EUROPE CENTER

promotes the transatlantic leadership and strategies required to ensure a strong Europe

### EURASIA CENTER

enhances transatlantic cooperation in promoting stability, democratic values, and prosperity in Eurasia

### GLOBAL ENERGY CENTER

promotes access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy

### ADRIENNE ARSHT LATIN AMERICA CENTER

fosters a new era of partnership and action among political, business, and opinion leaders of Latin America, Europe, and the United States

### ADRIENNE ARSHT - ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION RESILIENCE CENTER

promotes the capacities of communities, nations, and the international system to meet disruption, restore stability, and return stronger in the face of global shocks

### RAFIK HARIRI CENTER FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

examines the forces transforming the Middle East to inform and shape regional policies

### AFRICA CENTER

promotes dynamic geopolitical partnerships with African states and redirects US and European policy priorities towards strengthening security and promoting economic growth and prosperity on the continent

### SOUTH ASIA CENTER

is waging peace in South Asia by producing practical policy recommendations and facilitating cooperation in the region and its periphery

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is a leading hub of digital forensic analysts that operationalize open source research in governance, technology, and security

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champions positive paths forward that nations, economies, and societies can pursue to ensure new technologies and data empower people, prosperity, and peace.

### THE ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN TURKEY

aims to promote dialogue and strengthen transatlantic engagement with the region through research, programming and high-level discussion forums to address critical issues

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SHAPE A BRIGHTER FUTURE THROUGH TRANSATLANTIC  
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Our co-founders **Özlem Türeci** and **Ugur Sahin** believe in the power of science and collaboration to reduce suffering around the world. While the pandemic has separated us physically, the shared experience has united us mentally – making us stronger. Today, we celebrate everyone who contributed to this joint effort helping to alleviate one of the biggest global health crises.

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Congratulations to the  
2021 Distinguished Leadership  
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the honorees of the Atlantic Council's 2021 Distinguished Leadership Awards for their vision in shaping a prosperous future in the face of growing global challenges.

**Thank you.**



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- **H.E. Ursula von der Leyen,**  
President, European Commission
- **Albert Bourla,**  
DVM, PH.D., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer
- **Özlem Türeci,**  
M.D., Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech
- **Professor Ugur Sahin,**  
M.D., Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech
- **Dua Lipa,**  
Grammy Award-winning Artist;  
Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation, and Activist







# Congratulations

Bank of America is a proud sponsor of the Atlantic Council's Distinguished Leadership Awards and congratulates European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and all of tonight's honorees!

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**Adam Boehler,**  
CEO of Rubicon Founders,  
congratulates

H.E. Ursula von der Leyen  
*President, European Commission*

Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.  
*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer*

Özlem Türeci, M.D.  
*Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech*

Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.  
*Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech*

Dua Lipa  
*Grammy Award-winning Artist;  
Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation; Activist*

on receiving the  
**2021 Distinguished Leadership Award**

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Distinguished International Leadership Award

**Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.**

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer*

Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Özlem Türeci M.D.**

*Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech*

Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.**

*Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech*

Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Dua Lipa**

*Grammy Award-winning Artist; Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation; Activist*

Distinguished Artistic Leadership Award

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- *Creates Added Value to the World and Economic Growth*



**SK is Proud to Support the Atlantic Council**

# **Congratulations to the 2021 Distinguished Leadership Award Honorees!**

**H.E. Ursula Von Der Leyen**  
President, European Commission

**Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.**  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer

**Özlem Türeci, M.D.**  
Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech

**Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.**  
Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech

**Dua Lipa**  
Grammy Award-Winning Artist;  
Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation; Activist



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Kirkland & Ellis is proud to sponsor  
the Atlantic Council's

# Distinguished Leadership Awards 60th Anniversary Celebration

the Firm congratulates tonight's  
honorees for their exemplary displays  
of leadership across industries.

Congratulations to  
H.E. Ursula von der Leyen,  
Albert Bourla, DVM, Ph.D.  
Özlem TÜreci, M.D.  
Professor Ugur Sahin,  
and Dua Lipa  
for helping mold  
a global consensus around the  
values of human dignity and  
generosity.

A special congratulations to Albert Bourla and the  
Pfizer team for their tireless dedication to science  
and making our global community safer.

Alan Fleischmann, Dafna Tapiero, and  
Laurel Strategies, Inc.

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# **CONGRATULATIONS**

**to the honorees of the 2021  
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and the Atlantic Council  
as it celebrates 60 years  
advancing the transatlantic  
relationship.**

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The men and women of



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## 2021 DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREES

**H.E. Ursula von der Leyen**

*President, European Commission*

Distinguished International Leadership Award

**Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.**

*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer*

Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Özlem Türeci M.D.**

*Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech*

Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.**

*Co-Founder and CEO, BioNTech*

Distinguished Business Leadership Award

**Dua Lipa**

*Grammy Award-winning Artist; Founder, Sunny Hill Foundation; Activist*

Distinguished Artistic Leadership Award



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*Congratulations!*

**HER EXCELLENCY URSULA VON DER LEYEN**  
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**ALBERT BOURLA, DVM, PH.D.**  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Pfizer

**ÖZLEM TÜRECI, M.D.**  
Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, BioNTech

**PROFESSOR UGUR SAHIN, M.D.**  
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**DUA LIPA**  
Grammy Award-Winning Artist  
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**Dentons is proud to support the Atlantic Council and to sponsor the 2021 Distinguished Leadership Awards.**

Congratulations to this evening's honorees.

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# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Lenoardo is proud to honor this year's Distinguished Leadership Award recipients for their remarkable efforts to build and strengthen transatlantic partnerships. We commend these inspiring leaders for fostering an environment that breaks down barriers to overcome international challenges that we face together as Allies.

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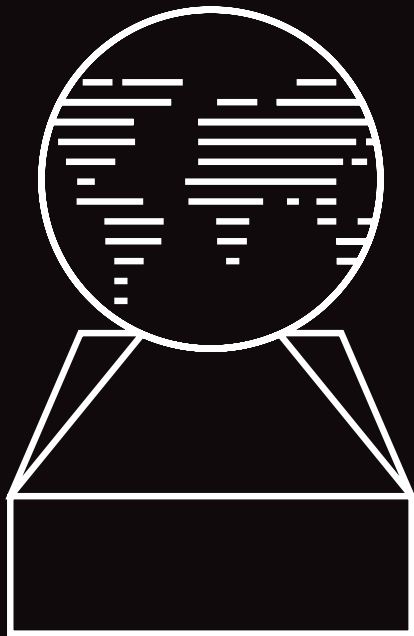




We are proud to support the

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Congratulations to the honorees.



**H.E. Ursula von der Leyen**  
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**Albert Bourla, DVM, PH.D.**  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,  
Pfizer

**Özlem Türeci, M.D.**  
Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer,  
BioNTech

**Professor Ugur Sahin, M.D.**  
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**Dua Lipa**  
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Atlantic Council

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# Thank You

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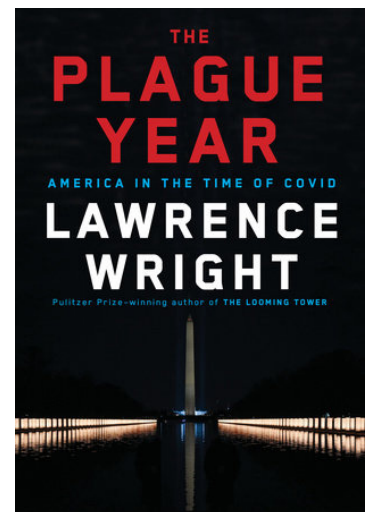
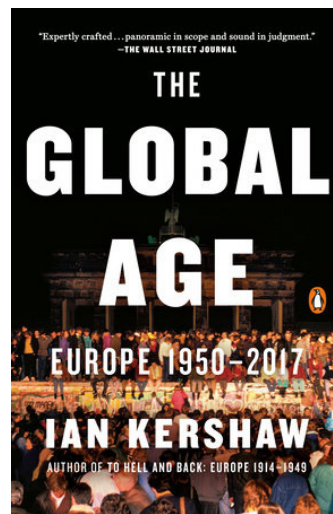
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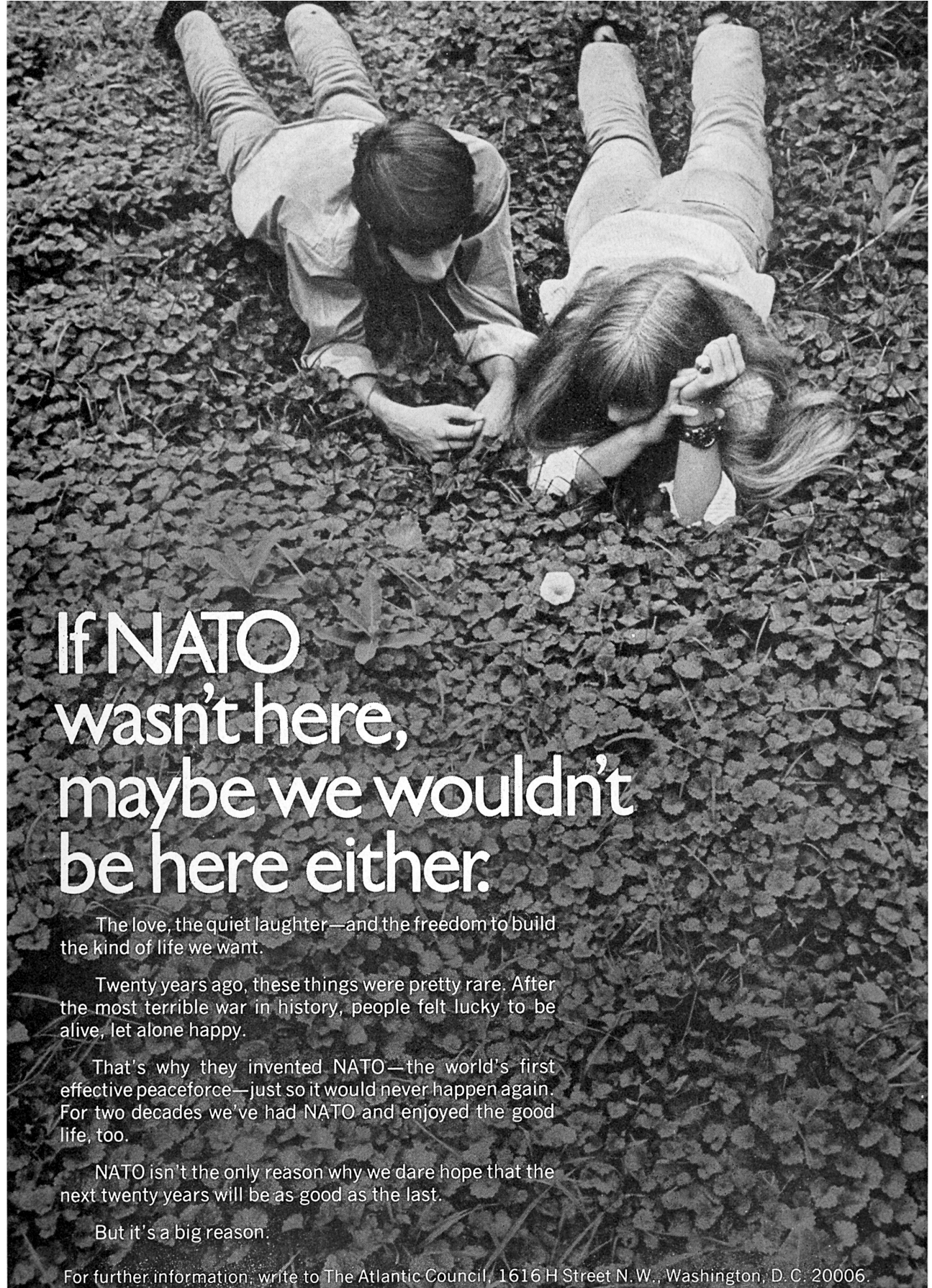


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A special thank you to the American Pops Orchestra, under the brilliant direction of Maestro Luke Frasier, and the dazzling management of Robert Pullen.

## FLASHBACK:

The Atlantic Council ran advertisements in 1969 in a number of magazines, including *Time*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Life*, *Fortune* and *Saturday Review*. Their message was unambiguous: the USA is stronger with allies.



# If NATO wasn't here, maybe we wouldn't be here either.

The love, the quiet laughter—and the freedom to build the kind of life we want.

Twenty years ago, these things were pretty rare. After the most terrible war in history, people felt lucky to be alive, let alone happy.

That's why they invented NATO—the world's first effective peace force—just so it would never happen again. For two decades we've had NATO and enjoyed the good life, too.

NATO isn't the only reason why we dare hope that the next twenty years will be as good as the last.

But it's a big reason.

For further information, write to The Atlantic Council, 1616 H Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.



# The Atlantic Council at 60

BY JOHN F.W. ROGERS, CHAIRMAN  
FREDERICK KEMPE, PRESIDENT AND CEO

It was July 24, 1961, and Dean Rusk pressed for solutions from the fifteen Atlanticists arrayed around his conference table on the State Department's executive seventh floor.

As President John F. Kennedy's relatively new secretary of state, Rusk was confronting mounting challenges to the United States' post-World War II leadership position. He needed urgent help from this disparate group, a who's who of American foreign-policy actors affiliated with a confusing variety of organizations.

He told those assembled—among them Dean Acheson, Christian Herter, Henry Cabot Lodge, and Mary Pillsbury Lord—that they had to develop a more coherent voice and organizational structure. Dramatic changes in the international environment required it, he said.

The United States had lost the nuclear monopoly that had allowed it to prevail during the 1948-1949 Berlin Airlift, and the Soviet Union and its communist ideology were gaining traction across the developing world.

Rusk urged the Atlanticists gathered before him to consolidate their organizations into a more effective institution within several weeks. By year's end, the Atlantic Council was born, with Acheson, Herter, and Lord among its leaders.

Sixty years later, and the United States and its allies are positioned at a similar inflection point in history, with even more complex challenges and perhaps even greater stakes.

The Atlantic Council that our founders created six decades ago has never been more robust, but the array of challenges we face has perhaps never been more daunting.

The task now is nothing less than stopping the erosion of the remarkable gains made since World War II and building upon them in a world where US global leadership is waning and China's influence is expanding. All of that injects even greater meaning and urgency into the Atlantic Council's mission of "shaping the global future together" with partners and allies.

Since its original conception, the Atlantic Council's mission hasn't dramatically changed. What has shifted has been the circumstances around us—and our vastly increased capabilities.

We are a family of intellectual entrepreneurs who are collegial in our interactions, optimistic in our conviction that we can make a difference, solutions-oriented in our approach, and determined to apply cutting-edge expertise to every aspect of our work.

Overall, the world is in a far better place than it was when the Atlantic Council was born in the aftermath of World War II and the early years of the Cold War—more democratic, more prosperous, more connected, and more collaborative. That said, the trajectory of the past few years is concerning, with democratic rights around the world in decline since 2006, according to Freedom House.

At the Atlantic Council, it is our conviction that it will take all the power of constructive US common cause alongside allies and partners to reverse these negative trends and shape a better future.

Join us in working together to achieve this imperative.





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