



Webster to serve as Senior Advisor to the Reagan Institute

On August 2, Keith was invited to serve as Senior Advisor to the Reagan Institute Task Force on 21st Century National Security Technology and Workforce. The commissioners, led by co-chairs Jim Talent and Bob Work, have been convening regularly over the last several months for briefings and deliberations across five study areas: Scoping the National Security Innovation Base; Competing in the 21st Century Technological Environment; Unleashing and Harnessing Private Sector Innovation; Cultivating the 21st Century NSIB Workforce; and Leveraging Alliances and Partnerships.

Advisory Board in the News: Thomas Callahan

On August 6, Defense News published an Op-Ed by DAEC Advisory Board member Thomas Callahan capturing the critical need for MTCR reform.

MTCR Engagement

On August 28, Chamber leadership submitted a letter to Hon. Pompeo, Hon. Ross, Hon. Esper, and Hon. Bolton urging them to take action to maintain American leadership in Unmanned Aerial Systems. The letter was well-received and responses have been coming in from the addressed, as well as other senior officials in the Administration to whom the letter was circulated. DAEC has had several subsequent meetings on the Hill to discuss next steps with the appropriate staffers and plans to convene a roundtable in the late fall to voice member concerns.

Roundtable with Lieutenant General O'Donohue



On September 20, DAEC hosted Lt. General O'Donohue, Director Joint Staff J7, for a discussion to promote a greater understanding of U.S. military requirements evolution over the past two decades of war with a goal of increasing interoperability and unity with Allied and partner forces. Defense Attachés from more than 15 countries participated in the closed-door discussion with members.

Return Expenses Paid and Yielded (REPAY) Act Letter

On September 24, DAEC sent a letter to the conferees for the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), opposing the inclusion in the conference report of H.R. 1033, the Return Expenses Paid and Yielded (REPAY) Act. The letter was written in concert with member priorities and guidance from partners in the Administration.

DAEC hosts Finland's Deputy National Armaments Director Tarja Jaakkola

On September 26, DAEC hosted Finland's Dep. NAD Tarja Jaakkola for a Chatham House discussion on the transatlantic defense trade and cooperative relationship today and tomorrow, the evolution of the defense technology industrial base both within the U.S. and the EU, and how best to advance transatlantic military industrial cooperation. Seeing as the presidency of the Council of the European Union is currently held by Finland, members took advantage of the opportunity to discuss the challenges to and opportunities for expanded transatlantic defense industrial cooperation.



State Department EDF/PESCO Industry Roundtable

On September 30, DAEC members participated in an industry roundtable at the State Department with Ambassador Tina Kaidanow and Deputy Assistant Secretary Julie Fisher. The roundtable provided an

opportunity for members to receive an update on EDF/PESCO discussions and to provide feedback to the officials on proposed strategies for increasing industry awareness on the issues and how best to work with new members of the EU commission.

Dinner with Secretary of Defense Mark Esper

On September 30, U.S. Chamber of Commerce CEO Tom Donohue met with Sec. Def. Mark Esper for dinner at the Pentagon. The off the record discussion was a chance to share ways in which industry can facilitate the department's implementation of the National Security Strategy and impediments to the relationship.

Young Disruptors Day (YDD)

On November 12, the Chamber will host NATO's Young Disruptors Day, a full-day event during the NATO Industry Forum. YDD gathers young leaders in the industry to explore and discuss how disruptive technologies, AI and Big Data can assist decision making and support innovation. Enterprises from US and EU will be demoing their technologies in an exhibition format while conducting discussions during various panel events throughout the day. The audience will include NATO leaders and NATO Industry Advisory Group (NIAG) executives. The outcomes of this daylong historic event will be used in the NATO Industry Forum (NIF) that will be held on 13-14 November in DC and hosted by the Honorable Ellen Lord, Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

Dinner with Bob Work and General David Petraeus

On December 10, DAEC will host Former Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work and General David Petraeus for a discussion on "Defense Debrief: What Private Equity Partners Need to Know" in New York City. This dinner is part of the Chamber's InSTEP series- the International Security Trade & Economic Platform- which was launched in 2010 and runs in DC, NYC, Boston, and San Francisco. It is a forum that brings together a select group of experts, executives, think tanks, media, former government officials and other thought leaders for a discussion on important global topics. We will announce more details soon.

Roundtable with Morten Tiller, Norwegian Deputy Secretary General

On January 28, DAEC will host Norwegian Deputy Secretary General Morten Tiller for a roundtable discussion with members on transatlantic military industrial cooperation. We will announce more details soon.