THE ASPEN SECURITY FORUM

For more than 60 years, the Aspen Institute has been the nation’s premier gathering place for diverse leaders from disparate disciplines around the globe to engage in deep dialogue on the ideas and issues that both shape our lives and challenge our times. The Institute’s mission is twofold: to foster values-based leadership, encouraging individuals to reflect on the ideals and ideas that define a good society, and to provide a neutral and balanced venue for discussing and acting on critical issues. The Institute offers, among other things, a host of programs for intellectually curious, civically engaged members of the general public.

A smarter planet is a more secure planet.

The digital instrumentation and global interconnection of our planet are generating a treasure trove of information. This data can help us tackle broad, systemic problems and inefficiencies that have vexed the world for decades—in areas ranging from traffic congestion and energy to food safety and healthcare. That holds enormous promise.

It also raises new challenges. By one estimate, the volume of created content will quintuple in the next two years—to more than 2.5 zettabytes. (A zettabyte is a 1 followed by 21 zeros.)

Further, the digital and physical infrastructures of our world are increasingly merging, infusing our power grids, banking systems, retail supply chains and city streets with intelligence. Are we now exposing them to the same risks as our Web sites?

While there is no “silver bullet” to completely protect such a vast, complex and dynamic reality, new, holistic approaches are succeeding in strengthening security across enterprises and critical infrastructures. The emerging “secure by design” model is based on how people, processes and technology come together in a unified system. It embeds protective measures and features at key points, and uses high-speed data analytics to help uncover threats before attackers launch them. It also enables multiple systems to work together to enhance the security and sustainability of the whole.

Across multiple industries and sectors of society, security is a key component of our planet’s vital systems. And those systems are shared—and shaped—by businesses, cities, government agencies and communities. Which means that, as these systems get smarter, we all have the collective responsibility to also make them secure and reliable. Fortunately, this is a future we can have—if we come together with forethought to design security and privacy for a smarter planet.

Let’s build a Smarter Planet. Join us and see what others are doing at ibm.com/smarterplanet
CERTAINLY, America’s killing of Osama bin Laden is a huge victory in the war against Al Qaeda. That he was brought to justice before the iconic 10th anniversary of 9/11, and amid an “Arab Spring” that is revolutionizing the Mideast through peaceful, secular and democratic means, make the moment all the sweeter.

But, in the words of no less an authority than C.I.A. Director Leon Panetta, “bin Laden is dead, but Al Qaeda is not.” Al Qaeda remains, and more important, bin Ladenism, the idea that he sparked, is very much alive. If anything, the threat of attacks on our homeland is likely to rise, at least in the short term, as bin Laden’s followers feel obliged to avenge his killing and to prove their continued potency and relevance.

In the wake of bin Laden’s death, policymakers and average citizens alike are rightly asking fundamental questions like:

- Is this simply a stunning tactical victory against Al Qaeda, or also a strategic one, a turning point leading to the day when terrorism is again a criminal concern rather than a mortal threat?
- If Al Qaeda’s headquarters and most of its leaders are now in Pakistan, why do we have 100,000 troops next door in Afghanistan, and isn’t it time for them to come home?
- Is Pakistan friend or foe?
- Who will succeed bin Laden as the head of “Al Qaeda Central,” and are its affiliates — especially the one in Yemen, “Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula,” which has been linked to plot after plot in recent months — the greater danger now?
- Ten years after 9/11, is America better prepared to detect, defend against, and recover from terror attacks?
- What accounts for the recent rise in incidents of homegrown terrorism; what can be done to counter this threat; and is it an even greater threat nowadays than that from foreign terrorists?
- What is the optimal balance between security and liberty, and between hysteria and complacency?
- Is countering terrorism solely the job of government, or does each of us have at least some role to play?

To answer these and other critical questions as we ap-

The Aspen Security Forum brings to Aspen each summer top-level present and former government officials; industry leaders; leading thinkers in academia and think tanks; noted print and broadcast journalists; and concerned citizens to discuss and debate the major issues of the day in the field of homeland security and counterterrorism. In sessions moderated by such journalists, single speakers or panelists will explore various aspects of aviation security; maritime security; border security; mass transit security; critical infrastructure protection and “soft targets” security; cyber-security; counterterrorism strategy; and more over three days in one of the nation’s most enchanting meeting spots.

Notable speakers confirmed to date include Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano; Transportation Security Administration Administrator John Pistole; Assistant to the President and Deputy National Security Adviser for Iraq and Afghanistan General Douglas Lute; Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs Paul Stockton; Admiral Eric Olson, Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command; State Department Coordinator for Counterterrorism Ambassador-at-Large Daniel Benjamin; Terrorist Screening Center Director Timothy Healy; former National Security Adviser Stephen Hadley; former Attorney General and White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales; former Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff; former Director of National Intelligence Admiral Dennis Blair; former Central Intelligence Agency and National Security Agency Director General Michael Hayden; former Acting and Deputy Central Intelligence Agency Director John McLaughlin; former White House Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Adviser Fran Townsend; former CIA official and State Department Coordinator for Counterterrorism Ambassador Cofer Black; former CIA official and State Department Coordinator for Counterterrorism Ambassador Hank Crumpton; former CIA officials Gary Berntsen and Barbara Sude; former 911 Commissioner Richard Ben-Veniste; former Los Angeles Police Chief (and New York City Police Commissioner) Bill Bratton; former Deputy National Security Adviser for Combating Terrorism Juan Carlos Zarate; former Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Stuart Levey; Pakistani Ambassador to the United States Husain Haqqani; Afghan Ambassador to the United States Eklil Hakimi; former Yemeni Ambassador to the United Nations Abdullah Alsaied; United Nations’ Monitor for the Taliban and Al Qaeda Richard Barrett; and European Union’s Coordinator for Counterterrorism Gilles de Kerchove. The conversations will be moderated by journalists from ABC News; Associated Press; CBS News; NBC News and MSNBC; CNN; Fox News; National Public Radio; Bloomberg; Al-Jazeera; The New York Times, USA Today, Newsweek, and others.

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Times; The Washington Post; USA Today; The Washington Times; Congressional Quarterly; Foreign Policy; Time; Slate; Fortune; Politico; The New Yorker; and Wired.

The Oscar-nominated documentary “Killing in the Name”, a film about terror victims and their survivors confronting terrorists, will be screened, and a panel of terrorism experts — the Council on Foreign Relations’ Steven Simon; CNN’s and the New America Foundation’s Peter Bergen; and MSNBC’s and Flashpoint Global Partners’ Evan Kohlmann — will discuss the film and its implications, along with the film’s executive producer, Carie Lemack, co-founder of the Global Survivors Network, and the daughter of a 9/11 victim.

Just one year old, the Aspen Security Forum has already become the nation’s premier gathering of homeland security/counterterrorism experts and devotees. Attendees will listen to, and then participate in, a series of riveting and thoughtful conversations about the most pressing issue of our time — keeping our country safe in the age of terror — while finding common ground across the divides of party and ideology. Chance encounters with key decision makers and informal gatherings with top thought leaders on the campus of Aspen Meadows, at breaks, over meals and during long walks, will help to cement existing relationships and build new ones. Consensus will build around new and existing approaches, with the aim of making us all as safe as we can be in this volatile and turbulent post-9/11 world.

For more information and to register, please visit www.aspensecurityforum.org

Proud to sponsor a terrorist’s worst nightmare.

The objective of everyone attending the 2011 Aspen Security Forum, July 27-30, is to ensure that those who threaten our society never sleep easy.

i2 shares this objective. Which is why we’re sponsoring the Aspen Security Forum.

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