8:15 AM  | Arrival

9:00 AM  | Welcome to the Forum
Kenneth R. Weinstein, Chairman, Broadcasting Board of Governors and President and CEO, Hudson Institute

9:10 AM  | Opening Keynote – Why Media for Democracy, and Why Now?
Alec Ross, Technology Policy Expert, Innovator and Author

9:45 AM  | Panel 1 – New and Emerging Threats to Media Freedom: What’s Next?
Technology and media have never been more intertwined. Despite so much potential and promise for access to information, the number of countries where journalists can operate freely is declining and press freedom indices are backsliding. This panel will explore what is happening to freedom of expression around the world and online, what it means for democracy and what we can do to reverse these trends.

Amanda Bennett, Director, Voice of America
Libby Liu, President, Radio Free Asia
Sarah Repucci, Senior Director for Research and Analysis, Freedom House
Arturo Filastò, Founder, Open Observatory of Network Interference
Christopher Walker, Vice President, National Endowment for Democracy

Moderator: Shawn Powers, Acting Chief Strategy Officer, U.S. Agency for Global Media

11:00–11:15 AM  | Coffee Break and Networking

11:15 AM  | Panel 2 – Networks of Destruction: Disinformation and its Discontents
This panel will explore dis-, mis-, and mal-information and the ways propaganda works in the digital age. We will discuss strategies for transparent storytelling in the age of disinformation to show how institutions can build trust with audiences, which is crucial in an era where people question what they see and hear. The panelists will pay particular attention to the Kremlin’s efforts to distort the free internet space and the latest electoral campaign in Ukraine.

Introduction: Franak Viačorka, Digital Media Strategist, U.S. Agency for Global Media
Simon Ostrovsky, Journalist and Filmmaker, Coda Story
Peter Pomerantsev, Senior Fellow London School of Economics, Director of Arena Initiative
Natalia Sedletská, Author and Host, RFE/RL investigative TV show “Schemes”

Moderator: Melinda Haring, Editor of UkraineAlert at The Atlantic Council

12:30 PM  | Lunch, Networking
1:15 PM | **Keynotes – Re-Engaging in the Information Battlefield**  
John F. Lansing, Chief Executive Officer and Director, U.S. Agency for Global Media  
The Honorable Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX)

1:45 PM | **Panel 3 – Machined Media: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Journalism**  
Panelists from across government and the private sector will discuss how artificial intelligence (AI) and other advanced technologies can and will impact the future media landscape. Discussions will include the role of AI in making content smarter and more engaging, the use of machine learning and other techniques to craft and implement creative strategies to reach audiences, and the proliferation of next generation “deepfakes” and machine-generated content.  
Sameena Shah, Managing Director, Head of Data Science, S&P Global Ratings  
Shamir Allibhai, CEO, Amber Video and Founder, Simon Says  
Mike Pritchard, White House Presidential Innovation Fellow  
Phil Anderson, Data Scientist, U.S. Department of State  
Nicole Martin, Contributor, Forbes and Owner, NR Digital Consulting  
Moderator: Makena Kelly, Policy Reporter, The Verge

3:00-3:15 PM | **Coffee Break and Networking**

3:15 PM | **Panel 4 – Re-imagining Journalism: Storytelling for Civic Engagement**  
From Iran’s green revolution to the Arab Spring, media and technology are no longer simply used to cover social change; they are fundamentally intertwined with how events unfold. Emerging technologies and new forms of storytelling are fundamentally creating new pathways for civic engagement.  
Robert Hernandez, USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism  
Andreas Giefer, Coordinator, Deutsche Welle Lab  
Emma Lacey-Bordeaux, D.C. Editor, The Row at CNN  
Thaer Soukar, Director of Digital Content, Middle East Broadcasting Networks  
Moderator: Rami Khater, Chief Technology Officer and Director of Research, U.S. Agency for Global Media

4:30 PM: | **Closing Keynotes – Key Challenges and Next Steps**  
Steve Capus, Former President, NBC News and Former Executive Editor and Producer, CBS News  
The Honorable Congressman Chris Stewart (R-UT)