



Innovation and Technology Business Council

The Innovation and Technology Business Council (ITBC) within the International Trade Council serves as a beacon for pioneering advancements and technological evolution across the landscape of international trade. Recognizing that innovation is the bedrock of progress and that technology continuously reshapes the contours of commerce, the council fosters an ecosystem where businesses, tech visionaries, researchers, and policymakers converge to navigate the future of global trade.

LEADERSHIP

Chairperson:

- ◉ Brad Price, CEO, [KarbonPay](#) [[LinkedIn](#)]

Deputy Chairperson:

- ◉ Lijie Zhu, Managing Director, [Dragon Gate Investment Partners](#) [[LinkedIn](#)]

Board Members:

- ◉ Fatih Hastürk, General Manager, [Yaz Bilgi Sistemleri ve Ticaret A.Ş.](#) [[LinkedIn](#)]
- ◉ Niels Boje Lund, GP, [NB United](#) [[LinkedIn](#)]
- ◉ Olev Schults, Principal / Owner, [AS Cresco Väärtpaberid](#) ([Cresco Securities](#))
- ◉ Ariel Popper, CEO, Approach Ventures [[LinkedIn](#)]

AREAS OF FOCUS

- » **Emerging Technologies:** The council actively tracks and evaluates nascent technologies like blockchain, AI, quantum computing, and IoT, gauging their potential impacts and opportunities within international trade frameworks.
- » **Digital Transformation:** ITBC promotes the digitalization of trade processes, emphasizing the need for businesses to integrate digital tools, platforms, and solutions to enhance efficiency, scalability, and competitiveness.
- » **Innovation Ecosystems:** The council advocates for creating robust ecosystems that nurture innovation, from incubators and accelerators to partnerships between academia and industry.
- » **Regulatory Landscape:** As technology evolves, so does its regulatory framework. The council provides insights on global tech regulations, intellectual property rights, and standards, ensuring members remain compliant and informed.
- » **Cybersecurity:** In an increasingly connected trade environment, cybersecurity becomes paramount. The council emphasizes best practices, tools, and strategies to safeguard data and digital assets.
- » **Sustainable Technologies:** With the global emphasis on sustainability, the council explores tech solutions that promote environmental responsibility and sustainable growth in trade operations.
- » **Tech-Driven Supply Chains:** Recognizing the pivotal role of technology in modern supply chains, the council delves into innovations that streamline, optimize, and make supply chains more transparent.
- » **Research and Development:** The ITBC actively encourages R&D initiatives, fostering collaborations between tech firms, research institutions, and businesses to drive technological advancements in trade.
- » **Skill Development:** The rapidly changing tech landscape necessitates continuous learning. The council champions programs and initiatives that upskill professionals in the latest technologies and innovative methodologies.
- » **Networking and Collaboration:** The council provides platforms for tech innovators, businesses, and stakeholders to interact, share insights, and forge partnerships that drive technological progress in international trade.

ABOUT BUSINESS COUNCILS

A business council, within the framework of the International Trade Council, is an assemblage of volunteer professionals, possessing deep industry knowledge and expertise. They collaborate to shape the Council's research, education, networking, and outreach initiatives, thereby ensuring their relevance to the current global business climate.

These industry experts meet regularly, whether in-person or virtually, to propose and guide the Council's research undertakings. They examine industry trends, scrutinize emerging markets, and explore technological advancements, providing valuable insights that the Council transforms into action-oriented research projects.

The business council acts as an advisory board, contributing to the development of educational resources tailored to the needs of businesses operating in international markets. They bring their firsthand experience to the fore, identifying the critical competencies necessary for success and helping devise educational programs that equip members with those skills.

In addition, the council facilitates networking events and initiatives, creating opportunities for members to connect, collaborate, and forge strategic partnerships. They also play a crucial role in driving the Council's outreach programs, reaching out to potential members, sharing the Council's mission, and amplifying its impact across the global business community.

Moreover, business councils provide a forum for discussion, enabling the exchange of ideas, fostering innovation, and promoting best practices within their respective industries. They also help bridge the gap between industry and government, advocating for business-friendly policies and voicing industry concerns to policymakers.

Lastly, the business councils play a pivotal role in the International Trade Council's mission to support and promote international trade. Through their collective knowledge, experience, and guidance, they contribute to creating an environment where businesses can thrive in the global marketplace.

Information Site: tradecouncil.org

Member Portal: tradecouncil.net

Go Global Awards: goblobalawards.org

Business Confidence Survey: businessconfidence.org

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The International Trade Council 

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INTERNATIONAL
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An international, peak-body, chamber of commerce