

COMMON GROUND COMMITTEE PUBLIC FORUM

Finding Common Ground For Economic Opportunity In the Trump Era

PERSPECTIVES ON	Left	COMMON GROUND	Right
Jobs & Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invest in infrastructure projects Raise the minimum wage Encourage higher labor standards globally Promote legislation to bolster the middle class 	<p>Trade deals are good, but they all hurt the same set of low skilled workers. They need to include help for those who the deal hurts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower tax rates to encourage business and employment growth (“free market capitalism”) Maintain federal minimum wage; let states determine their levels Stimulate small-business job growth by reducing barriers to start and build businesses Privatize infrastructure
Economic Opportunity and the Social Safety Net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shore-up Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid Improve ACA Move toward single-payer Invest in education / retraining; reduce or eliminate college tuition and debt Legislate equal pay 	<p>People need not only financial income but “psychic income”.</p> <p>Good policy needs to compensate those who lose because of it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase minimum Social Security eligibility age Replace ACA with system of healthcare tax vouchers Reduce funding for public education; offer school vouchers; encourage enrollment in charter schools Let free markets work

COMMON GROUND COMMITTEE PUBLIC FORUM

Finding Common Ground For Economic Opportunity In the Trump Era

PERSPECTIVES ON	Left	COMMON GROUND	Right
Taxes and Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the tax code more progressive to reduce income inequality • Enforce existing banking regulations • Institute regulations that protect against climate change. 	<p>President Obama’s rule restricting “corporate inversions” – the practice of incorporating otherwise American companies overseas in low-tax havens to avoid taxes – was helpful</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower taxes for individuals and businesses to stimulate growth • Rollback regulations that constrain business growth. • Environmental regulations should consider risk / reward.
Immigration in an Era of Globalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make DACA law • Trade agreements that support US workers 	<p>We don’t want people living in this country who have no intention or means to become citizens</p> <p>Passing DACA is a matter of fairness, not economics. Dreamers have very little impact on the economy in total</p> <p>DACA is a good opportunity for Congress to find common ground to get other things done</p> <p>NATO allies need to pay more of their fair share for their defense</p> <p>UN dues need to be better spent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure the borders • Trade agreements that boost US companies

COMMON GROUND COMMITTEE PUBLIC FORUM

Finding Common Ground For Economic Opportunity In the Trump Era

PERSPECTIVES ON	COMMON GROUND
<p>Citizen Participation in Political Discourse and Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governing in American democracy is designed to be hard. It's not "gridlock." • We need civil disagreements to refine the best laws and find where the common ground is • With government, results come slowly • The problem with media in the 21st Century is the Internet. Since anybody can get access to a mass audience and because there are no more filters and limited fact checking, one must seek three sources and other means in order to ensure information accuracy • The media doesn't cover the good things that the government does • Everyone in politics wishes they didn't have to raise money • The argument that people should be protected from opposing opinions is a problem • The problem with internet media isn't new; politicians (e.g. FDR and his "fireside chats" have always used new media to go directly to voters and circumvent editors. • Protests are fine, but useless if they don't lead to political action • Voters are those who vote in final elections but not primaries are making a mistake. More mainstream voters need to take part in primaries. Otherwise people at the extremes of the political spectrum will get elected. This is an issue with both parties. • Voters need to vote out obstructionists

COMMON GROUND COMMITTEE PUBLIC FORUM

Finding Common Ground For Economic Opportunity In the Trump Era



COMMON GROUND COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

*TO PURSUE INITIATIVES THAT WILL REVEAL COMMON GROUND
FOR FINDING TRUTH, CLARITY, UNDERSTANDING, AND PROGRESS
ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE IN A CIVIL MANNER THAT DOES NOT
REQUIRE COMPROMISE OF FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.*