

FREEDOM'S CHAMPION

SUMMER 2020

Atlas Network's quarterly review of
the worldwide freedom movement

ATLAS NETWORK'S COVID-19 PARTNER RESPONSE FUND

ALUMNI IN FOCUS FROM SEED FUNDING TO POLICY CHANGE

By Anthea Haryoko

SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT GEORGE AND MARILYN PEARSON

WARTIME HAYEKIANISM

By Johan Norberg

THE 2020 REGIONAL LIBERTY FORUMS ONLINE

ATLAS
NETWORK



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Cover: A woman opens her shop amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Photo / Ketut Subiyanto.

MISSION

Atlas Network increases global prosperity by strengthening a network of independent partner organizations that promote individual freedom and are committed to identifying and removing barriers to human flourishing.

VISION

Our vision is of a free, prosperous, and peaceful world where the principles of individual liberty, property rights, limited government, and free markets are secured by the rule of law.

STRATEGY

Atlas Network cultivates a network of partners that share this vision. To accelerate the pace of achievement by our partners in their local communities, Atlas Network's unique "Coach, Compete, Celebrate!" strategic model inspires our partners to improve performance and achieve extraordinary outcomes.

Coach

Atlas Network provides world-class seminars, workshops, mentoring, and other learning opportunities that inspire professionalism and build community among our independent partners.

Compete

Atlas Network offers grant and prize competitions that fuel our partners' efforts to develop, innovate, and succeed.

Celebrate

Atlas Network fosters camaraderie and stokes ambitions among our partners by celebrating their greatest accomplishments through events and media outreach.



Atlas Network has been a four-star Charity Navigator member since 2008.



Atlas Network is a GuideStar Exchange Platinum-Level Participant.



Atlas Network's donation payment processor is certified to PCI Service Provider Level 1, the most stringent level of certification available.

FREEDOM'S CHAMPION

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PIVOTING IN TIMES OF CRISIS

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

PIVOTING IN TIMES OF CRISIS



As we go to press, our world is creeping back toward normalcy after the tremendous disruptions of COVID-19. There remains a great deal we do not know about how to contain this disease, but one of the clear lessons we learned is that top-down mandates should be made sparingly. Letting free individuals take responsibility for navigating risks and trade-offs should be our default presumption as the best way to solve problems.

Across the U.S. and around the world, Atlas Network's independent partners moved quickly to remove bureaucratic roadblocks that stood in the way of getting health care where it was needed, to block power grabs by governments, and to prepare the way for a much-needed economic rebound by unleashing the forces of free enterprise.

A microcosm of this can be found within our team. Behavioral norms changed as we began working from home. We discovered new ways of engaging our partners. As I look back on a very unusual Spring, I'm filled with pride about how the Atlas Network team has pivoted:

We've hosted four major online international conferences in eight weeks. It was sad to cancel the Liberty Forums we usually hold in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America, but the online turnout and engagement has been amazing!

As I look back on a very unusual Spring, I'm filled with pride about how the Atlas Network team has pivoted.

We launched new media products, including our "Talks with Tom" series of live interviews with Dr. Tom G. Palmer, our Upward Globility YouTube series, and our new AtlasNexus podcast, which explores the challenges our partners face. Check it all out at AtlasNetwork.org!

We started the COVID-19 Partner Response Fund, to which our donor community has generously rallied. Thanks to our donors, we've funded more than two dozen crisis response projects with more than \$500,000.

2020 is presenting unique and heart-wrenching challenges for the free society we cherish. It is incumbent on Atlas Network and our partners to show how our principles create more resilient communities, and how we are dedicated to ensuring the freedom and equality before the law for all people. You make our work possible, and I am humbled by your encouragement and your support as we work together towards a more peaceful and prosperous world.

Brad
Brad Lips
Chief Executive Officer
Atlas Network



Photo / Anna Shvets

THE CENTER FOR INDONESIAN POLICY STUDIES

Protectionist trade policies have led to significant food insecurity across Indonesia—and the pandemic has only heightened the problem, as new restrictions to control the spread of the disease have put immense pressure on the country’s supply chains. The Center for Indonesian Policy Studies’ leadership on rice imports and other agricultural policy has helped to break down barriers for the private sector, and now, their efforts during the pandemic are helping to mitigate food supply disruptions. To complicate matters, foreign direct investment is expected to fall as much as 40 percent, creating additional barriers to job creation and prosperity. CIPS’ project “Keeping Markets Open: Fighting the Harmful Myth of Self-Sufficiency” is addressing the harmful global trend towards national self-sufficiency in strategic goods, which threatens to prevent or delay a speedy recovery.

As the COVID-19 lockdown began, CIPS’ research team launched a series of seven policy papers that carry specific recommendations on domestic food subsidies, digital consumer rights, supply chain disruptions, and regulatory mandates that impede foreign investment. With as many

as 45 million students displaced by social distancing, the educational needs created by distance learning present new challenges for local schools, so CIPS responded with suggestions that address uneven access to the internet, disparities in teacher quality, and growing opportunities for public-private educational partnerships.

To reach leveraged audiences with their research, CIPS started a well-attended webinar series that has drawn hundreds of viewers, including a significant number of legislators who are actively engaged in relevant public policy development, and began publishing an online policy update that reaches thousands of readers in Indonesia and around the world.

One of the challenges of outreach is ensuring that your work is having an impact among targeted audiences, particularly in government and media. CIPS is tracking trends in Indonesian media, monitoring issues related to their efforts and enabling the organization to constantly improve the relevance of their policy briefs, op-eds, and webinars. The organization’s main objective is to prevent harmful protectionist policies to come into or remain in effect.

CIPS’ efforts during the pandemic are helping to mitigate food supply disruptions.

ATLAS NETWORK’S COVID-19 PARTNER RESPONSE FUND

As 2020 dawned, no one would have anticipated or predicted that a global pandemic would bring the economy at all levels to a screeching halt within the next three months. The world changed quickly, and Atlas Network’s partner organizations in 98 countries responded to the challenges of prioritizing health and safety while respecting human freedom and dignity.

In an op-ed that appeared in *CapX*, Atlas Network’s Dr. Tom G. Palmer and Simon Lee of *Apple Daily* wrote that a crisis must not be an occasion for implementing dictatorship. “As we struggle against the viral pandemic, we must not succumb to the authoritarian pandemic,” they wrote. “They are both deadly.”

To reinforce the efforts of our partners as they combat the potential for authoritarian pandemics around the world,

Atlas Network launched the **COVID-19 Partner Response Fund**, which illustrates the resilience and effectiveness of our global network as they develop strategic projects that yield important returns for liberty.

As we struggle against the viral pandemic, we must not succumb to the authoritarian pandemic. They are both deadly.

Currently, twenty-five projects have received Atlas Network grants in support of journalism and media, legislative outreach, and research that highlights specific recommendations for deregulation, tax cuts, and other means to help jumpstart faltering economies.

↑ Top: As the COVID-19 lockdown began, CIPS’ research team launched a series of seven policy papers that carry specific recommendations on domestic food subsidies, digital consumer rights, supply chain disruptions, and regulatory mandates that impede foreign investment.

→ Right: CIPS started a well-attended webinar series that has drawn hundreds of viewers, including a significant number of legislators who are actively engaged in relevant public policy development.

THE INITIAL COVID-19 PARTNER RESPONSE GRANT COHORT

FUNDACIÓN LIBERTAD

ARGENTINA

HEaL Index (Health, Economy and Liberty)—An Observatory for the Argentine Provinces and interactive map will show health and sanitary indicators for each province and assess the economic and legal consequences of public policies on civil liberties, healthcare, and other recovery strategies.



FUNDACIÓN ELÉUTERA

HONDURAS

Lessons from a Temporary Situation: Leaving with Permanent Solutions will target labor reforms that support small businesses, shift government processes online, and streamline medical technology registrations through social media campaigns, webinars, and policy briefings with lawmakers.



CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT & ENTERPRISES

BURUNDI

Kanguka “Wake-Up” Campaign will educate legislators, entrepreneurs, activists, and voters (2020 is an election year in Burundi) on the need for public health policy reform and the relaxation of regulatory constraints on free enterprise. Their work has already contributed to the opening of the border for goods between Burundi and Rwanda and between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

INDIA

Free to Sell: Farmpreneurs’ Access to Cities in Times of COVID-19 will fight regulations that force farmers to dump their produce by identifying regulatory barriers to sale and transport and will recommend reform opportunities.



↑ Top: Centre for Civil Society organized Tweet chat with topic “Going Local? Trade in Times of Crisis.”

FREE MARKET FOUNDATION

HUNGARY

No Stone Unturned will re-establish investigative journalism in Hungary through workshops that help journalists build their skills and understand their rights.



LITHUANIAN FREE MARKET INSTITUTE

LITHUANIA

#Laissez-faire Lithuania will provide an economic deregulation package that empowers the private sector and initiates a systemic revision of regulatory policy designed to prevent government overreach during the crisis.



BENDUKIDZE FREE MARKET CENTER

UKRAINE

Liberty Matters will use video and awards to help the Ukrainian public develop an informed opinion on measures taken by the private sector to facilitate the government’s response to the economic crisis.



MÉXICO EVALÚA

MEXICO

Less and Smarter Regulation to Face COVID-19 in Mexico will expose the inefficiency of government regulations, highlighting the importance of regulatory adaptations, simplifying administrative processes as they relate to crisis management, and establishing mechanisms to facilitate the reopening of the economy after the crisis.



FUNDACIÓN PARA EL AVANCE DE LA LIBERTAD

SPAIN

Healthcare Saves Lives Initiative will push for urgent deregulation, tax cuts, and advocacy for the healthcare industry in Spain, where the COVID-19 crisis has encouraged the Spanish government’s pursuance of healthcare nationalization.



INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

MALAYSIA

Malaysia’s COVID-19 Response will produce a series of webinars, infographics, opinion articles, and policy briefs to build consensus for a liberal “exit strategy” that brings the economy back online, a recovery plan that enables the private sector to expand more quickly, and a campaign to educate the government and the public on the need to avoid regulatory barriers that impede growth.



BETTER CITIES PROJECT

UNITED STATES

Getting Back to Work: A Policy Playbook for Local Government will develop and distribute a playbook of immediately implementable public policies to jumpstart local economies. Better Cities Project aims to have 75 cities adopt at least one of their recommendations in the next 12 months.



→ Right: Better Cities Project ad for *Getting Back to Work: A Policy Playbook*.

THIS QUARTER IN

WORLD 10

The best of Atlas Network's monthly World10 Report. Subscribe at AtlasNetwork.org/World10

01

PALMETTO PROMISE INSTITUTE HELPS ROLL BACK CERTIFICATE OF NEED REQUIREMENTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Executive Order No. 2020-11, section 4, which temporarily suspends certificate of need requirements for hospital beds in South Carolina, was signed in March by Governor Henry McMaster, opening the doors for hospitals to purchase and receive beds much faster without having to worry about the lengthy and unpredictable process of requesting a state certificate. In January, Palmetto Promise Institute, an Atlas Network partner in South Carolina, produced the Healthcare Freedom Agenda, a report with concrete recommendations for reform that specified repealing unnecessary government obstacles to healthcare access, including certificate of need requirements, and providing lower costs for care across the state.



A TASTE OF TRADITION IN LITHUANIA

More than 100,000 Lithuanians currently benefit from simple licenses that make small business ownership easier—but these simple licenses are under threat. The story of the Lithuanian Free Market Institute's efforts to defend this legal gateway out of the shadow economy is online at PovertyandFreedom.org.



03

OPEN MARKETS ARE THE BEST ANTIDOTE AGAINST THE COVID-19 CRISIS

In an op-ed for Atlas Network, Center for Indonesian Policy Studies (CIPS) Executive Director Rainer Heufers looks at the benefits of open trade as the best way to avoid food insecurity, particularly in a time of crisis. As a result of CIPS' efforts, the Ministry of Trade is implementing Regulation 27/2020, which allows garlic and onion imports to enter the country without an import license letter. In April, Indonesian President Joko Widodo implemented new regulations to expedite the import process for food, raw materials, and other strategic items.

THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT: ITS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Whether you are new to the freedom movement or a long-time fellow traveler, you'll find insights in this monograph on Atlas Network's worldwide project to protect and enhance the freedom of others. From his perspective of twenty years with Atlas Network—which serves as a hub for more than 500 organizations in the U.S. and nearly 100 other countries—Brad Lips provides analysis of the freedom movement's past, shares statistics about its present, and asks questions that will determine its future. For English and Spanish versions of the book, please visit: AtlasNetwork.org/page/the-freedom-movement.

04



05

IMANI DOCUMENTARY SHOWS THE POVERTY-SOLVING POWER OF OPPORTUNITY IN GHANA

A new documentary produced by IMANI Center for Policy and Education reveals how the opportunity to start a small business offers a sustainable path out of poverty. The premiere of the 30-minute documentary was accompanied by the launch of an exhibition of photographs depicting different dimensions of poverty and unemployment.

06

BRINGING TRANSPARENCY TO CHILE'S VAT SYSTEM

Through videos and media outreach, Fundación Plensa made the case for value-added tax (VAT) transparency to business leaders, student activists, and other influential leaders—and calls for reform forced the government to act. A new law requiring every retail receipt in Chile to display the associated VAT on each product purchased will go into effect in August.



TUNE IN TO ATLASNEXUS, OUR NEW PODCAST!

AtlasNexus showcases the work of incredible freedom champions who are changing lives around the world by strengthening their communities, empowering individuals, and advocating for classical liberalism. Hear the latest Tuesdays at 12 p.m. ET on your favorite podcast channels or at AtlasNetwork.org.

07

08

COMMONWEALTH FOUNDATION RESHAPES THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth Foundation's "The Fighting Chance Philly" initiative has led to the passage of two new laws which are designed to reduce prison time for non-violent misdemeanor offenders, eliminate the stigma of former non-violent offenders, reduce a backlog in parole, and provide better services to local probation departments. Commonwealth fought for change through a media blitz, leveraging a variety of platforms in order to build local support for restructuring the state's criminal justice policy. The law sealing criminal records for non-violent misdemeanors to aid in employment and prevent recidivism is the first of its kind in the nation.



MATT WARNER ON THE EDITORS PODCAST

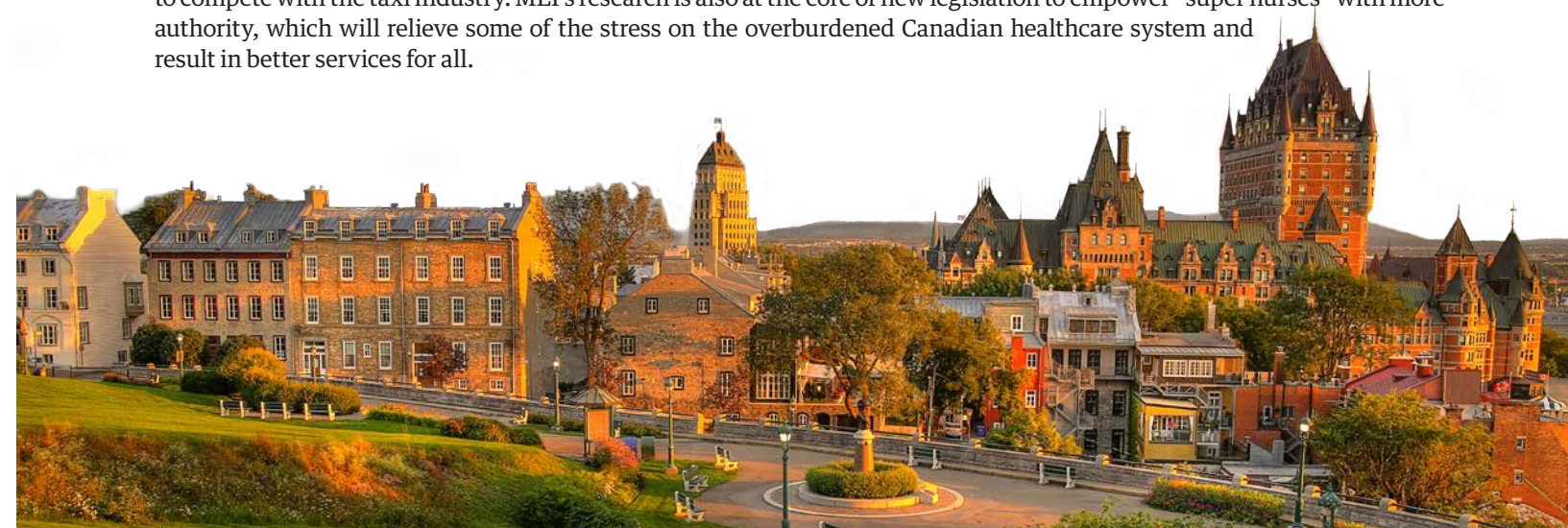
On *The Editors*, a *National Review* podcast, Atlas Network's Matt Warner and Rich Lowry, Editor of *National Review*, discuss the ways economic freedom leads to less poverty, what Jeffrey Sachs gets wrong, and new opportunities for individuals in the developing world.

09

10

MONTREAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTE PROMOTES TAXI DEREGULATION AND HEALTHCARE REFORM IN QUEBEC

Montreal Economic Institute (MEI) was instrumental in advancing legislation to make it easier for rideshare entrepreneurs to compete with the taxi industry. MEI's research is also at the core of new legislation to empower "super nurses" with more authority, which will relieve some of the stress on the overburdened Canadian healthcare system and result in better services for all.



GEORGE AND MARILYN PEARSON



George Pearson served for many years on the Board of Atlas Network, and he and his wife Marilyn are longtime supporters of Atlas Network. Our Strategic Partnerships Advisor, Vale Sloane, recently interviewed George about his experience with the early freedom movement and with Atlas Network.

Vale Sloane: George, you have witnessed the full evolution of our history. What were the early days of Atlas Network like?

George Pearson: Because I had met Antony Fisher before Atlas was “Atlas,” I was aware of Atlas from its very beginning. From the start I knew some of the people who were involved in Atlas including Alex Chafuen and Walter Grinder, who was an early Board member. Both are alumni of Grove City College as am I. John Blundell was on the Board. Since 1974 John and I had been working together on an Institute for Humane Studies initiative to revive Austrian Economics.

When I left Koch in 1992, I wanted to remain involved in the freedom movement and was happy to accept Atlas’ invitation to be on the Board. At that time Atlas was still a small organization. I remember being given an Atlas T-shirt which I still have. The T-shirt had a map of the world with dots on major cities where Atlas had held “international workshops”—16 by 1991. Atlas later updated the map on a coffee mug. By 1993 Atlas had held 20 international workshops. During its first decade Atlas had started a grants program to provide resources to start-up think tanks. It’s also worth noting that Atlas’s worldwide network consisted of 40 institutes when Sir Antony died in 1988.

In the early 90s we had good Board meetings but not active Board committees. As Atlas grew under Alex’s leadership,

we began adding Board Committees which resulted in greater Board participation. One of the early committees was a Grants Committee which engaged the Board in knowing more about Atlas grants and the organizations that we were giving to. We also created a Board Affairs Committee to help us build a Board that could provide resources and guidance for a growing organization. These two committees and other new committees were opportunities for Board members to engage and they did.

Atlas was fortunate to have two freedom movement icons—Alex Chafuen and Leonard Liggio. Later Atlas added a third movement icon—Tom Palmer. The challenge then was to develop a support system to leverage the unique abilities and extensive contacts of these three. Brad Lips stepped up to meet that challenge. Matt Warner soon returned to Atlas and the two of them have built and continue to build a dynamic organization with a talented and productive team.

With a strong team emerging, the Board under Dan Grossman’s leadership committed to making Atlas and the Atlas Board an exemplary model for Atlas partners to emulate. Atlas’ trajectory is good, and its future is promising. Our confidence in Atlas Network’s current success and its anticipated growth is why Marilyn and I make annual gifts and have become legacy donors.

Vale: And what were the early days of the freedom movement like for you?

George: When I was a freshman at Grove City College, I took an economics course from Hans Sennholz. Our textbook the first semester was *Principles of Economics* by Carl Menger and our textbook the second semester was *Socialism* by

Atlas’ trajectory is good, and its future is promising. Our confidence in Atlas Network’s current success and its anticipated growth is why we support it.



↑ Top: George, Marilyn, their grandson Dexter, and his girlfriend Abigail at Atlas Network’s 2018 Freedom Dinner.
← Left: George and Marilyn Pearson.

Ludwig von Mises. My senior year Dr. Sennholz arranged for a few of his economics majors to attend a weekend seminar at the Foundation for Economic Education. I still remember that as I was headed home after attending the sessions and meeting the FEE staff, I decided that I wanted to actively advance the cause of freedom. A year later Dr. Sennholz took me with him to a weekend seminar in Wichita, Kansas where I met Charles Koch. That eventually led to employment at the Fred C. Koch Foundation and achieving my goal of working in the freedom movement.

In 1973 Charles Koch chaired the Board of the Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) when Baldy Harper died unexpectedly. I served as Vice President and became much more involved. Without the breadth of Harper’s interdisciplinary knowledge but with the counsel of Murray Rothbard and Leonard Liggio, the Institute’s main effort focused on reviving Austrian Economics. This effort was given a big boost when Friedrich Hayek won the Nobel Prize in 1974 and Hayek spent some time in residence at IHS. The effort got another boost when Ludwig Lachmann joined Israel Kirzner on the economics faculty at New York University.

In 1977 Charles Koch and Ed Crane launched the Cato Institute and I was fortunate to be one of the founding directors as we struggled to find the right course for Cato to pursue. In the 80s most of my time was devoted to corporate matters of Koch Industries. When I retired from Koch, I was able to again devote more attention to the freedom movement and I joined the Atlas Board in 1991.

In 1996, along with two other members of the Veritas Foundation board, we transitioned Veritas into what today is the Kansas Policy Institute (KPI). In the last 11 years under the leadership of David Trabert KPI has flourished. Like many other state think tanks, KPI has added tools to give its policy work more impact. Those tools include the Kansas Justice Institute and the Sentinel which is KPI’s own news outlet.

Marilyn Pearson: I grew up on a farm in Kansas and learned to be independent and responsible at an early age. Even before we met over 50 years ago George and I shared the freedom philosophy. We participate together not only in Atlas events, but events of the Kansas Policy Institute, the Bastiat Society and the FreedomFest, among others. We enjoy the content of the programs and the camaraderie with other like-minded people and we involved our children too.

Vale: Wow, so you have seen a whole lot over the years. What has changed about the industry?

George: I believe that over the last several decades there has

been much progress in strengthening existing institutions and creating new organizations. For example, the Institute for Humane Studies has worked with nearly 1,500 scholars who are now faculty members on campuses throughout the country. Hundreds of college campuses have centers which are promoting ideas that spread an increased understanding of liberty to students. Many organizations like Atlas Network and Students for Liberty provide extensive training to give freedom movement organizations and their talented people the skills and tools to be more effective in defending and promoting liberty. It seems like every day there is a new organization in the freedom movement. It’s the cumulative effort of all of us in our unique roles that will make the difference.

I also believe that we are making strides in marketing the case for freedom. We are learning to convert statistics into stories that have a much broader appeal. In addition to promoting prosperity we are also promoting human dignity by clearing away barriers that keep people in poverty. Atlas Network is one of the leaders here. The collaboration and cooperation among freedom movement organizations is at an all-time high.

Vale: I have one last question for you two—out of all of the things that you’ve witnessed in the story of Atlas Network over the decades, what are some of your fondest memories?

George: My first Atlas memory was before Atlas was conceived. Antony Fisher came to Wichita to meet with Charles Koch and present his concept of a think tank to nurture other think tanks. I still remember the conversation between these two giants. At that time Fisher had a turtle farm in the Cayman Islands and Koch owned the Matador Cattle Ranch. In their conversation they were comparing which animal had the least waste—the cow or the turtle. As they talked in detail about the consumable elements of each animal, they agreed that over 95% of each animal was useful in some way. Fisher got the last word in when he claimed that turtle testicles were a delicacy.

In 2018 the following fond memories were added to a long list—a trip to Guatemala with other Atlas donors, presenting a remembrance of Leonard Liggio before the Liggio Lecture during the Liberty Forum and being presented with a “Ralph Harris” waist coat when I retired from the Board.

Marilyn: Liberty Forum & Freedom Dinner is something I look forward to each year. We host a table and invite friends from Wichita. Our grandson who lives in New York has joined us for the last five years.



STORIES OF HOPE SHARED IN NEW ONLINE VIDEO SERIES UPWARD GLOBILITY



TALKS WITH TOM TAKES ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY AROUND THE WORLD

Dr. Tom G. Palmer has spent decades of activism in carrying the ideas of freedom to millions of people around the world. Atlas Network's new series Talks with Tom gives him the chance to draw from his vast storehouse of knowledge and experience as he engages with scholars, journalists, economists, and other fascinating thinkers about the challenges faced by today's advocates of liberty.

Dr. Palmer, who is Atlas Network's Executive Vice President for International Programs and George M. Yeager Chair for Advancing Liberty, opened his address book and reached out to Atlas Club members to join in on hour-long conversations using the Zoom platform. With the need for economic recovery from the pandemic on everyone's minds during the first four installments, guests Dr. Vernon L. Smith and Dr. Deirdre McCloskey spoke of the importance of markets in creating the new normal; *The Wall Street Journal's* Mary Anastasia O'Grady and Atlas Network's Roberto Salinas León talked about Latin America's troubling shift into populism; and *The WSJ's* Jillian Melchior and *Apple Daily's* Simon Lee examined the enormous changes sweeping through Hong Kong.

Talks with Tom is a live conversation open to members of Atlas Network's Atlas Club. To become a member of this exclusive group of Atlas Network's biggest supporters, email Ellen.Saakashvili@AtlasNetwork.org.

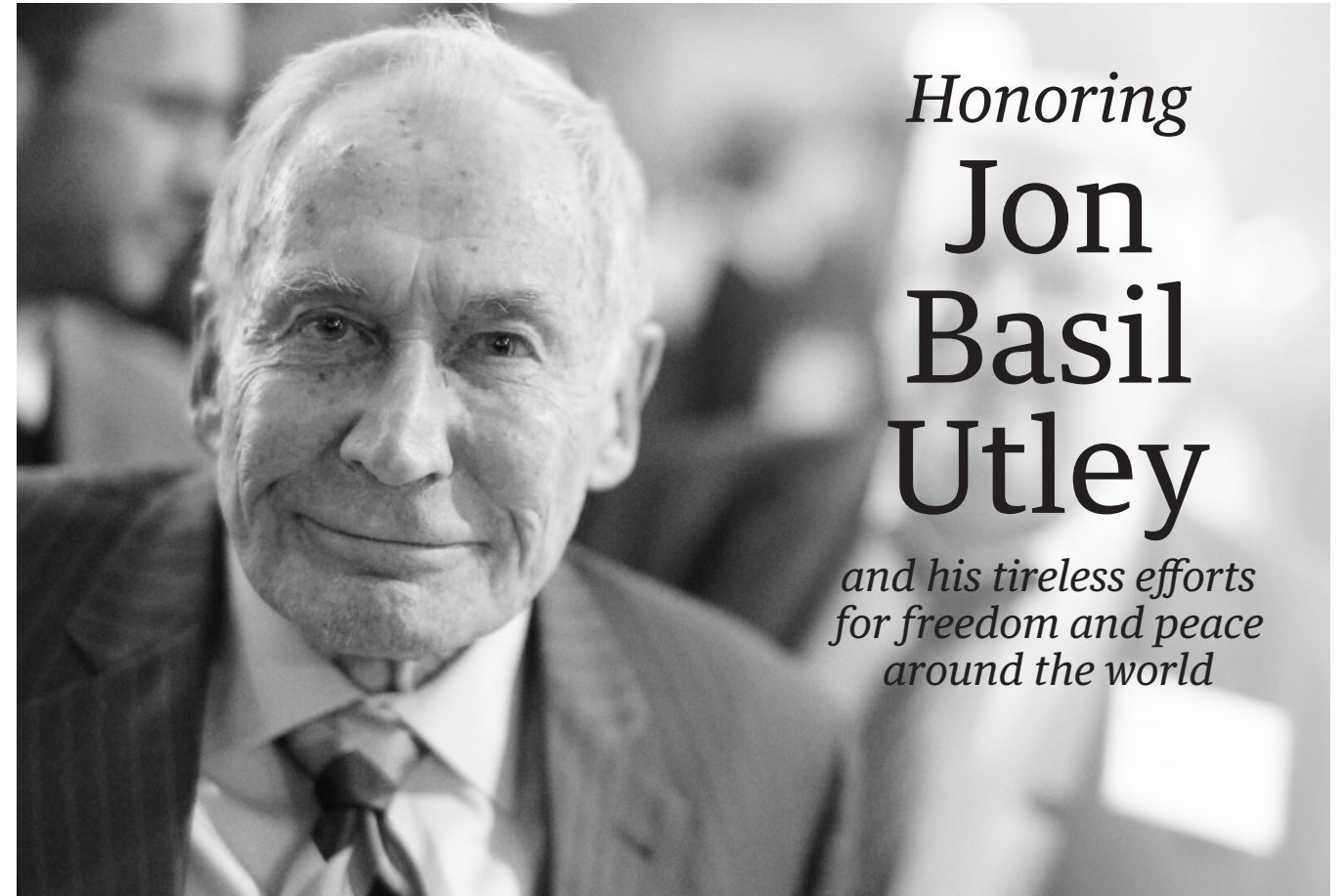
Upward Globility, a new video series produced by Atlas Network that explores how people flourish when they are free to make choices that unleash innovation and change, launched on YouTube on June 1.

In the first two episodes of the series, filmmaker Dugan Bridges and series host Vale Sloane worked with South Africa's Free Market Foundation and the Beacon Center of Tennessee to share their stories about how a single, powerful idea can transform the lives of people in need. "Our goal is really to draw attention to the innovative, creative vision of people who are making the world a better place," said Bridges.

Sloane spent time in Mokwallo, South Africa, meeting with locals who had just received title to their homes through Free Market Foundation's Khaya Lam project. He also spoke with FMF's Leon Louw and Temba Nolutshungu about the history of the project, which works with local government to transfer titles to people who have never been able to afford the cost of homeownership. Nolutshungu quotes Nelson Mandela's words from his book *Long Walk to Freedom*: "A man is not a man until he has a house of his own."

For the second episode, Sloane and Bridges met with the Beacon Center of Tennessee for hot chicken and a full Southern breakfast—complete with buttered biscuits—to visit a transitional home for recently incarcerated women. Beacon Center's efforts to help create job opportunities for people leaving the state's broken criminal justice system inspired This is Living Ministries to establish a program to help women escape a deepening cycle of poverty as they reintegrate into society. Taylor Dawson of Beacon Center told Sloane that the organization's long history of promoting public policies that save taxpayer dollars while ending recidivism means that "on the individual level, you're changing people's lives by giving them an opportunity."

Upward Globility is online at AtlasNetwork.org and on Atlas Network's YouTube channel.



Jon Basil Utley, whose tireless work in support of a free and peaceful world for all spanned more than six decades, passed away in March at the age of 86. Utley's fierce opposition to communism and passionate anti-war convictions fueled both his professional work and his philanthropy, and he cultivated a network of allies who shared his principled belief in individual liberty, free markets, and the rule of law. As a baby, Utley escaped from the Soviet Union with his mother, anti-communist intellectual Freda Utley, and during his lifetime, he dedicated much of his energy and resources towards opposing foreign military interventions, and was tireless in defense of freedom and justice for all.

Utley's engagement with Atlas Network was grounded in the example set by his mother as she introduced him to the world of ideas. "She always supported or defended the oppressed," he said. "Of course, I saw misery, poverty, and terrorism during my career when I worked in Cuba, Colombia, and Peru. Many people learned from Hayek about the impracticality of central planning, but I came to Atlas Network because of its support for free markets as the way to fight communism by raising living standards and opportunities in the Third World."

Atlas Network honors his legacy of courage and integrity with our ongoing institutional commitment to freedom, prosperity, and peace.

"Over the decades I knew Jon I always was awed by his clear-eyed commitment to the cause of liberty and the evils of tyranny. His personal and family experience were a source of strength to him and an inspiration to those who knew him."

- DAN GROSSMAN, Atlas Network Board Member

"Jon fought for freedom his entire life. Over the decades that I knew him, he was kind and gentle, intelligent and thoughtful, but above all he was passionate about defending the freedom of everyone. The arrest of his father, who was imprisoned, tortured, and executed by the Communists, and the flight with his mother from the USSR had an impact on the course of his whole life. He didn't want anyone, anywhere to be treated as a disposable asset of the state. Jon inspired and helped people on every continent and he never, ever gave up. We miss him terribly. Atlas Network's many partners remember and honor him by continuing his campaign against unlimited power, terror, violence, and oppression."

- TOM G. PALMER, Atlas Network Executive Vice President and George M. Yeager Chair for Advancing Liberty

ANTHEA HARYOKO FROM SEED FUNDING TO POLICY CHANGE

By Anthea Haryoko
Head of External Relations | Center for Indonesian Policy Studies

Whenever someone asks me, “How did you get involved with the freedom movement?”, I always say: “By accident.”

I wasn’t fortunate to come across classical liberal ideas in university. As a student of arts and social sciences, my experience was a typically ‘lefty’ one; the familiar protests against patriarchal systems oppressing women, capitalism keeping people poor, and the like. I wanted to do work that enabled people to improve their lives, but the ideas to tackle issues such as women’s empowerment and poverty elimination during this time usually left me with more questions than answers.

It was after working in public relations and management consultancy for a few years that I became aware of the ideas of liberty when my boss asked if I want to join a think tank he was starting. I didn’t know what a think tank was or did at the time but I agreed to join because the prospect of working towards social impact was exciting.

The Center for Indonesian Policy Studies (CIPS) started in 2015 with a team of five, made possible with the help of Atlas Network’s seed funding for start-up think tanks. Since then, Atlas Network has opened up a plethora of opportunities; not just for CIPS as an organization, but for my own professional development.

It was through Atlas Network’s Think Tank Navigator training and Liberty Forum in 2015 that I was introduced to the ideas of classical liberalism. I was met with new perspectives on how a developing country like Indonesia can pursue development to enable its citizens to find lasting prosperity. The lingering questions I had during university now had more logical and sound solutions.

The opportunities afforded by Atlas Network were not only through trainings, but also through the chance to compete. It will always be a source of pride to have gotten up on stage in front of hundreds of people to deliver a winning pitch at The Shark Tank Think Tank competition in New York in 2016. The grant enabled CIPS to build an online learning platform which still continues to offer free-market ideas to hundreds of students across Indonesia’s vast archipelago.

Since its inception CIPS focuses on issues of food and agriculture. The sector has long been stifled by heavy handed state interventions that keeps sectoral workers in poverty and makes food more expensive for the poor. The sector

Whenever someone asks me, “How did you get involved with the freedom movement?”, I always say: “By accident.”

← Left: Anthea delivers her winning pitch in the 2016 Think Tank Shark Tank competition in New York City.



Anthea at the 2018 Lights, Camera, Liberty training in Los Angeles.

persuading policymakers and the public to support these ideas needed a new communications approach.

Attending the 2017 and 2018 Lights, Camera, Liberty workshops in Los Angeles was a timely opportunity to figure out what that new approach might be. The workshops allowed me to bring back strategies CIPS could employ in messaging its policy ideas, connecting emotionally with audiences, and appealing to universal values aspiring for a better world. The workshops have shaped the way CIPS communicates, and the videos we’ve since produced have attracted more than 140,000 viewers.

As CIPS grew as an organization, so did the need to focus on management and leadership.

In 2018 I participated in the Mentorship Program in a more senior position. I was connected with Beverly Hallberg from District Media Group, and with her wonderful mentorship and guidance, I was able to develop ways to lead an effective External Relations team. Because of this mentorship CIPS has developed strong communications outreach capabilities that have strengthened our reputation amongst Indonesia’s policymakers and key stakeholders. We now can boast that

→ Right: Anthea is announced as the winner of the 2016 Think Tank Shark Tank competition at Freedom Dinner for her pitch to create a massive open online course devoted to teaching how free trade makes food affordable for the poor.

↘ Bottom right: From left to right: Rainer Heufers (executive director of CIPS), Sarita Sapkota, Anthea, and Joyce Lim.

↓ Bottom: Anthea with students of a school that has benefited from CIPS’ work.



Anthea welcomes attendees to the 2018 Asia Liberty Forum in Jakarta.

every month our papers are being downloaded 1,000 times and our messages are in the media on average 100 times. Our events in 2019 also attracted over 2,000 people. The impact of this led CIPS to gain the acknowledgement and appreciation from direct advisors to the Indonesian President.

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It’s not an exaggeration to say that Atlas Network’s support has been an indelible factor in the development of CIPS. Since the first seed funding we received five years ago, our policy ideas are now able to reach the highest levels of government. I’m excited to continue being part of the network and explore more ways to work together with allies to bring more freedom and prosperity for Indonesia.



THE REGIONAL LIBERTY FORUMS MOVE ONLINE IN 2020

Atlas Network's Regional Liberty Forums, held annually in Asia, Europe, Latin America, and Africa, bring freedom champions together to learn from one another and engage their peers on common strategies for change. Since 2016, our Regional Liberty Forums have given thousands of participants the chance to build new relationships, maintain important connections, and create local impact. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic required Atlas Network's events team to respond quickly to the global lockdown, convening the forums in two-day virtual formats instead.

"With so many partners unable to travel, our goal was to make sure that we were able to reach our partners with great content as well as provide opportunities for them to 'engage and exchange'—our 2020 theme—with each other," said Chelsea Schick, Atlas Network's director of events. "The online conference was a new model for all of us, and we learned so much about how to make them work for our needs."

ASIA LIBERTY FORUM

In the first of four online forums, Calixto Chikiamco, president of Foundation for Economic Freedom in the Philippines, kicked off Asia Liberty Forum by welcoming a group of more than 140 think tank leaders and spoke of the challenges that COVID-19 is presenting for free-market institutions. Yazad Jal of the Centre for Civil Society (CCS) delivered the opening keynote on concrete plans of action that free markets and liberal societies can take during a time of pandemic.

Prashant Narang of CCS won the 2020 Asia Think Tank Shark Tank competition with his plan for "Lawyers for Liberty," a legal aid campaign designed to empower street vendors to fight the system when their livelihoods are threatened by official harassment. CCS will receive \$10,000 in seed funding for the project. Malaysia-based Islam and Liberty Network won the 2020 Asia Liberty Award for their faith-based Muslim Case for a Free Society project. "Islam and liberty are often perceived as opposites," said Ali Salman of Islam and Liberty Network in his acceptance speech. "We have built an intellectual basis for a Muslim case for religious, political, and economic freedom."

EUROPE LIBERTY FORUM

The diversity of Europe's experience during COVID-19 set the agenda for discussions at the 2020 Europe Liberty Forum Online, as questions of authoritarian government, freedom of the press, and public health have created new context for action. More than 125 advocates of liberty signed on to Atlas Network's Zoom platform to share ideas and talk about the ways they are responding to the challenges of the lockdown, citing better e-governance options, new opportunities for digital education, and a willingness by government to deregulate in order to spur economic growth.

The Spanish think tank Fundación para el Avance de la Libertad (Fundalib) won the 2020 Europe Liberty Award for Índice de Libertad Económica de las Ciudades Españolas (Index on the Economic Freedom of Spain's Cities), which examines municipal data that impacts the economic freedom of cities throughout Spain and makes recommendations that will strengthen local economies.

AFRICA LIBERTY FORUM

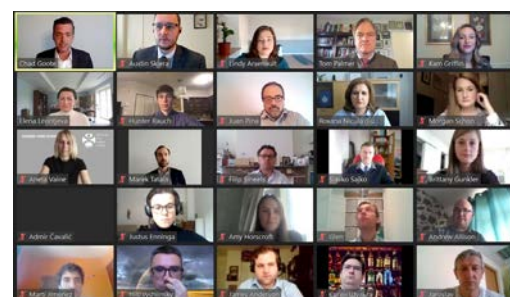
At a time when confidence in government is waning, strong advocates for liberty can play a critical role in shaping solutions for change. More than 350 enthusiastic participants tuned into Africa Liberty Forum Online for an engaging program in English, French, and Arabic that was filled with history, new success stories, and great ideas about the ways in which economic liberty can transform the lives of billions of people. South African podcaster Big Daddy Liberty and Atlas Network's Magatte Wade spoke of the enormous potential for Africa to thrive—an idea that was echoed by Dr. Nouh El Harmouzi of the Arab Center for Research in his closing Toast to Freedom: "If we want to go quickly, we go alone. If we want to go far, we go together."

The Africa Liberty Award was presented to a smiling Aimable Manirakiza of CDE, who thanked his team, local journalists, and other advisors and shared how CDE's programs are educating local audiences about freedom in the Great Lakes region.

LATIN AMERICA LIBERTY FORUM

Over 100 attendees from among partner organizations in 17 Spanish-speaking countries brought ideas, concerns, and strategies for success to Atlas Network's first online regional forum held entirely in Spanish. Dr. Roberto Salinas León, the director of Atlas Network's Center for Latin America, led discussions of a post-COVID-19 future and the implications that economic recovery will have on liberty in Latin America, particularly given the challenge of authoritarian governments in the region. María Corina Machado, a former member of the Venezuelan national assembly and 2012 presidential candidate, kicked off a full schedule of speakers with an update on the current state of corruption and her hopes for Venezuela's return to prosperity.

In response to the changing needs of our partner network during the COVID-19 crisis, Atlas Network's "Powerful Pivots" session highlighted the work of three Atlas Network partners—Fundación Eléutera in Honduras, México Evalúa in Mexico, and Fundación Libertad in Argentina—that are focusing on reducing regulation, using digital outreach, and laying the foundation for recovery. The winner of the 2020 Latin America Liberty Award was Costa Rican think tank IDEAS Labs for their #TicosConCorona initiative, which has successfully slashed luxury pensions in the Central American nation.



WARTIME HAYEKIANISM

By Johan Norberg



Photo / Calvin University

The closing keynote for the 2020 Europe Liberty Forum Online was delivered by world-renowned author and historian Johan Norberg.

Dear friends—dear friends of liberty, let’s not beat about the bush. These are exceptionally difficult times in so many ways for us. It reminds me of a sentence in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *The Great Gatsby*, when he writes:

“The loneliest moment in someone’s life is when they are watching their whole world fall apart, and all they can do is stare blankly.”

I have to admit that I felt a tinge of this sensation, when the lights started to go out all over Europe, when borders were closed, when businesses shut down and country after country entered lockdowns. I know many of you did too. This is a scary moment in time.

Also, I had just finished writing a new book script, called *Open: The Story of Human Progress*, due in September, about how we create progress historically but also how we destroy it. Unfortunately, the conclusion that I reached, and I finished it before this pandemic, was that many open societies and great civilizations historically were undermined in times of crises—great depressions, foreign invasions, natural disasters, and pandemics. So there was some scary timing!

We’ve seen this before. When the world is scary, people start thinking that they can’t allow their neighbors to have some freedom to go about their own business, and you start blaming the outside world because any foreigner, anyone who’s different, might be dangerous. You begin to yearn for a strongman to protect us and to take control.

And we want governments to assume new powers—control and surveillance rather than open societies. Wartime socialism rather than free markets. Self-sufficiency rather than international trade.

We’ve seen this creep before, and we’re here again. And that’s dangerous because in fact, I think these are all great arguments to do the complete opposite.

We have shut down the world for just two months, and the result is already in: global depression, mass unemployment, poverty, and hunger. It is a preview of a horror movie.

Obviously we’ve learned something about international trade. It might be dangerous to rely on all your components from one single country, especially if it’s China. But the solution is not to concentrate supply chains even further geographically. One reason why we’ve been able to open up industries in Sweden is that Asia has started to open up again so that we can get some inputs and supplies from there. Had we concentrated everything in Europe...well, then if we have a local problem then everything falls apart. So it’s not an argument for concentration but for decentralization, diversity, flexibility, being able to rely on more markets rather than just one. You can understand why there are export bans on protective equipment because you want to supply your own people first, right? But you also learn that this creates shortages and higher prices for everybody, and that one of the problems in getting those supplies out there are these export bans. The first thing that

happened when some European countries began to shut their borders was that they [disrupted] the daily flow of goods, services, and people. Suddenly a factory in the Czech Republic that used to supply us all with lots of protective

→ Right: Atlas Network CEO Brad Lips introduces Johan Norberg at the 2020 Europe Liberty Forum Online.



equipment, all our hospitals—well, they couldn’t get their workforce into the factory in the morning, because lots of them traveled from Poland into the Czech Republic every morning. Suddenly the borders were shut down.

And obviously the problem with socialism in wartime is that no matter what time it is, it is still socialism and it still doesn’t work! Yes, we want a strongman to point us in the right direction—but what happens if he points us in the wrong direction?

Personally, I think this crisis is the strongest possible argument for our ideas. We have just seen a real-life preview of a de-globalised, closed world—it’s like some sort of nightmarish combination of Greta Thunberg and Matteo Salvini. We have no travel, no mobility, no trade, no offshoring, no capitalist exploitation...and you know what, this world is not at all as nice as it looked in the online ads!

We have shut down the world for just two months, and the result is already in: global depression, mass unemployment, poverty, and hunger. It is a preview of a horror movie, and I for one, I do not want to watch this movie, this horror movie, permanently.

On the other hand, we have also learned what works under such difficult circumstances. Politicians have often failed us, but I think that we’ve seen everywhere

how individuals, organizations, and businesses are rapidly adapting to new circumstances, making heroic adjustments to their business models, production processes, and supply chains—to keep food on the shelves, to reroute necessary supplies, to keep production going, and to help those in need. And produce lots of things that we didn’t know that we needed just weeks ago: vodka distilleries and perfume companies suddenly produce disinfectants and hand sanitizer, hygiene businesses switch to producing medical gloves and face masks. In fact, the number of European companies producing face masks has increased in just a few weeks from 12 to 500. They stepped up to the challenge, and to the change.

No economy czar and no central planner could have ever planned for anything like this because it was all dependent on local knowledge. The fact that individuals and businesses knew what capacity they had, what they could do, the labor force that was at hand, and more specifically what they could stop doing without creating devastating shortages in other places. We do not need wartime socialism. We need wartime Hayekianism! And I think as Brad alluded to, we’ve seen here in Sweden, the one country that did not shut down borders and businesses and restaurants and did not enforce social

Personally, I think this crisis is the strongest possible argument for our ideas. We have just seen a real-life preview of a de-globalised, closed world.

distancing with stay-at-home orders, we’ve seen that when people learn that lives are at stake, they adapt voluntarily. They reduce their mobility to almost the same extent as countries with very much harsher restrictions. They did this without any kinds of policemen on the streets asking them what they’re doing there. The only difference is that this allowed some openness for local knowledge and individual needs. So if you really have to do something, you’re able to do it. Which I think has served Sweden well.

I think all of this, this wartime Hayekianism, this wartime spontaneous development and adaption to new circumstances in the shadow of the wartime authoritarianism of many governments, should be a lesson and an inspiration in our work ahead. That all these regulations, these permits and license requirements, and bans—they are roadblocks on the way to change, adapting, and restructuring that we always need, but need now more than ever. They are ways of stopping people from using their local knowledge and their local talent and a way to replace it with the limited knowledge of a few people on the top. And that’s not just wrong—it is dangerous.

And let me just tell you over the past few days and weeks, I’ve seen what you all are doing to fight this, in your communities and in your countries. And I’m impressed by that, and I’m hopeful. Because if you can continue doing that, and if we continue to compare notes [and learn from each other’s accomplishments and how they can be applied locally], we might just get out of this stronger—as a liberty movement and as societies.

Because again, these are difficult times. But in the words of the great philosophers Coldplay: “Nobody said it was easy!” It’s when it’s most difficult that our ideas are needed the most.

And that’s also what turned Hayek and von Mises and Ayn Rand and Milton Friedman into legends—not just that they were brilliant thinkers, but also that it wasn’t smooth sailing. That they faced an uphill battle. Some steep odds. And they went straight at it and they persisted.

So I’d like to conclude these brief remarks by thanking you, extending all my gratitude to you for all the amazing work that you are doing. Thank you for not just standing by watching our whole world fall apart, and just stare at it blankly.

Because—to borrow another literary inspiration—the world is a fine place and it’s worth the fighting for. So let me raise a metaphorical glass and say thank you for the work you’re doing for freedom. And good luck!



“Atlas Network’s trajectory is good, and its future is promising. Our confidence in Atlas Network’s current success and its anticipated growth is why Marilyn and I make annual gifts and have become legacy donors.”



– GEORGE PEARSON

GEORGE
PEARSON



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