Media Advisory



OSET Institute Leadership to Attend Important Global Summit on Securing Elections

Palo Alto, CA– (Business Wire)–June 20, 2018–The OSET Institute announces today that executives have been personally invited to attend an inaugural <u>Global Democracy</u> <u>Summit</u> in Copenhagen, Denmark this week focused on improving the integrity and security of elections. Co-Founder and COO Gregory Miller, and Associate General Counsel and Director of International Development, Joy London plan to attend.

The Summit is the creation of the <u>Alliance of Democracies</u>, a nonprofit founded by former NATO Secretary General and Danish Prime Minister, Anders Fogh Rasmussen. As part of the Summit, Rasmussen and former US Secretary of Homeland Security, Michael Chertoff, have also formed the <u>Transatlantic Commission on Election Integrity</u> (TCEI), and will hold the Commission's first meeting on Thursday, 21st June, the day before the Summit.

The TCEI seeks to fill a critical gap by fostering a more transatlantic and collective approach to prevent the next wave of election attacks and interference. It will raise awareness on what foreign powers, especially Russia, are doing to undermine democracies and recommend solutions to address this challenge.

Rasmussen said ahead of the Summit, "The Western world is far too vulnerable to efforts, led by Russia, to undermine our democracies from within." Chertoff added, "Our strength is our bipartisan and transatlantic nature. We face a dilemma of governments either failing to act or rushing into badly designed measures that could have unintended consequences. Our Commission will make recommendations that strike this important balance."

The Copenhagen Democracy Summit is dedicated to strengthening the resolve of the world's democracies by providing a high-level strategic forum exclusively focused on the cause of democracy. The Summit has a strong line-up of speakers from both sides of the Atlantic, and across the political spectrum. The conference will bring together current and former heads of government, as well as leading business executives, academic experts, and democracy technology experts.

"The work of the OSET Institute is really at the center of this conversation," said Cofounder Gregory Miller, "and with a steady increase of international interest in the TrustTheVote Project and its publicly available election technology, we're thrilled to be invited." Joy London, OSET Director of International Development explained, "The U.S. is not the only nation struggling with vulnerable election technology. Our technical work is applicable to other democracies, and perhaps more easily. So, we're honored to be included in this transatlantic conversation." Added Miller, "Our hope is that we can globalize our development process, and find opportunities to accelerate the completion of our technology for any nation needing to improve the verifiability, accuracy, security and transparency of their electoral systems."

Ms. London cautioned that this is just a first opportunity to be part of a global conversation about how to improve the integrity and security of election technology. "Voting systems are only one attack surface for electoral interference, which includes weaponized content and electioneering. Our focus is on the platform of election administration, and this is the first step to introduce our work abroad because our work should be a global initiative. I look forward to learning as much as possible and meeting as many thought leaders there as I can," London stated.

The OSET Institute will post updates from the Summit events Thursday through Saturday on social media including our <u>@OSET Twitter feed</u> and <u>our primary blog</u>.

About the OSET Institute

The OSET Institute is a tax-exempt 501.c.3 non-profit election technology research, development and education organization based in the Silicon Valley. The Institute is led by a team of social entrepreneurs comprised of seasoned technologists with extensive hardware, software, and systems design experience from well-known Tech-sector companies including Apple, Netscape, Facebook, and Sun Microsystems. The Institute is focused on how to make election technology more verifiable, accurate, secure, and transparent. Work is based on open source principles to treat this critical government technology as an imperative publicly available asset.

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