THE TRILATERAL COMMISSION

JOB POSTING: Research Project Director: Trilateral Commission Initiative on Rethinking Capitalism and the Future of Market-Based Economies

Job Description

The Trilateral Commission is searching for a director for a new initiative on the future of capitalism and market-based economies.

The initiative will examine whether and in what ways market-based economies and capitalist systems should change to better promote inclusive, prosperous, democratic societies. The project will be comprised of several components, including an international task force on the future of market-based/capitalist societies that will launch in fall 2020. The task force will be led by three prominent cochairs, one each from North America, Europe, and Asia, and will include experts from government, business, and other intellectual centers across the three geographies. The members will consider an array of topics, generate issue-specific papers, and produce a final, landmark report with specific recommendations. The final report will draw on the experiences of countries from around the world that vary in their balance among government, business, and society.

Working closely with the co-chairs and the Commission leadership, the project director will have primary responsibility for shaping and helping to execute the task force's intellectual agenda. This will involve commissioning and potentially drafting portions of the various issue-specific papers, conducting background research, disseminating information to members, organizing working group meetings, ensuring that key milestones are met in a timely fashion, and handling expenses associated with the project. The director will draft the landmark report, based on task force deliberations and member input, and ensure a final product that is both reflective of the group's thinking and includes a clear set of recommendations.

The director will be welcomed at, expected to attend, and potentially participate in the Commission's regular meetings. Each group (North America, Europe, and Asia) holds an annual regional meeting and the Commission as a whole convenes annually for a meeting that rotates among the three geographies.

Qualifications and Other Position Details

Relevant qualifications include a post-graduate degree, either a masters degree or a recent PhD, and some track record working on or publishing about the future of capitalism. The director must be comfortable working with people from a wide variety of backgrounds, be a superb project manager, have a collaborative work style, and be at ease working both on intellectual substance and logistical elements. In the latter, the director will have a close working relationship with the North American coordinator of the Trilateral Commission.

For the foreseeable future, the bulk of the work of the director and the task force will take place virtually, and there are no set residency requirements. Conditions permitting, it is likely that the director will travel in order to consult with co-chairs and members and to facilitate some in-person meetings.

The position is initially for one calendar year and is envisioned to be part-time. There is a strong possibility of renewal after one year, as the remit of the project grows. The salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Application Process

Candidates should submit a resume, including contact information; a cover letter; an analytical writing sample of 20 pages or less; and names, titles, and contact information for three references. This material should be emailed to Cassandra Favart, Coordinator for the North America Trilateral Commission, at cfavart@trilateral.org. The Commission will be accepting applications until October 15, 2020, with interviews for the position commencing shortly afterward with an aim to fill the position by early November.

About the Trilateral Commission

The Commission is a global membership organization that for decades has brought together senior policymakers, business leaders, and representatives of media and academe to discuss and propose solutions to some of the world's toughest problems. Founded in 1973, the Commission has for decades served as an important venue to incubate ideas and build relationships across sectors and the geographies of North America, Europe, and Asia. The countries represented in the Commission and its individual members share common values and a commitment to the rule of law, open economies and societies, and democratic principles. Traditionally focused on geopolitical trends and challenges, the Commission recently widened its aperture to also examine issues that affect the ability of individual countries to play traditional leadership roles in the international system.