

# TASK FORCE ON THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN INNOVATION

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## INNOVATION TASK FORCE PRAISES CSIS REPORT ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INNOVATION, AND RESEARCH

### “WAITING FOR SPUTNIK” REPORT ASSERTS THAT NATIONAL SECURITY IS WEAKENED BY SLOWDOWN IN RESEARCH SPENDING

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Following is a statement by the Task Force on the Future of American Innovation on a report issued today by the Center for Strategic and International Studies that calls for increasing federal investment in basic research to strengthen national security.

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The report issued today by the Center for Strategic and International Studies makes clear that our national security is being undermined by years of gradually declining investment in basic research in the physical sciences and engineering by the Department of Defense and other federal agencies.

This country’s national security has always been tied directly to our ability to innovate and to produce, attract and retain the best scientists in the world. Continual innovation has made our fighting men and women the world’s most effective and best equipped. And innovation in the realm of national security, as well as the development of future generations of scientists and engineers, is directly tied to the basic research in the physical sciences and engineering that is supported by the Department of Defense and other federal research agencies.

It is our hope that this report, along with reports issued recently by a host of business, academic, and other organizations, will convince the Administration and the Congress that our national and economic security, indeed our global leadership, depends on innovation, and that innovation depends on a commitment to basic research, not only at the Pentagon but also at the National Science Foundation, the Departments of Energy and Commerce, and elsewhere.

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*The Task Force on the Future of American Innovation ([www.futureofinnovation.org](http://www.futureofinnovation.org)), a coalition of high-tech companies, business organizations, scientific societies, and higher education associations, was founded in 2004 to advocate greater federal investments for basic research in the physical sciences and engineering. The group focuses specifically on the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy Office of Science, the Department of Defense research budget, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology labs at the Department of Commerce.*