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The Streit Council for a Union of Democracies works toward better-organized and stable cooperation among the experienced democracies as the key for more effective US engagement in world affairs. A non-partisan, independent organization, it carries into the twenty-first century the traditions and principles which gave rise to the Federal Union movement. It builds on transatlantic and other inter-democracy institutions, supporting their treaty commitments to grow into ever wider membership and deeper integration, and their underlying vision rooted in democratic federalism. It does this principally by promoting research and education, and by facilitating public discourse and awareness on democracy, federalism, Atlanticism, and the organization of inter-democracy relations.

### **What We Work For**

Through seven decades Streit's organization has sought to keep before world leaders the principles of democratic federalism and their application to international integration.

We work to enhance freedom, security, and peace through a union of democracies, and cooperation with all countries whenever feasible. We believe that any qualitative step forward in political evolution needs to be based upon the interlocking principles of freedom and union at both the national and the international levels.

We believe in effective multilateralism. The world's established democracies when working together are the global motor, enabling global institutions to be effective; when they disagree they become the global brake. As citizens of these democracies we continue to bear great responsibilities: to provide coherent global leadership, to strengthen our joint institutions and stabilize the international system – thus promoting common human concerns more effectively and consistently, at both regional and global levels.

Building on the conception elaborated by Federal Union in 1939, we perceive two main interlocking levels of international organizational development: the inter-democracy level expressed in the growth of the Atlantic system of institutions ever since the Marshall Plan, and the global level expressed in the growth of the UN system. These two levels are both critically important in global affairs, and the future of global management depends largely on the extent to which they work together. Our original 1939 conception has shown renewed relevance since the end of the Cold War, with the increasing cooperation between the Atlantic and global levels, starting in the spheres of economic reform and

democratic culture, and coming to include a hitherto unimaginable UN-NATO collaboration on peacekeeping and security.

Strengthening international organization and the structure of peace translates today into a three-fold task: strengthening the institutions on the Atlantic and the global levels and enhancing their cooperation.