

THE CONVERSATION US

A unique partnership between universities and media

The Conversation (theconversation.com) is an independent source for informed commentary and analysis, written by the academic and research community and edited by journalists for the general public.

Access to independent, high quality, authenticated, explanatory journalism underpins a functioning democracy. Our aim is to promote better understanding of current affairs and complex issues.

All articles are authored by scholars who write on their area of expertise. They work with our professional editors to ensure that their knowledge is conveyed in language accessible to the widest possible audience.

The Conversation mirrors universities in the topics and disciplines it covers - including social sciences and the humanities, science and technology, health, education and the environment. We offer expert commentary on the big issues of the day, as well as the latest research news and breakthroughs.

We have introduced new protocols and controls to help rebuild trust in journalism, including an Editorial Charter that protects our independence and author disclosure of funding and potential conflicts. We believe in the open access and free flow of information and publish under Creative Commons license, allowing free republication of our articles.

The Conversation US forms part of a global network with operations in Australia, UK, Canada, France and Africa. We are building a giant global newsroom staffed by the world's leading experts.

Building an audience

Since launching in the US in 2014, we've built a substantial audience on our site and through republication, which accounts for more than 90% of our readership. Since launch, we have recorded more than 160 million readers. In May 2017, articles from The Conversation US were read more than 7 million times. Globally, combining the audience of US, UK, France, Canada, Africa, Indonesia and Australia, The Conversation reached 35 million in May 2017.

Strengthening US media

Our republishers reflect the diversity of the content we make available to everyone. We've informed the readers of hundreds of publications, from established brands to new media start-ups.

We're building stronger partnerships with other media, e.g. a new partnership with Associated Press and new collaboration with public media.

The Washington Post



Smithsonian

TIME

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN



AP

UNIVISION

NEW REPUBLIC



PBS NEWS HOUR

THE HUFFINGTON POST

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Funded by top foundations - and the path to sustainability

The Conversation US launched in October 2014 with the support of six major foundations:

- Alfred P Sloan Foundation
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- Howard Hughes Medical Institute
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Since then it has received support from seven others:

- Knight Foundation
- Rita Allen Foundation
- Science Sandbox, an initiative of Simons Foundation
- Henry Luce Foundation
- Carnegie Corporation of New York
- Lilly Endowment, Inc.
- Ford Foundation

Our Founding Partner and Member universities

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Quotes from the US academy

As the president of one of our country's leading research university systems, I believe it is now incumbent on the academic community to ensure that the work and voices of researchers are front and center in the public square.

Janet Napolitano, President, University of California.

It's actually a responsibility or even an obligation of universities to engage in public discourse and to share the expertise that we accumulate, the knowledge we discover, and the understanding we achieve with the public.

Mark Schlissel, President, University of Michigan.

Amazing! I can't say enough good things about your outlet. It's such a great way to both spread the deep knowledge academics have, while also giving them an opportunity to stretch themselves to be better communicators!

Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service, Tufts University.