

# Shaping Policy with Science: A Call to Action

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Science has a pivotal role to play in the major public debates of our time, from public health to national security to climate change. In the United States, scientists and technologists influence policy decisions and in turn, our national policy drives the scientific research enterprise. Yet today there are serious challenges to this ideal of a symbiosis among science, policy, and public dialogue. What is the role for scientists in shaping policy? How can scientists best influence the course of policy to ensure that scientific innovation and science-based decision making thrive in the 21st century? In light of the profound challenges ahead, should the role of scientists evolve? How can scientists navigate the line between objectivity and advocacy?

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