

Driving Values-Based Leadership for Humanity's Next Chapter



The Call of **This Moment.**

In the aftermath of world wars and global conflict, the Aspen Institute emerged with a revolutionary idea: that leadership was the linchpin to rebuilding a fractured world.

Not just any leadership, but one grounded in humanistic values and moral clarity. That vision transformed leadership development for the next 75 years, creating spaces where leaders could engage with timeless ideas and values through the power of dialogue.

Today, the Aspen Global Leadership Network (AGLN) carries this vision forward at another inflection point in history when our world is facing unparalleled challenges: artificial intelligence reshaping human capability, climate change demanding urgent cooperation, economic inequity stifling opportunity, and democratic institutions under strain.

These challenges require bold, values-based leadership more than ever.

Yet, these conditions have created an even harder context for leaders to lead well within—a context marked by increasing polarization, erosion of trust, and unprecedented complexity. On top of that, these challenges exasperate isolation when what the world needs is deeper collaboration and solutions at scale.

The AGLN is here to meet this moment—building leaders' capacity to bridge divides, inspire action, and drive solutions to our most pressing issues. Through values-driven dialogue and transformative experiences, we equip leaders to turn challenges into opportunities for systemic change, ensuring that progress is guided by values, wisdom, and courage.

✦ A Global Force for Values-Based Leadership

About the Aspen Institute

Founded in 1949, the Aspen Institute became a beacon for critical thinking and dialogue, rooted in timeless human values. Over the last 75 years, the Institute has grown into a global force for leadership development, public dialogue, and policy innovation.



About the AGLN

The AGLN is the modern evolution of the Aspen Institute's founding vision. A global network of more than 4,000 leaders from 62 countries, the AGLN builds and connects Fellowships focused on sectors and geographies critical to positive global progress. Fellows who go through these programs are united by a shared commitment to values-based leadership and taking courageous action the world needs.

With its expansive network, the Aspen Institute impacts key regions and sectors worldwide through:

✦ Fellowships + Leadership Programs

Preparing leaders to meet our toughest challenges through intensive, cohort-based programs grounded in values and action.

✦ Convenings + Dialogue

Hosting gatherings such as the Aspen Ideas Festival, Aspen Security Forum, and Resnick Aspen Action Forum to generate collaboration & solutions.

✦ Policy Innovation

More than 50 programs addressing issues like economic mobility, climate, and education.

✦ The Fellowship Experience

Building a Foundation for Impact

At the core of AGLN's mission is the Fellowship experience, where exceptional leaders deepen self-awareness, build a trusted community across difference, and build the courage to take action on complex global challenges.

Core Components of the Fellowship Experience:

✦ The Seminar Arc

Each Fellowship class embarks on a transformational journey over four, retreat-like seminars that deepen their understanding of leadership, values, and action. Seminars are tailored to address the strategic priorities of each Fellowship program, optimizing for relevance and impact.

✦ Text-Based Dialogue

During seminars, Fellows engage with curated readings from timeless authors such as Plato, Confucius, and Martin Luther King Jr. These texts anchor deep discussions on values, ethics, and the human condition, sparking insights that shape their leadership approach.

✦ Moderated by Experts

AGLN seminars are guided by experienced leaders, specially-trained Aspen Institute Moderators, who foster thoughtful dialogue, ensure all voices are heard and that Fellows are challenged, leading to greater moral clarity and conviction.

✦ Commitment to Impact

Fellows commit to a lifelong journey of impact addressing major challenges in their community or field, embodying the Aspen ethos of turning ideas into action. Fellows take action through diverse pathways, whether as intrapreneurs driving innovation within organizations, entrepreneurs launching new ventures, policymakers shaping systemic change, and more.

Beyond a Two Year Program: A Lifelong Promise

AGLN offers a lifelong community of support through three core commitments:

Community: A global, trust-based network of like-hearted yet differently minded peers who hold one another accountable to live up to their highest and best purpose, driving positive impact in the world.

Capital: Support to launch bold ideas that address humanity's greatest challenges through philanthropic and collaborative funding, dialogues focused on problem solving, & restorative experiences to re-ground in values.

Convening: Opportunities to reconnect and refocus through annual gatherings like the Resnick Aspen Action Forum, immersive experiences that inspire action, off the record dialogues focused on problem solving, and restorative experiences to re-ground in values.

✦ Leadership in Action

From tech entrepreneurs to social innovators, public servants to business leaders, AGLN Fellows are uniquely positioned to help navigate society's most complex challenges. They pair pragmatic leadership with moral imagination—driving measurable impact in service of the Good Society.

Sarah Friar

Advancing the ethical use of artificial intelligence as CFO at OpenAI.

Mirei Endara de Heras

Former Minister of Environment of Panama, championing conservation and sustainable development across Central America.

Cory Booker

Strengthening democracy through courageous public service.

Anousheh Ansari

Inspiring innovation and entrepreneurship as a pioneer in private space exploration and CEO of the XPRIZE Foundation.

Dele Olojede

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and founder of NEXT Newspapers, championing free press and accountability in Africa.

Reed Hastings

Revolutionizing education & media to drive equitable access to opportunity.

Rushika Fernandopulle

Physician and co-founder of Iora Health, transforming healthcare delivery through relationship-based care models and innovative primary care solutions.

Bozoma Saint John

Renowned marketing executive and advocate for diversity and inclusion, shaping industries from entertainment to technology.

These leaders—and thousands more—demonstrate how AGLN Fellows are shaping the future across technology, business, media, health care, governance, and beyond.



✦ The AGLN Approach

What Makes Our Work Uniquely Powerful in this Moment

Leadership as a Dialogue with Past, Present, and Future

Grounded in the Aspen Institute's founding mission, AGLN has spent decades helping leaders find moral clarity and lead through complexity—connecting past leadership wisdom to a future vision.



Beyond Our Echo Chambers

AGLN connects leaders across ideological, geographic, and sectoral boundaries, enabling more durable and innovative solutions to emerge through dialogue across difference.

Connecting Personal Values with Public Leadership

AGLN helps leaders align their inner moral compass with external actions, demonstrating how values-based leadership builds public trust and organizational success.



Creating a Trust-Based Global Community

AGLN cultivates deep, trust-based relationships that endure over time—connecting leaders to one another as peers, confidants, and collaborators, especially in moments of challenge.

✦ Expanding the Vision Why This Matters Now

Our world is at a critical juncture, facing challenges that demand courageous action. Without bold leadership to address these crises, the risk of failing to meet the moment grows exponentially.

Leadership is the key to turning the tide. It's not just about policy or innovation—it's about mobilizing people, inspiring action, and ensuring that progress is rooted in values that uplift humanity. The AGLN is rising to this challenge by equipping leaders to navigate complexity, collaborate across divides, and drive solutions at scale.

The AGLN is poised to grow its impact by:

✦ Addressing Critical Sectors

Expanding into areas like emerging technology, media, and global governance to ensure these domains serve human flourishing.



✦ Driving Systemic Change

Partnering with leaders and institutions to tackle humanity's most urgent, complex challenges.



✦ Strengthening Community

Building even deeper connections across the network to amplify our Fellows' collective impact.



The Multiplier Effect

Every Fellow becomes a node in a growing network of values-based leadership, creating ripples of positive change throughout their organizations, industries, and communities. As we expand, we strengthen a global community of leaders committed to building a world where values guide innovation and where progress serves humanity.

✦ **Join Us** in Shaping Humanity's Next Chapter

The Aspen Institute was founded on a belief in the power of leaders to improve the human condition. Today, the Aspen Global Leadership Network is renewing that promise for our time.

We focus on leaders, “not because they are any more important than other human beings—they are not—but because the human condition depends so profoundly on how well leaders perform their roles and responsibilities.” Cultivating and connecting humanist leaders is at the heart of what we do and how we believe change happens.

Lets create a future where leadership transforms the world for the better.

Contact

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