



RICHARD BURT

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Good morning. I think it is fair to say, even if it is a little bit early this morning, that today's panel is perhaps one of the most interesting we will have during this conference. As the moderator of this panel, I promise you I will do my best to make it interesting. As you know, the title is, 'A year into Donald Trump as President of the United States'. My first observation as a Washingtonian is one that one frequently hears there, that it seems as if Donald Trump has been President not for one year, but for 10. As for the quality of his foreign and economic policy, I will simply reply on what his Secretary of Defence, General Jim Mattis, said earlier this year that you can always rely on the United States to do the right thing, after it has exhausted every other alternative. He told his audience in South East Asia, that he hoped that people would bear with us. I think that the motto for American policy, 'bear with us', is probably an accurate depiction of one year or so of Donald Trump's foreign policy.