

# The Trilateral Commission

## A review of the Trilateral Commission

The Trilateral Commission is a non-governmental organization which is comprised of approximately 390 members at each given time spanning think-tank activists, former and budding politicians, corporate representatives and ex-government representatives. The organization's name, with the word "Commission" appended, could be construed as misleading for lack of official authority. It is 100% private, i.e. non-governmental.

Founded by David Rockefeller and Zbigniew Brzezinski, the Trilateral Commission's first executive meeting took place in Tokyo in October, 1973, where it was officially initiated with its stated mission to: "...foster a new international economic order". This organization conducts its affairs confidentially, free of press coverage. Membership to the Trilateral Commission is by invitation only. Active members are precluded from holding ministerial or government positions of any kind in their respective countries. Members who ascend to government positions must resign from the commission. The rules of the Trilateral Commission do make allowances for politicians to return back to the organization at a later date so long as they no longer hold government positions. The Trilateral Commission explains on its website that this is to maintain impartiality.

The Trilateral Commission draws criticism from some cynics, both from the left and the right, with the left camp thinking that this organization is compiled of conspirators and rich capitalists who aim to control the world for the sake of global profits, and the right camp alleging that it is a conspiracy of elites whose intention is to deprive nation states of their sovereignty and impose a one world government at their sole disposal. Whilst rationalists may deem arguments such as these outlandish and far fetched, they are not without foundation, and are in part fuelled by the secrecy which surrounds the modus operandi of the Trilateral Commission, as well as the presumed intentions of key people such as its founders, David Rockefeller and Zbigniew Brzezinski.

David Rockefeller comes from a prominent family of bankers and business moguls. He has maintained for decades a keen interest in geopolitics. Rockefeller is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, an American think-tank, whose membership list attracts some of the world's most influential politicians and media moguls. He is also a regular attendee at Bilderberg conferences. In his auto-biography, entitled *Memoirs*, on chapter 27, page 405, he wrote:

*"...characterizing my family and me as "internationalists" and of conspiring with others around the world to build a more integrated global political and economic structure—one world, if you will. If that's the charge, I stand guilty, and I am proud of it."*

*~ David Rockefeller*

When reading the above and taking this quote at face value, one can easily be drawn into labelling all sorts of demagogic charges without considering deeper meanings or hidden agendas vis-à-vis the intentions of the author; but such an approach would be misleading and oversimplifying the context, whereas the appropriate measure, instead, would be to delve deeper into the subject matter at hand and conduct further research.

Zbigniew Kazimierz Brzeziński immigrated to the United States from Poland in 1953. He is an academic and statesman, having served as U.S. National Security Advisor in President Carter's administration. Brzezinski was a key decision maker in formulating a policy of financing the mujahideen in Afghanistan in response to Soviet deployment of forces there; and was credited for driving Soviet troops out of Afghanistan, needing no more than three hundred American troops, tasked with assisting Afghan fighters. It would not be an understatement to exclaim that Brzezinski is a man who is demonized profusely for his record in public life, for his ties, for his lobbying efforts on matters pertaining to, what some people might perceive as, globalization, capitalism, wealth consolidation, geopolitics, et cetera. Brzezinski wrote a book, which was published in 1970, entitled *Between Two Ages*. In that book, he talked about a third revolution that sprung up after the agrarian and the industrial revolution, which he trademarked as the "technetronic revolution" (euphemism for post-industrial revolution). The book makes the case for a new era of interdependence between nation states in which international banks and multi-national corporations assume the role of promoting peace, freedom, liberty and prosperity, together with coalitions of like-for-like minded countries based on shared socio-economic and socio-political values. The book should also be seen in the context in which it was written, during a former world order, when Eastern Europe was immersed in a totalitarian communist dictatorship under the Soviet Union.

Zbigniew Brzezinski envisioned a future of transformation on a global scale whereby the concept of the nation state would gradually dissolve into geopolitical alliances of supranational unions, much like the European Union of today. This transformation, he believed, would be aided by the advent of new technologies. Several passages quote:

*"The nation-state as a fundamental unit of man's organized life has ceased to be the principal creative force: "International banks and multinational corporations are acting and planning in terms that are far in advance of the political concepts of the nation-state"."*

*~ Zbigniew Brzezinski*

Continued:

*"Today, through the old framework of international politics—with their spheres of influence, military alliances between nation-states, the fiction of sovereignty, doctrinal conflicts arising from nineteenth-century crises—is clearly no longer compatible with reality."*

*~ Zbigniew Brzezinski*

On the technetronic revolution:

*"More directly linked to the impact of technology, it involves the gradual appearance of a more controlled and directed society. Such a society would be dominated by an elite whose claim to power would rest on allegedly superior scientific know-how. Unhindered by the restraints of traditional liberal values, this elite would not hesitate to achieve its political ends by using the latest modern techniques for influencing public behaviour and keeping society under close surveillance and control. Under such circumstances, the scientific and technological momentum of the country would not be reversed but would actually feed on the situation it exploits."*

*~ Zbigniew Brzezinski*

In 1979, a former Republican Senator of Arizona, Barry Morris Goldwater, published a book, entitled *With No Apologies*. In his book, Goldwater had some harsh words to say about the Trilateral Commission with regard to its long term objectives, its covert and undemocratic character. Some quotes include the following:

*“In my view, the Trilateral Commission represents a skilful, coordinated effort to seize control and consolidate the four centers [sic] of power—political, monetary, intellectual, and ecclesiastical. All this is to be done in the interests of creating a more peaceful, more productive world community.”*

*~ Barry M. Goldwater*

On a report dating back to 1975:

*“A report presented at the plenary meeting of the Trilateral Commission May 30-31, 1975, at Kyoto, Japan, called for an enlargement of central authority and expressed a lack of confidence in democratically arrived-at public decisions. Arguing the need to limit democracy, the report called for:*

- *Centralized economic and social planning;*
- *Centralization of power within the Congress;*
- *Improved working conditions to reduce pressure for industrial democracy modeled [sic] on patterns of political democracy;*
- *A program [sic] to lower the job expectations of those who receive a college education.”*

*~ Barry M. Goldwater*

On proposed reforms pertaining to press freedoms:

*“The report also suggested it would be helpful to impose prior restrictions on the press and restructure the laws of libel to check the power of the press. It seems to me I’ve suffered as greatly from an abusive press as any man in public life, but I get an itchy, uncomfortable feeling at the base of my spine when someone suggests that government should control the news.”*

*~ Barry M. Goldwater*

On the Trilateral Commission’s approach:

*“The entire Trilateral approach is strictly economic. No recognition is given to the political condition. Total reliance is placed on materialism. The Commission emphasizes the necessity of eliminating artificial barriers to world commerce—tariffs, export duties, quotas—an objective I strongly support. What it proposes to substitute is an international economy managed and controlled by international monetary groups through the mechanisms of international conglomerate manufacturing and business enterprise.”*

*~ Barry M. Goldwater*

It must be pointed out that these quotes are the narrative of the author, and the degree to which one may, or may not, agree with these statements depends on a set of factors, ranging from conviction to appeal and congeniality. But, these quotes are nonetheless noteworthy when considered that the source will have had access to confidential files.

Goldwater also levelled criticisms towards President Carter's policies, who happened to have been a Trilateral Commission member before he occupied the White House:

*“Most of our foreign aid channelled through the Export-Import Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Corporation for Overseas Investment, and Jimmy Carter's new International Stabilization Fund is now being used to advance this objective. Populations are treated as nothing more than producing and consuming units. No attempt has been made to explain why the people of the Western world enjoy economic abundance. Freedom—spiritual, political, economic—is denied any importance in the Trilateral construction of the next century.”*

*~ Barry M. Goldwater*

He qualified his conclusions on the report he read:

*“The final paragraph of that Trilateral Commission report is an admission of the commission's true aims:*

- *Close Trilateral cooperation in keeping the peace, in managing the world economy, in fostering economic redevelopment and alleviating world poverty will improve the chances of a smooth and peaceful evolution of the global system. (Emphasis added.)*

*What the Trilaterals truly intend is the creation of a worldwide economic power superior to the political governments of the nation-states involved. They believe the abundant materialism they propose to create will overwhelm existing differences. As managers and creators of the system, they will rule the future.”*

*~ Barry M. Goldwater*

In 1977, James Earl (Jimmy) Carter was sworn in as the 39<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. All of the top positions in the administration, the Executive Office comprising the President and Vice-President Walter Mondale, the Secretary of state for, Defense, Treasury, the National Security Advisor (co-founder Brzezinski), were all members of the Trilateral Commission. Before President Carter vacated the White House, all but one official in his government were members of the Trilateral Commission.

The U.S. Trade Representative is the executive responsible for negotiating such things as trade agreements, treaties, tariffs, between international bodies globally. From 1977 onwards, since Robert S. Strauss held this role, 75% of all U.S. Trade Representatives were Trilateral Commission members. From 1968 onwards, since Robert McNamara, 75% of all World Bank Presidents were Trilateral Commission members. Since Henry Kissinger became National Security Advisor, from 1969 to 1975, most of the National Security Advisors have been members of the Trilateral Commission. Since President Carter and Vice-President Mondale in 1977, most occupants of the Executive Office have been members of the Trilateral Commission.

This pattern appears to be representative of a tribal connection between the Trilateral Commission and public office in the United States. The degree to which this assertion is accurate or erroneous is up for debate. Only those on the inside truly know.