

**Statement of Jacob S. Helberg**  
**Nominee for Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment**  
**Senate Committee on Foreign Relations**  
**June 10, 2025**

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Shaheen, and distinguished Members of this Committee:

It is the honor of a lifetime to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee for Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment. I want to express my deep gratitude to President Trump and my friend, Secretary Rubio, for their trust and confidence. If confirmed, I will work every minute of every day to advance President Trump's economic security and diplomacy agenda on behalf of the country we all love.

I also appreciate the time that the Members and staff of this Committee have spent with me. If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with you.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my husband, Keith, our two beautiful children, Anne and Eli, my mother, Edith, my stepfather, Michel, and my late father, Ted, for their unending support throughout the years.

My grandparents were liberated by the U.S. military from Auschwitz and given a second chance at life. They were 32 years old when they moved here. They had no education and spoke no English, but they had an instinct for survival and a dream. I imagine my grandfather, dispossessed of his family in the Holocaust, coming home tired to the bone from his day-job at a Jeep factory and his night shift as a hospital janitor. I imagine telling him his adoptive country would someday give his grandson the opportunity to appear before the United States Senate as nominee for Under Secretary of State. If that isn't the American dream, I don't know what is.

I share the top policy priority of winning our strategic competition with China, something that President Trump, you, Mr. Chairman, and many on this very committee have long championed. As an author, I have thought deeply about this issue and believe the relationship between Washington and Silicon Valley will directly shape the strength of America's military and the size of its economy. I launched the Hill & Valley Forum as a superhighway for bipartisan bicoastal partnership to solve our hardest national security challenges. It has been an honor to work with many of you on a bipartisan basis through the Hill & Valley Forum and my work on the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

My experiences in the tech industry, as an investor, advisor, author, and cofounder of the Hill & Valley Forum, have prepared me to deploy American industry as a diplomatic instrument to make America safer, stronger, and more prosperous. They also instilled in me an indelible belief that economic security is national security—an idea President Trump introduced during his first term, and one which will be the North Star for the E family, if confirmed.

The world economy is on the foothills of a new Great Divergence in the geography of global wealth, on a scale unseen since the first Industrial Revolution. Nations harnessing the power of artificial intelligence are economically leaping ahead of others. The implications for America's safety and strength are significant. History teaches us that periods of rapid technological change can lead to major shifts in the global balance of power. The Trump administration is committed to making America the birthplace and leader of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

If confirmed, the State Department's E Family will do its part to ensure America's economic and technological leadership is built on strong foundations.

First and foremost, decades of globalization have left America's economy precariously reliant on a technology supply chain exposed to geopolitical adversaries and vulnerable to disruptions. These dependencies create unacceptable risks to U.S. economic security and long-term growth. If confirmed, I will work closely with the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation and other Departments to build the rails of a secure technology supply chain, anchored around flagship projects. This will be the State Department's overarching framework to answer President Trump's call and "guide State Department policy on economic statecraft, promoting America's economic security and growth, and American technological dominance abroad."

Second, if confirmed, I will work to position the United States as the industrial engine of the Department's global supply chain strategy. I will do this by working with other Departments, including the Departments of Commerce and Treasury, to help guide and accelerate the deployment of foreign investment commitments in infrastructure that will jolt American industrial productivity and competitiveness. Examples include advanced manufacturing like the TSMC expansion in Arizona, mineral extraction and processing like the Lithium Loop in Nevada, and large energy infrastructure projects like the Alaska LNG project.

Third, if confirmed, I will implement President Trump's America First Trade and Investment Policies and work with the U.S. Trade Representative and other Departments to expand market access for American companies abroad and promote exports of American energy, particularly oil, liquefied natural gas, and nuclear energy. I will also work to advance a level playing field for U.S. companies and address unfair and predatory trade practices, particularly by China's state-backed "global champions" across third markets and the Global South.

Thank you all again for the opportunity to appear before this distinguished Committee. I welcome your questions. And, if confirmed, I look forward to working with you and your staff to deliver a foreign policy that protects the interests of our Nation and its people.