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What is the way forward?

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America's preeminent position of leadership in the world in the decades following the end of WWII was largely due to strong bipartisan support for federal investments in science and engineering research, particularly in universities, and the unique strengths of a U.S. industry that reflects the American spirit of innovation and willingness to take risks. U.S. industry will continue to do its part. But any bipartisan commitment to future research—or anything else of a progressive nature—as a high priority is very much in doubt. Meanwhile, even with today's economic uncertainties, both Europe and many Asian economies continue to value and fund research as a priority. The research community can influence America's direction, but not without an unprecedented effort. The author will offer an idea on a way to move forward.