

### Introduction -

The Bilderberg Group, Bilderberg conference, Bilderberg meetings, or Bilderberg Club is an annual private conference of 120 to 150 people of the European and North American political elite, experts from industry, finance, academia, and the media, established in 1954. The meetings are closed to the public.

This graph we found on Facebook shows the members' connections to a ton of corporations, charities, policy groups and media. Everyone from Eric Schmidt to George Soros is a member. There are tons of conspiracy theories about the group, including that they control the world economy.

We took the findings with a grain of salt--after all, it's easy to trace an individual to a corporation and the graph doesn't specify what influence the member wielded.

But perhaps it's a compelling argument for why the meetings should be public.

#### Sources:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bilderberg\\_Group](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bilderberg_Group)

<http://www.businessinsider.com/this-chart-shows-the-bilderberg-groups-connection-to-everything-in-the-world-2012-6>

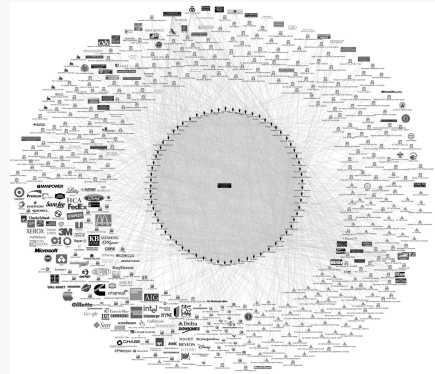
<http://www.bilderbergmeetings.org/index.php>

### Activities & Goals

The group's original goal of promoting Atlanticism, of strengthening US-European relations and preventing another world war has grown; the Bilderberg Group's theme is to "bolster a consensus around free market Western capitalism and its interests around the globe", according to Andrew Kakabadse.

In 2001, Denis Healey, a Bilderberg group founder and, a steering committee member for 30 years, said: "To say we were striving for a one-world government is exaggerated, but not wholly unfair. Those of us in Bilderberg felt we couldn't go on forever fighting one another for nothing and killing people and rendering millions homeless. So we felt that a single community throughout the world would be a good thing.

### Bilderberg Connections



A compelling argument for why the meetings should be public.

A list of participants:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Bilderberg\\_participants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Bilderberg_participants)

### Criticisms

Partly because of its working methods to ensure strict privacy, the Bilderberg Group has been criticised for its lack of transparency and accountability. Due to its privacy, Bilderberg has been accused of conspiracies.

This outlook has been popular on both extremes of the political spectrum, even if they disagree about the exact nature of the group's intentions. Some on the left accuse the Bilderberg group of conspiring to impose capitalist domination while some on the right have accused the group of conspiring to impose a world government and planned economies.

History has shown that, whether the group represents the Rightist or Leftist ideals, the members will work for their personal, political and business interests without public oversight. The sheer extent of their money and influence should warrant greater transparency.