

Erik Peterson

Partner and Managing Director of A.T. Kearney's Global Business Policy Council & Senior Advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Anticipating the Coming Transformation in Production. Here's the bottom line: Five key exponential technologies underpinning production (AI, IoT, robotics, 3D printing and augmented reality) and two closely-related tech takeoff areas (nano and bio) are changing the very nature of production. Together, they are revolutionizing the fundamental nature of business in the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Erik Peterson takes expert audiences through the specifics of how tech is transforming every stage of the global value chain—and what strategies industries and companies must do—and are doing—to pre-position themselves for the sweeping changes ahead. He weaves together insight from his extensive experience with business leaders worldwide, as well as his work with the World Economic Forum on the future of production, to offer practical and timely recommendations.

Competing in an Age of Digital Disruption: The point of departure for this presentation is that the new “great game” has begun. We are all now moving into a new digital order affecting all dimensions of politics and the economy that is at once critically important and profoundly uncertain. In no uncertain terms, Erik Peterson lays out how massive the stakes are for all concerned. The capacity of societies to adapt to this sweeping change in digitalization has monumental implications for geopolitics, social stability and economic growth the world over. How, then, should companies react? According to Erik, who has extensive experience with leading business figures, companies must engage in nothing less than end-to-end transformations in order to persevere and prosper. Those are mere table stakes, however. They must also do significantly more to shape the markets in which they operate by working with—or around—embattled and populist governments.

Entering the “Post-Global” Age. Have we reached a new phase in global business? According to Erik Peterson, the answer is an emphatic “yes.” Thirty years after the end of the Cold War and the onset of rapid globalization, there are new and fundamental questions on whether the global economy will “snap back” or whether we will see an intensification of protectionism and mercantilism. Erik argues we are entering a wholesale new period. What does it all mean for business? Many of the world's largest corporations are pursuing localization strategies to address the uncertainties—starting with fragmentation of markets and shortening of supply chains—and Erik has been in the middle of the action. What are the key signals that business leaders are anticipating? How are they hedging their existing “global” value chains?

Navigating Mounting Global Uncertainty. The big-picture look at the forces driving global change—in demographics, resources and environment, economics, technology, geopolitics, and society—has been the centerpiece of Erik Peterson's presentations before heads of state, CEOs and CXOs, chief strategy officers, and other senior leaders. With state-of-the-art projections and forecasts, Erik explores the future outlines of the world and the mounting challenges that organizations will face.