

Occupy Bilderberg faces off with secretive gathering

By [Global Research](#)

Region: [USA](#)

Global Research, May 31, 2012

[Russia Today](#) 31 May 2012



Activists protest close to the Suvretta House five-star hotel in the chic Swiss ski station of St Moritz, where the Bilderberg Group is holding its annual meeting on June 9, 2011 (AFP Photo/Fabrice Coffrini)

Around 150 of the world's elite approached the grounds of a suburban Virginia hotel on Thursday for the first day of the 2012 Bilderberg Conference, but also on hand were throngs of protesters who gathered to oppose the top-secret gathering.

Journalists and critics of the annual clandestine conference stationed themselves outside of a Chantilly, Virginia Marriott hotel near Washington, DC early Thursday to catch a glimpse of the government officials, entrepreneurs and other assorted members of the privileged elite who had gathered for this year's event.

In year's past, it is rumored that leaders of the United States and Britain were agreed on by global figureheads behind closed doors during the Bilderberg Conference; this week in Virginia, speculators have introduced the notion that international big-wigs will be brought with questions surrounding both who to back during the 2012 US presidential election and who will be picked to run alongside GOP nominee Mitt Romney.

"Policy is being set there and this is one of the most elite meetings out there," radio host Alex Jones told RT weeks before the event. On Thursday, Jones and his media crew were in Chantilly, VA to expose this year's attendees.

Before the event went underway, the only person confirmed to accept an invitation to the 2012 conference was Canadian politician Alison Redford, although frequent guests Henry A. Kissinger and David Rockefeller were all but certain to stop by the Westfield Marriott hotel, although last year's roster included names such as Google Chairman Eric Schmidt, World Bank President Robert B. Zoellick, European Central Bank President Jean-Claude Trichet, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands and Greek Minister of Finance George Papaconstantinou. In a peculiar change of policy, however, the Bilderberg Group formally released a roster of their own invited members days before this week's event. Whether or not people liked such as Citigroup Vice Chairman Peter Orszag or Finnish Minister of Finance Jutta Urpilainen will actually show is a matter that only those at the behind-closed-doors event can confirm, but the action of actually releasing a list of attendees—real or not — suggests that opponents of the secret society have finally made their unrest heard to the point that organizers decided to attempt for at least some transparency.

Asked to be in attendance this year, according to a memo released by the Bilderberg Group, were many of the usual names as well as Sen. Marco Rubio, whose name has been floated as a possible nominee for Mitt Romney's running mate.

Those without an invite weren't so lucky, though — Jones revealed only two days before the event began that his reservation at the hotel had been revoked and that anyone not directly affiliated with the conference that planned to stay at the Marriott had their accommodations transferred to a separate facility. Thanks in part to exposing the conference, however, journalists such as Jones made it possible for a longstanding media blackout of Bilderberg to finally be removed in 2012. Speaking to RT earlier in the year, Jones appealed to viewers to stage an "Occupy Bilderberg" protest outside the hotel's grounds and the subsequent media coverage that followed allowed for mainstream outlets to cover the event with an attention unmatched in years before.

The original source of this article is [Russia Today](#)
Copyright © [Global Research](#), [Russia Today](#), 2012

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [Global Research](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca