



BARRIERS TO U.S. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

SPIE—The International Society for Optics and Photonics, supports the recommendations put forward in the *Beyond Fortress America Report* issued by the Committee on Science, Security, and Prosperity; Committee on Scientific **Communication** and National Security of the National Research Council in January 2009. SPIE also agrees with many of the findings of experts who testified before the House Science & Technology Committee on February 25, 2009 concerning potential damage being done to the nation’s economic well-being through unintended consequences of current export control regulations and policies.

It is time to reform outdated rules and regulations that govern the movement of photonics and optoelectronics goods, services and talent across borders. SPIE advocates an updated regulatory scheme that recognizes the importance of U.S. security interests while at the same time protecting the economic interests of U.S.-based industries and universities.