

Elizabeth Linder

Chief Diplomatic Officer & Founder, Brooch Associates

Keynote Speaker · Leadership Facilitator · Curated Guest · Moderating & Hosting

ENGAGEMENT FORMATS

Elizabeth engages as a keynote Speaker, a leadership facilitator and session Leader, and as a curated Guest for high-stakes panels and roundtables. She also hosts awards ceremonies and moderated forums, and accepts select convening commissions — bespoke gatherings designed around a defined strategic purpose.

CATEGORY

Current Affairs

A.01 America at 250

Against the backdrop of what feels like a polarizing moment, this great experiment of a nation is hitting a major milestone. Having spent her career across 59 countries with a deep appreciation for international language, culture, and tradition, Elizabeth offers her perspectives on what she values most about being an American, and what this moment means.

A.02 Americans Abroad — in 2026

From the writings of Mark Twain to the films of Woody Allen, Americans travelling abroad has always made for good storytelling. But when doing business internationally, reading the room is no laughing matter. As a diplomat representing some of America's most recognisable brands, Elizabeth offers trusted guidance for executives engaging in allied, adversarial, and in-between markets.

A.03 Where to Go in 2026

Executive leaders are routinely coached on what to read, who to know, and how to present themselves. But for any executive engaged in an internationally growing business, knowing where to be physically matters as much as any of the above. Elizabeth coaches the room on strategies for experiential executive education and intentional geographic presence.

Corporate Strategy & Executive Leadership

B.01 The Diplomat You Never Knew You Needed

Every expanding organisation appoints a Czar. Almost none appoint a Diplomat. In this practical leadership talk built on the Czar/Diplomat framework, Elizabeth makes the case for the leadership function missing from most boardrooms, and why corporate diplomacy is so consistently overlooked despite the high reputational and fiscal cost of foregoing it.

B.02 The Age of Disruption vs Evolution

The most durable brands in history did not disrupt. They evolved. Drawing on biomimicry, the history of technology, and her years inside Facebook, Elizabeth dismantles the disruption mythology that has cost companies billions in reputational damage, and builds the case for evolutionary strategy as the operating model that actually endures.

B.03 Cultural Intelligence as the New Competitive Advantage

Demographic data and market sizing are necessary but not sufficient for international expansion. Brands that succeed abroad understand the cultural logic of the markets they are entering, not just the demographics. That understanding determines whether a brand lands with grace or friction. Elizabeth makes the operational case.

B.04 AI and the Diplomacy Deficit

Technology is expanding faster than institutional trust can follow. The authenticity that brands have worked hard to establish now comes into question as AI accelerates every interaction. Who bridges that gap? Elizabeth explores how corporate diplomacy becomes the essential counterweight to artificial acceleration, and how organisations earn the trust that only humans can authentically deliver.

B.05 Cultural Intelligence as Financial Risk

New market entry requires expansive due diligence. Yet practically every analysis is missing the single variable most predictive of failure. The business justification for cultural intelligence is sound and measurable. The cost of ignoring it is undue risk exposure. Elizabeth builds the financial case for what most organisations still treat as a soft discipline.

B.06 The Corporate Foreign Policy Gap

Your brand speaks for you when you are not in the room. Do you know what it is saying to your new international customers? Elizabeth makes the case for why multinational corporations need their own diplomatic infrastructure, what happens when they do not have it, and how to build it before the friction finds you.

Life Design

C.01 A Chief Diplomatic Officer's Guide to Life Design

Diplomats do not stumble into rooms. They architect them. In this talk, Elizabeth applies the full toolkit of international diplomacy to the design of an intentional life: who sits at your table, how you navigate conflict, how you leave every place better than you found it. The same precision that opens ministerial doors, applied to the rooms you actually live in.

C.02 Everyday Diplomacy — You Are Your Own Diplomat

You are practising diplomacy, or failing to, every single day. In the difficult conversation. In the introduction you make. In how you handle genuine incompatibility. Elizabeth translates her career in professional diplomacy into a practical toolkit audiences can use in daily life, whether they are navigating a boardroom, a family dinner, or a moment of genuine conflict.

C.03 The Friendship Bench

Your life is too important to have the wrong people sitting at the table. In international diplomacy, the guest list is never accidental. Elizabeth invites audiences to apply the same discipline to the relationships they are building: who belongs in the inner circle, how to identify them, and how to convene people in a way that generates trust rather than transaction.

C.04 The Diplomat at Home

The skills that open ministerial doors — active listening, coalition-building, reading a room, navigating competing interests with grace — are precisely the skills that create extraordinary family culture and close friendships. Warm, funny, and full of stories only Elizabeth can tell, this talk brings the protocols of diplomacy home.

C.05 Curating Music as a Personal and Professional Tool

Content in development.

Reflections from a Chief Diplomatic Officer

D.01 Your Life Is a Luxury Hotel

What makes a great hotel great has nothing to do with thread count. It is about anticipation, presence, and the architecture of arrival. Elizabeth applies the design principles of the world's finest properties to how we build our lives, drawing on decades spent not as a tourist but as a practitioner of the places that get it right.

D.02 What the World's Best Hotels Taught Me

Decades spent in the world's most extraordinary properties reveal a philosophy: the finest hospitality is not about luxury. It is about presence, genuine attention, and making people feel seen. Elizabeth draws on direct experience with the world's great hotel companies to extract a leadership framework applicable far beyond the hospitality sector.

D.03 The Art of Being Everywhere

For her whole career, Elizabeth maintained presence and authority across continents while opening ministerial doors on five. A talk about managing a global identity with coherence, navigating the exhilaration of a genuinely international life, and knowing which rooms to be in — and which to leave to others.

D.04 Check In. Check Out. Leave Every Room Better.

A meditation on how we arrive in places — the cities, companies, relationships, and chapters of life — and how we leave them. Elizabeth has checked in and out of more rooms, countries, and institutional relationships than most people will encounter in a lifetime. What she has learned about departure is more useful than anything she learned about arrival.

D.05 Building a Life Worth Checking Into

After years of spending more nights in extraordinary hotels than in her own home, Elizabeth has developed a very clear philosophy about what makes somewhere worth returning to. This is a talk about designing your life for the people you love, the work you find meaningful, and the spaces that make you more fully yourself.

D.06 A Diplomat's Guide to Traveling the World with Intention

Most people travel. Very few arrive. A framework for moving through the world the way ambassadors do — generating real connection, genuine insight, and the kind of cultural intelligence that changes how you see everything when you come home. For executives and individuals who want their travel to compound into something more than frequent flyer miles.

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

Napa Valley

St. Helena · SF Bay Area

London

Global HQ · EMEA

South Florida

Coral Gables · USA

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