



## TPC Presents Distinguished Speaker Ron Wyden

### *Speaker Biographies*

**Senator Ron Wyden** was first elected to Congress in 1980 to represent Oregon's Third District. In 1996, he was elected to the US Senate in a special election. Before congressional service, Wyden cofounded the Oregon chapter of the Gray Panthers, an advocacy group for the elderly. He also was director of Oregon Legal Services for the Elderly from 1977 to 1979. Wyden has a long history of fighting for a simple and fair tax code. He has worked with Democrats and Republicans in seeking common ground for innovative policy approaches to some of the nation's most entrenched issues, from comprehensive tax reform to improving Medicare and ensuring that every American who qualifies has access to quality, affordable health care. Tax reform remains a critical component of Wyden's career, as he has championed policies that bring progressivity to the tax code, close corporate tax loopholes, and lower tax bills for the middle class. In 2011, he introduced a bipartisan tax reform bill that would broaden the base, simplify the tax code, and lower corporate rates.

**Mark Mazur** is the Robert C. Pozen director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. Previously, Mazur was the assistant secretary for tax policy at the US Treasury. Mazur's 25 years of public service includes stints at the Internal Revenue Service, where he was director of the Office of Research, Analysis, and Statistics; the US Department of Energy, where he was a senior adviser to Secretary Bill Richardson and administrator of the US Energy Information Administration; and the Joint Committee on Taxation, the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and the National Economic Council. Mazur received a BA in financial administration from Michigan State University and a PhD in economics, business, and public policy from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.