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The Executive Directors of the ACLU from 1920 to 2020



1. 1920—1950 Roger Nash Baldwin, co-founder of the ACLU, was the first ACLU Executive Director, and he served in that capacity for 30 years. His books include *Liberty Under the Soviets*, 1928, and *Juvenile Courts and Probation*, in 1914 as co-writer. He received a master's degree in social work from Harvard.



2. 1950—1962 Patrick Murphy Malin was the second ACLU Executive Director and served for 12 years after Roger Baldwin. Malin was an economics professor at Swarthmore College from 1930 to 1950.



3. 1962—1970 Jack Pemberton served as ACLU Executive Director through most of the 1960s. He graduated from Harvard Law School, became a law professor, and was regional counsel of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in San Francisco.



4. 1970—1978 Aryeh Neier served as the ACLU Executive Director for eight years in the '70s. Some of his books include *Dossier: The Secret Files They Keep on You*, 1978, and *Taking Liberties: Four Decades in the Struggle for Rights*, 2003. He received his JD from Cornell University.



5. 1978—2001 Ira Glasser served as ACLU Executive Director for nearly a quarter of a century. In 1991, Glasser published *Visions of Liberty: The Bill of Rights for All Americans*. Glasser taught mathematics at City University in New York and Sarah Lawrence College, and was editor of a monthly magazine of public affairs titled *Current*.



6. 2001—Present Anthony D. Romero has been the Executive Director of the ACLU since the week before Sept. 11, 2001. According to the ACLU website, he is the “first Latino and openly gay man to serve in that capacity.”¹ With NPR correspondent Dina Temple-Raston, he published *In Defense of Our America: The Fight for Civil Liberties in the Age of Terror*.

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¹ “Anthony D. Romero,” American Civil Liberties Union. Accessed January 7, 2021. <https://www.aclu.org/bio/anthony-d-romero>.