



SUMMER SYMPOSIUM ON FOREIGN POLICY 2026

AUGUST 3 (MONDAY)

10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Trita Parsi, Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) 555 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001
11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.	SAIS TOUR
12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.	L U N C H
2:00 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.	PHOTO at Capitol Reflecting Pool
3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Congressional Visitor Center (CVC) Congressional Tour

AUGUST 4 (TUESDAY)

10:00 A.M. -11:00 A.M.	Carla P. Freeman, Director of the Foreign Policy Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies <i>The View from China</i> Z O O M Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University 1957 E St NW, Washington, DC 20052
11:15 A.M. -12:15 P.M.	Gerlinde Groitl, ISS Institute for Security and Strategy GmbH, Helmut Schmidt Visiting Chair at the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) <i>The US and Europe</i> Z O O M
12:15 P.M. -1:30 P.M.	L U N C H

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Jenny Town, Stimson Center, *The Koreas*

2:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Michael O'Hanlon, Brookings
The Wars of 2025-2026

AUGUST 5 (WEDNESDAY)

10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Ambassador (ret.) Reuben E. Brigety, II Busara Advisors
The US and Africa

11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Caroline Mays, The New Story Leadership (NSL)
A Peace Plan for the Middle East

12:30 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

LUNCH

1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Daryl Kimball, Arms Control Association
The US and Arms Control Today

AUGUST 6 (THURSDAY)

10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

Pamela Duke, former Assistant Director of National Intelligence for Transformation, and Innovation at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI)
National Intelligence in the AI Era

11:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Shane Harris, The Atlantic
Police, War, and Journalism

12:30 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

LUNCH

1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Mexican Cultural Institute
2829 16th street, N.W., Washington, DC 20009

6:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.

RECEPTION at THE HIVE

AUGUST 7 (FRIDAY)

- 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.** Jason C. Moyer, Atlantic Council, *NATO Today*,
Elliott School of International Affairs, ROOM 113
- 11:00 A.M. -12:00 P.M.** Christopher Sands, Director Center for Canadian Studies
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
The North American Economic Connection
- 12:00 P.M. -1:30 P.M.** **LUNCH**
- 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.** Donald Jensen, Foundation for Defense of Democracies Center for
Transatlantic Relations, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced
International Studies, Center for European Policy Analysis
The US, Ukraine, and Russia

AUGUST 8 (SATURDAY)

- 10:15 A.M. -1:15 P.M.** MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND
CULTURE

AUGUST 10 (MONDAY)

- 11:15 A.M. -12:15 P.M.** Adam Smith, Gibson Dunn International Trade Advisory
and Enforcement, Sanctions and Export Enforcement
Practice Groups
Sanctions in US Policy
- 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.** INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

AUGUST 11 (TUESDAY)

- 10:00 A.M. -11:00 A.M.** Nicholas Bassey, African Diaspora Network
My Life in International Aid Efforts
- 11:15 A.M. – 12:15 P.M.** Lisa Geltinger, Universität Regensburg
*Military Success, Political Uncertainty: The Question of
Victory in Iran*
- 1:30 P.M.** EMBASSY OF COLOMBIA

AUGUST 12 (WEDNESDAY)

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| 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. | Mariama Keita-Thiero, MK Inc.
<i>The UN, Aid, and International Institutions</i> |
| 12:15 P.M. - 1:30 P.M. | LUNCH |
| 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. | Robert Sutter, George Washington University
<i>How Trump Challenges the Washington Consensus on China</i> |
| 2:30 P.M. - 2:45 P.M. | COFFEE BREAK |
| 2:45 P.M. – 3:45 P.M. | Billy Pizer, Vice President for Research and Policy
Engagement Resources for the Future
<i>The Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources</i> |

AUGUST 13 (THURSDAY)

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| 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. | Julian Mueller-Kaler, Stimson Center
<i>Europe, AI, and the Future</i> |
| 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. | Shelton Williams, Osgood Center
Open discussion |

BIOGRAPHICAL HIGHLIGHTS



TRITA PARSI

Trita Parsi is an author, foreign policy expert, co-founder, and Executive Vice President of the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft. Known for his work on U.S.-Iranian relations and Middle Eastern affairs, he was named one of the 25 most influential voices in Washington, D.C. foreign policy by *Washingtonian Magazine*.

Born in Ahvaz, Iran, Parsi moved to Sweden at age four following his father's imprisonment for political activism. He holds a Master's in International Relations from Uppsala University, a Master's in Economics from the Stockholm School of Economics, and a Ph.D. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University SAIS. Trita Parsi previously worked for the Swedish Permanent Mission to the United Nations, focusing on security and human rights. In 2002, he co-founded the National Iranian American Council, leading the organization until 2018 to promote civic participation and diplomacy. Later, in 2019, he co-founded the Quincy Institute, where he currently drives initiatives centered on military restraint and diplomatic engagement.

He has served as an adjunct professor at universities including Georgetown and NYU. Parsi is also an acclaimed and prolific author focused on Middle Eastern geopolitics. He has published *Treacherous Alliance: The Secret Dealings of Israel, Iran, and the United States* (2007), which won the 2010 Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, *A Single Roll of the Dice: Obama's Diplomacy with Iran* (2012), and *Losing an Enemy: Obama, Iran, and the Triumph of Diplomacy* (2017).



CARLA FREEMAN

Dr. Carla Freeman is a leading scholar of international relations, who currently serves as a senior lecturer in International Affairs and director of the Foreign Policy Institute (FPI) at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Widely recognized for her expertise in Chinese foreign and security policy, U.S.-China relations, and global governance, Dr. Freeman possesses a multifaceted career spanning academia, government, and the non-profit sector.

Her career has centered on China and US-China relations, including her recent positions as Senior Expert for China at the United States Institute of Peace and as Chair in US-China relations at the Library of Congress. While at SAIS, she has had the chance to serve as associate director of the China program and

interim American co-director of the Hopkins-Nanjing Center. In the past, she has also worked on evaluating political and business risk in Asia, developed programs to foster civil society and community sustainability, and held a variety of teaching positions and research fellowships. The latter included spending much of a year as a visiting scholar at Harvard's Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, serving as a fellow at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and affiliating as a Peace Scholar with the US Institute of Peace when she was completing her dissertation. She is a nonresident senior fellow at the Institute of Security and Development Policy and a member of the advisory council of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs (OIIA).

She received a PhD in International Relations and Asian Studies from Johns Hopkins SAIS, also completing a master's in International Economics and China Studies. Her BA is in history and Southeast Asian studies (with honors) from Yale University and a certificate in politics with honors from Paris Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po in Paris). She also has certificates in Chinese from Beijing Foreign Languages University and the Taipei Language Institute and has done additional graduate work in conflict management.

She was previously the editor-in-chief of the academic journal *Asian Perspective*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press, and now serves on its editorial board.



GERLINDE GROITL

Dr. Gerlinde Groitl is a habilitated political scientist with special expertise in the USA, security and defense policy, strategic studies, and great power competition. She heads in Munich has taught international politics at the Institute of Political Science at the University of Regensburg. She previously worked at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, the University of Passau and the Chair of International Politics at the University of Regensburg. In recent years, she has been a visiting scholar at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, the university think tank LSE IDEAS at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Masaryk University in Brno, among others.

She has been a member of the board of the German Society for Political Science (DGfP) since 2023. She holds degrees from the University of Regensburg and has completed certificate programs at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, the Saïd Business School at the University of Oxford and the Geneva Center for Security Policy.

Groitl's research focuses on the US, Germany, the EU and NATO as well as the geopolitical, geo-economic and normative great power competition between Russia, China and the West and the erosion of the (liberal) international order. She publishes on these topics in a variety of formats. The last of her three monographs to date developed a neoclassical realist model for the study of international order and revisionism, analyzing Russia and China's attack on the US-led liberal order (2023). Groitl's work has been honored with several awards. Most recently, in 2023, she and Prof. Dr Eva Odzuck (Political Theory, University of Regensburg) received the essay prize of the Jakob Fugger Centre at the University of Augsburg for a joint work on the question of how much violence democracy needs and can tolerate.

Groittl's work has always been practice-orientated. In 2020/21, she participated in the "Expert Group USA" convened at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) in Berlin to analyze the long-term development trends of US domestic and foreign policy. In 2018, she contributed to the "American-German Situation Room" project of the German Marshall Fund and the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS) in Washington, DC. From 2015 to 2018, she was a member of the Young Security Policy Experts Working Group at the Federal Academy for Security Policy in Berlin.



JENNY TOWN

Jenny Town is a prominent foreign policy analyst who serves as a Senior Fellow at the Stimson Center and the Director of the Korea Program and 38 North, a premier web journal dedicated to providing policy and technical analysis on North Korea. Her areas of expertise include North Korea, US-DPRK relations, US-ROK alliance relations and extended deterrence, and Northeast Asia regional security.

She was named one of Worth Magazine's "Groundbreakers 2020: 50 Women Changing the World" and one of Fast Company's Most Creative People in Business in 2019 for her role in co-founding and managing 38 North, which provides policy and technical analysis on North Korea.

Ms. Town is also a Research Fellow in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Vienna, an Associate Fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), a Member of the National Committee on North Korea, and an Associate Member of the Council of Korean Americans. She serves on the Editorial Board for Inkstick, an online foreign policy journal for emerging scholars. She previously served as the Assistant Director of the US-Korea Institute at SAIS (2008-2018) and an expert reviewer for North and South Korea for Freedom House's Freedom in the World Index (2010-2023), where she previously worked on the Human Rights in North Korea Project.

Ms. Town holds a BA in East Asian Studies and International Relations from Westmar University and a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. She is a frequent commentator for a range of print, radio and television news, including Reuters, BBC, CNN, Financial Times, Deutsche Welle, Voice of America, Japan Times, NHK, CGTN, BBC World Radio, and more. And has been featured on a number of podcasts including Asia Matters, The President's Inbox, the Impossible State, Today Explained, The DSR Daily Brief, and more.



MICHAEL O'HANLON

Dr. Michael E. O'Hanlon is a highly distinguished scholar in American national security, defense strategy, and the use of military force. He currently serves as a Senior Fellow and the Director of Research for the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution. Within Brookings, he holds the inaugural Philip H. Knight Chair in Defense and Strategy and serves as the Director of the Strobe Talbott Center on Security, Strategy and Technology. With over three decades of policy-shaping expertise, Dr. O'Hanlon bridges the gap between technical defense analysis and grand strategic foreign policy.

Dr. O'Hanlon earned his Ph.D. in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University, where he was awarded a National Science Foundation fellowship. He also holds a Master of Science in Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts in Physics from Princeton.

An author of over 20 books, his notable volumes include *To Dare Mighty Things: U. S. Defense Strategy Since the Revolution*, published in January of 2026, in which, according to the Yale University Press, O'Hanlon posits that “much of the history of U.S. defense over the course of 250 years has been a story of success. America has dared mighty things and often achieved them. After growing into a continental power, largely through force of arms, during the first half of its history, it then led the way to coalition victories in two world wars, pursued peace in the Cold War, and has contributed to the most democratic period in human history. But it is a more “dangerous nation” than most citizens appreciate, given that its leaders, as well as its people, are highly self-confident and activist. O'Hanlon claims that only by understanding this “national DNA” can we hope to steer safely through the twenty-first century. He further argues that, in contrast to its consistently assertive grand strategy, there has been no single defining American “way of war” since 1775—a good thing, since what often worked for the country in the past may be of less relevance for the modern age.” Previously, he published *Military History for the Modern Strategist* (2023), *The Art of War in an Age of Peace* (2021), and *The Senkaku Paradox* (2019).

He is one of the most visible defense commentators in the United States, having provided broadcast analysis and authored hundreds of op-eds for major outlets including Foreign Affairs, The New York Times, and The Wall Street Journal. Michael O'Hanlon has had outstanding roles both in public and private institutions. He provided high-level counsel to leadership as a member of the Central Intelligence Agency's External Advisory Board from 2011 to 2012. In the academic field, he has shaped future foreign policy leaders as an adjunct professor at Columbia University and Georgetown University, lecturing on military force and security policy. **CHECK:** <https://mwi.westpoint.edu/brookings-michael-ohanlon-says-future-wars-will-messy>



AMBASSADOR (RET.) REUBEN E. BRIGETY

Ambassador (ret.) Reuben E. Brigety II, Ph.D. is an accomplished American diplomat, academic administrator, and foreign policy practitioner who currently serves as the President of Busara Advisors. Throughout his multi-decade career, Dr. Brigety has operated at the intersection of international statecraft, higher education leadership, and commercial diplomacy, maintaining a primary focus on African geopolitical and economic affairs.

Dr. Brigety, a Distinguished Midshipman Graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy (B.S., 1995), served as Brigade Commander and later earned an M.Phil. and Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Cambridge. His early career included service as a U.S. Naval Officer, a field researcher for Human Rights Watch in conflict zones, and faculty positions at George Mason and American University.

Dr. Brigety held high-level U.S. foreign policy roles, including Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (2009–2011) and the Bureau of African Affairs (2011–2013). Appointed by President Obama, he served as the U.S. Representative to the African Union and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (2013–2015). Later, he was appointed by President Biden as the U.S. Ambassador to South Africa (2022–2025), where he focused on strengthening economic and academic partnerships.

Dr. Brigety led the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University as Dean (2015–2020), where he founded the Institute for African Studies. Subsequently, he served as Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of the South (2020–2021).

In 2025, Dr. Brigety transitioned to the private sector as President of Busara Advisors, a Washington, D.C.-based firm specializing in commercial diplomacy and strategic advisory across African markets. He is a Life Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the American Academy of Diplomacy, with proficiency in Spanish, French, and Amharic.



CAROLINE MAYS

Caroline Mays is the Executive Director of New Story Leadership (NSL). As the leader and expert on conflict transformation, nonviolent communication, strategic message development, and international relations, Mays guides the organization's core mission of giving young influencers a platform to challenge old paradigms and build collective impact projects. Under her stewardship, NSL supports critical alumni-led advocacy efforts in the U.S. Congress, such as the Phoenix Plan—a detailed roadmap for post-conflict reconstruction in Gaza and regional reconciliation.

Her professional experiences include strategic communication and media management. She had a relevant role launching the first comprehensive external relations strategy for the Ma'an Network, the largest independent media organization operating within the Palestinian territories. Through this initiative, she successfully secured operational buy-in and funding from international ambassadors, public officials, and global organizations like Save the Children.

She also shares her Middle East expertise in several projects. She spent three years residing in the West Bank working closely with grassroots organizations, civil society institutions, and the Bethlehem Development Foundation to advance sustainable regional development. In addition, she leads public and diplomatic initiatives. Caroline Mays maintains strong foundations in public service through positions within the U.S. House of Representatives and the Palestinian Mission to the United States, leveraging expertise in stakeholder engagement and government relations.

Caroline Mays graduated with an M.A. in Middle East and Islamic Studies from The American University of Paris. She holds a B.A. in Political Science and International Affairs from The George Washington University.



DARYL KIMBALL

Daryl G. Kimball is a globally recognized practitioner-scholar and policy analyst in the fields of international security, nonproliferation, and global disarmament. He has served as the Executive Director of the non-partisan Arms Control Association (ACA). Over a career spanning more than three decades, Kimball has shaped high-level debates on weapons-related security, influencing both global treaty frameworks and U.S. foreign policy.

Kimball's extensive portfolio combines empirical strategic analysis with systemic advocacy in global affairs. His primary areas of investigation and policy intervention include: (1) Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament: Analyzing structural mechanisms to reduce global strategic risk, including the implementation of the New START agreement and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), (2) Multilateral Treaty Frameworks: Advocating for the verification and execution of major security compacts, most notably the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and (3) Defense and Threat Mitigation: Assessing the foreign policy implications of emerging missile defense programs, conventional arms transfers, and the environmental legacy of the Cold War arms race.

Kimball has guided prominent non-governmental organizations through critical shifts in the post-Cold War and modern geopolitical landscapes. Under his leadership, the ACA has expanded its analytical reach, serving as a critical bridge between academic research, civil society, and executive policymakers. He also serves as the publisher of the monthly peer-reviewed journal *Arms Control Today*. He also served as the Executive Director of The Coalition to Reduce Nuclear Dangers coordinating a powerful consortium of 17

major U.S. non-governmental organizations tasked with strengthening international stability and he directed security programs and policy initiatives for Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) spearheading coalitions that ultimately secured the 1992 U.S. nuclear test moratorium and global zero-yield testing bans.

Kimball regularly contributes foundational scholarship and commentary to core foreign policy publications, including the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Diplomacy/Foreign Affairs from Miami University of Ohio. His early career was distinguished by his appointment as a Herbert R. Scoville Peace Fellow, a cornerstone program designed to cultivate elite leadership in international peace and security.



ADAM SMITH

Adam M. Smith is a partner at Gibson, Dunn. Adam is one of the world's leading sanctions and trade legal experts. Fortune 100 managers and boards regularly engage him to navigate the increasingly complex international trade scenarios.

A year ago, *Legal 500 US 2025* named Adam Smith a "Leading Lawyer" in International trade: Customs, export controls and economic sanctions. Likewise, *Global Investigations Review* has named him to its "25 Most Respected Sanctions Lawyers in Washington, D.C." list, which features individuals who work on the most significant cases. *The Best Lawyers in America®* recognized him for International Trade and Finance Law. *Who's Who Legal* regularly recognizes him as a Thought Leader for Trade & Customs, International Sanctions, and in its Global Elite Guide.

Adam advises companies on mission critical matters including providing compliance guidance, representing them before U.S. and foreign governments, and defending them against enforcement actions brought by regulators around the world.

Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Adam served in the Obama Administration as the Senior Advisor to the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) – the U.S. Government's economic sanctions agency – and as the Director of Multilateral Affairs on the National Security Council. During his time in government Adam was one of the architects of the initial sanction's strategy against Russia after the Crimea invasion of 2014.

Adam is the author of three legal texts and dozens of articles and book chapters, has testified before the U.S. Congress on sanctions, and is a frequent presenter at industry, governmental, and academic conferences globally. Earlier in his career, Adam was a political economist at the United Nations and also held posts at the World Bank and the OECD.

Adam earned his law degree from Harvard University, his master's degree from the University of Oxford, and his bachelor's degree from Brown University.



PAMELA DUKE

Pamela Duke is a practitioner-scholar in national security, intelligence policy, and organizational modernization. Having served as a high-level government executive, most notably as the Assistant Director of National Intelligence (ADNI) for transformation and innovation—she has bridged the gap between intelligence operations and strategic policy frameworks. Her background combines over thirty years of public service, rigorous institutional leadership,

Her academic and professional portfolio centers on the intersection of technological transformation, intelligence integration, and foreign policy development. Her expertise includes projects in the Intelligence Community (IC) and Governance, including evaluating the organizational architectures established by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act (IR and policy and strategy formulation, in which she contributed to the reform of defense and national intelligence frameworks to navigate evolving geopolitical landscapes.

Duke's career is defined by strategic leadership across several foundational pillars of the United States national security apparatus. Appointed as Assistant Director of National Intelligence in this capacity in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) in July 2018, she steered the institutional vision for transformation, fostering cross-agency collaboration and integrating cutting-edge capabilities into executive decision-making processes. In addition, as the Executive Director of the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) she led initiatives within this nation's premier hub for threat analysis and strategic counterterrorism planning. In the policy leadership realm, she spent a decade as Deputy Director of Policy beginning in 2008, focusing on aligning operational intelligence mandates with the executive branch's foreign policy priorities.

Pamela Duke began her career in defense and international affairs as a Linguist for the United States Marine Corps (1991–2001), gaining critical, ground-level insights into foreign signals and regional security dynamics. Her academic credentials are diverse. Duke graduated from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, and she holds a Bachelor of Arts from Austin College, earned in 1989.



SHANE HARRIS

Shane Harris is an award-winning journalist and author who has written about security, intelligence, and foreign policy for more than two decades. He is a staff writer at The Atlantic, where he writes extensively about U.S. national security, the Trump administration, and the United States' increasingly fragile relationships with its global allies. He co-wrote the publication's "Signalgate" stories, after the White House national security adviser inadvertently added a journalist to a text thread about pending U.S. military strikes.

Previously, Shane was a staff writer at The Washington Post where he was part of the team that won the 2022 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for coverage of the January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. He was also a Pulitzer finalist for coverage of the murder of Post contributing columnist Jamal Khashoggi. Shane has also been a staff writer at The Wall Street Journal and Foreign Policy, among other publications.

Shane began covering the U.S. intelligence community immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks. He has broken countless stories and taken readers into the secret worlds of spies, hackers, and world leaders.

He is the author of two books: *The Watchers: The Rise of America's Surveillance State* and *@War: The Rise of the Military-Internet Complex*. *The Watchers* won the New York Public Library's Helen Bernstein Award for Excellence in Journalism and was named one of the best books of the year by The Economist. He has also shared a George Polk Award and won the Gerald R. Ford Prize for Distinguished Reporting on National Defense.

Shane is also a documentary filmmaker and veteran podcaster. In 2023, he co-reported "The Discord Leaks" with PBS Frontline, about an Air National Guardsman who leaked hundreds of classified U.S. intelligence documents to an online gaming platform. The film was nominated for an Emmy for outstanding investigative news coverage.

Shane has hosted two podcasts, "Rational Security" and "Chatter." His single-episode podcast for The Washington Post about a secret recipe for candied bacon (of all things) and its fascinating connection to the early days of the CIA won a James Beard Media Award.

Shane is a frequent guest on national and international TV and radio programs. He graduated in 1998 with a BA in Politics from Wake Forest University, where he also wrote and directed plays and was a member of a campus comedy troupe now entering its third decade.



JASON C. MOYER

Jason C. Moyer is a nonresident fellow with the Transatlantic Security Initiative at the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security. He is an independent foreign policy professional with over a dozen years of experience specializing in transatlantic relations, transatlantic security, the European Union, NATO, the Nordics, the Baltics, France, and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

He most recently served as the program associate and research director of transatlantic security for the Global Europe Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Previously, he worked at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in the Foreign Policy Institute—the dean’s research institute—and in the Center for Transatlantic Relations, a think tank within the university. He teaches on the Nordic and Baltic regions for the Foreign Service Institute, the training institution for diplomats in the US government. He is also a fellow for the Transatlantic Leadership Network and an associated researcher for the Latvian Institute of International Affairs. In 2023, he was a participant in the fortieth Manfred Wörner Seminar, a transatlantic security seminar organized by the German Bundeswehr.

Moyer has written more than fifty articles on contemporary transatlantic relations. His current research focuses on the intersection between politics and security, with an emphasis on the European Union as a security actor, the OSCE ahead of the fiftieth anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, Finland and Sweden as new NATO allies, and Baltic Sea security. He has been published in multiple major media outlets, including the *Washington Post*, the *Hill*, and the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*. He also offers regular media commentary and has been featured by CNN, NPR, the *New York Times*, and *Business Insider*.



CHRISTOPHER SANDS

Christopher Sands is a prominent expert in North American economic integration and U.S.-Canadian relations. Currently, he leads the Center for U.S.-Canada Studies at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and co-chairs the SAIS Academy for North America, an executive education initiative with Ambassador Arturo Sarukhán. Dr. Sands also directs the Canada Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and leads the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Initiative at the Brookings Institution.

At SAIS, Dr. Sands has served as Interim Director of the Latin American Studies Program, Faculty Lead for Technology, and Innovation, and as the school’s representative to the Johns Hopkins University Research Administration Faculty Advisory Committee. He is Lead Editor of the *Encyclopedia of U.S.-Canadian Relations* (Sage CQ Press, forthcoming 2027) and co-editor of *Canada and the United States: Differences That Count* (5th ed., University of Toronto Press, 2023) and *Canada and the United States: Sovereignty or Shared Institutions* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2021).

Beyond SAIS, Dr. Sands is a Visiting Fellow in the Global Economy and Development program at the Brookings Institution, where he leads the USMCA Initiative. He also leads the Canada Seminar at the U.S. Department of State’s National Foreign Affairs Training Center and the “How Washington Works” seminar for the Canada School of Public Service. Previously, he was a Senior Fellow at Hudson Institute, where he directed the Initiative on North American Competitiveness and concentrates on regional economic

integration and policy coordination. He has also taught at the American University School of Public Affairs and has lectured at the Foreign Service Institute of the U.S. Department of State and for the US Department of Homeland Security. In 1999-2000, Sands was a Fulbright Scholar and visiting fellow at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa

He holds a B.A. in Political Science from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Canadian studies and international economics from SAIS.

He is also a relevant collaborator in multiple organizations. He has been the treasurer and a member of the executive committee for the Canadian Politics Section of the American Political Science Association. He has been a member of the research advisory board of the Macdonald-Laurier Institute in Ottawa, and a member of the advisory board of the Canada-United States Law Institute jointly established by the law schools of Case Western Reserve University and the University of Western Ontario. He has been a fellow of the Border Policy Research Institute in Bellingham, Washington and of the George W. Bush Institute in Dallas, Texas.

Although he is a native of Detroit, Michigan, he is frequently mistaken for a Canadian.



DONALD JENSEN

Donald N. Jensen is Director of Russia and Europe at the United States Institute of Peace and an adjunct professor at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins University. A former US diplomat, Jensen provided technical support for the START, INF, and SDI negotiations and was a member of the first ten-man US inspection team to inspect Soviet missiles under the INF Treaty in 1988.

From 1996-2008 he was Associate Director of Broadcasting and head of the Research Division at RFE/RL where he helped lead that organization's expansion into new broadcast regions after the end of the Cold War and the adaptation of multimedia technology to deal with the broadcasting challenges of the 21st Century. In 2016 he was a foreign policy advisor to the presidential campaign of Governor John Kasich. Also in 2016 he was a Visiting Scholar at the NATO Defense College in Rome. Dr. Donald Jensen is an adjunct fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD), where he focuses on Russian intelligence, disinformation, and other Kremlin malign influence activities.

Jensen writes extensively on the domestic, foreign, and security policies of Russia, Ukraine, and the other post-Soviet states. He also regularly appears as a commentary on domestic and international media. He has lectured at a variety of universities, including Harvard, Oxford and George Washington University.

A noted baseball historian specializing in the Dead Ball Era and the 19th Century game, Jensen is a member of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) and has written or co-authored many books and articles on the sport. He was the 2015 winner of the Chairman's Award of the SABR Nineteenth Century Committee. Jensen is the editor of the annual, award-winning book series, *Baseball: New Research on the Early Game* (McFarland). He also is a member of the selection committee for SABR's Larry Ritter Book Award, which recognizes the best new baseball book primarily set in the Deadball Era that was published during the previous calendar year. At present he is producing a multimedia project for SABR on the history of concessions in Major League Baseball.

He received his PhD and MA from Harvard and BA from Columbia. He is fluent in Russian and Italian.



NICHOLAS BASSEY

Nicholas M. Bassey is an American international development and public affairs executive who currently serves as the Chief Operations & Programs Officer (COPO) at the African Diaspora Network. He has decades of experience spanning senior leadership roles in the Millennium Challenge Corporation, USAID, and the Peace Corps, and the non-profit sector, primarily focusing on private sector engagement and global development.

Nicholas Bassey stepped into his role as Chief Operations & Programs Officer at the African Diaspora Network (ADN) in late 2025, after being involved with the organization's network for over a decade. He frequently speaks on global platforms—such as the Brookings Institution and the Unlocking Africa podcast—regarding methods to transition diaspora capital from standard remittances into structured, high-value investment infrastructure for African startups.

He advocates for better investment infrastructure and trust coordination to help African entrepreneurs scale and access global capital.

He earned a B.S. degree in Biology from Morehouse College and an M.A. in Higher Education Administration from the George Washington University



LISA GELTINGER

Lisa-Marie Geltinger is an accomplished German political scientist, international security researcher, and doctoral candidate at the Chair of International Politics and Transatlantic Relations at the University of Regensburg. She completed her Master's degree in Democracy Studies at the University of Regensburg in 2019 with a thesis titled "North Korea's Nuclear and Missile Strategy and Its International Adversaries." Her research and teaching focus on German, European, and American foreign and security policy, deterrence and defense, and regional power conflicts in the Middle East.

Her work centers on Iran's foreign and security policy and examines how the Islamic Republic has for decades utilized proxies, missiles, drones, its nuclear program, and narratives to exert regional influence and place existing orders under pressure.

Her academic work combines theoretical analysis with practical, on-the-ground insights. During her studies, she gained international experience in Washington, Jordan, and Ukraine—the latter during the Maidan protests. She has also undertaken research and dialogue-oriented visits to Washington, D.C., Hungary, Belgium, and Israel, including a stay at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. These experiences continue to shape her approach: security policy should be understood not merely as a subject of academic debate, but as a field that can only be truly grasped through the interplay of research, teaching, and political practice.

At the University of Regensburg, she teaches courses on current issues in international politics and security. Since 2024, she has led the academic experience at the Summer Symposium on Foreign Policy. She places great importance on communicating complex foreign and security policy topics in an accessible manner and providing students with direct insights into international politics through field trips, seminars, and practice-oriented formats. In addition to her research and teaching activities,

Lisa-Marie Geltinger regularly speaks at academic and security policy events. She is an Associate Fellow of the Center for Middle East and Global Order (CMEG)—an internationally connected think tank—and a participant in the Hanns Seidel Foundation's "HSS-Nexus" future leaders' program. Furthermore, she is active in scholarly and academic networks, including the Cologne Forum for International Relations and Security Policy (KFIBS), based in Brühl (Rhineland), and Philopolis – Friends of Political Science at the University of Regensburg.



MARIAMA KEITA-THIERO

Mariama Keita-Thiero is a strategic communications executive and international development expert with over 15 years of experience advising global institutions and leading high-impact communication strategies and external affairs for premier organizations such as USAID, UNICEF, the United Nations, the World Bank, and the White House. She holds a an M.A. from New York University and specializes in cross-sectoral diplomacy, crisis messaging, and cultural fluency.

Mariama has had several global leadership roles. She lived and worked in over 25 countries, building coalitions across world leadership and influencers. She also has executed strategic communication plans and humanitarian awareness programs for top-tier multilateral organizations. She began her path in fashion and entertainment with premier organizations like Gianni Versace and BET before transitioning into high-level global policy.

She advises organizations and serves as a frequent public speaker, program curator, and mentor focused on social and economic development issues. A firm believer in civic leadership and community service, she serves as a Board Member and the Co-Chair of the Embassy and International Relations Committee for the Rotary Club of Washington, D.C.



ROBERT SUTTER

Dr. Robert G. Sutter is a highly distinguished scholar, author, and former government official serving as the Professor of Practice of International Affairs at the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs. Previously, he also served as Director of the School's main undergraduate program involving over 2,000 students from 2013-2019. He has served as Special Adviser to the Dean on Strategic Outreach (2021-present). His earlier full-time position was Visiting Professor of Asian Studies at Georgetown University (2001-2011).

With a career spanning over five decades across high-level U.S. intelligence, legislative policy, and academia, Dr. Sutter is a premier expert on contemporary East Asian and Pacific affairs, U.S. foreign policy, and U.S.-China relations.

A Ph.D. graduate in History and East Asian Languages from Harvard University, Sutter has published 23 books (four with multiple editions), over 300 articles and several hundred government reports dealing with contemporary East Asian and Pacific countries and their relations with the United States. His most recent

books are *Chinese Foreign Relations: Power and Policy of an Emerging Global Force*, Fifth Edition (Rowman & Littlefield, 2021), *US-China Relations: Perilous Past, Uncertain Present*, Fourth Edition (Rowman & Littlefield 2022), and *Congress and China Policy: Past Episodic, Recent Enduring Influence* (Lexington Books, 2024) and one of his most recent articles is *Trump's China thaw will hit a Washington wall* <https://www.thinkchina.sg/politics/trumps-china-thaw-will-hit-washington-wall?ref=top-hero>

Sutter's government career (1968-2001) saw service as senior specialist and director of the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division of the Congressional Research Service, the National Intelligence Officer for East Asia and the Pacific at the US Government's National Intelligence Council, the China division director at the Department of State's Bureau of Intelligence and Research and professional staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.



BILLY PIZER

Billy Pizer is the President and CEO of Resources for the Future (RFF), an independent, nonprofit research institution that improves environmental, energy, and natural resource decisions through impartial economic research and policy engagement. He was previously the Susan B. King Professor and Senior Associate Dean for Faculty and Research at the Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy, where Dr. Pizer served on the faculty for ten years. From 2008 to 2011, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment and Energy at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, overseeing Treasury's role in the domestic and international environment and energy agenda of the United States.

Dr. Pizer was previously a Fellow at RFF, a senior economist for energy and environment on the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and a senior economist at the National Commission on Energy Policy. He has previously served as a member on two committees for the National Academy of Science (on the social cost of greenhouse gases and on deep decarbonization), a lead author on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a peer reviewer for the government's 2023 revision to cost-benefit guidelines, and a member of multiple government advisory committees. He holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. in economics from Harvard University and a B.S. in physics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

His research examines different choices in the design of policies to drive towards net-zero greenhouse gas emissions, how those choices affect both aggregate costs to society and the distribution of those costs among different members of society, and the interaction of national policies both across countries and with international negotiations. His work also examines how we value the future benefits of climate change mitigation. Dr. Pizer was involved in the creation of an environmental program at Duke Kunshan University in China and engaged in US-China climate policy dialogues for more than a decade. He has written more than 80 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.



JULIAN MUELLER-KALER

Julian Mueller-Kaler is a Senior Fellow and the Director of the Strategic Foresight Hub in the Executive Office at the Stimson Center and also serves as Chief of Staff to the President and CEO. He coordinates and manages special projects, advises on strategy, and supports institutional advancement. As Director of the Hub, he researches global trends, evaluates the implications of emerging technologies on society and politics, and writes about the rise of populism, US-China relations, and the future of the liberal international order.

Before joining Stimson, Mueller-Kaler was a resident senior fellow with the Atlantic Council GeoTech Center and the Scowcroft Strategy Initiative where he worked on the geopolitics of technology and lead the GeoTech Center's AI Connect program – a joint work stream with the U.S. Department of State that encouraged the responsible stewardship of AI technologies in the Global South. He also serves as a non-resident fellow at the American-German Institute (AGI) in Washington D.C., as an associate fellow at German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) in Berlin, and previously consulted in the office of the German Executive Director at the World Bank Group. Mueller-Kaler graduated as a Fulbright-Schuman scholar (M.A.) from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and holds a degree in International Relations (B.A.) from Zeppelin University in southern Germany.