



# Defense Security Cooperation University

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Defense Security Cooperation Agency

## **Foreign Military Sales Symposium: Professionalization of the Workforce and the Promise of Security Cooperation**

**May 23-24, 2024**



## **The Honorable Cara L. Abercrombie**

### **Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition**

Ms. Cara Abercrombie was confirmed as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition (ASD(A)) on February 27, 2024. In this position, she advises the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)), the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Defense on matters relating to the Department of Defense (DoD) Acquisition System, acquisition program management, and the development of strategic, space, intelligence, tactical warfare, command and control, and business systems.

From 2021-2023, Ms. Abercrombie served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Coordinator for Defense Policy and Arms Control on the National Security Council. Prior to this position, she was the Acting Deputy Director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). In this position, she oversaw the organization's

diverse portfolio of Security Cooperation programs and worked with external stakeholders to synchronize DSCA activities with foreign policy and national security objectives. Additionally, she was the first President of the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU) and Principal Director for Workforce Development. She was responsible for overseeing the professional development and certification of the 15,000+ civilian and military members of the DoD security cooperation workforce; and the training of other DoD, U.S. Government, defense industry and foreign partner personnel who perform related functions.

Ms. Abercrombie was a career member of the Senior Executive Service with two decades of experience working in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Previously, she was detailed from the Department of Defense as a visiting fellow with the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace from 2017 to 2018, where she published numerous articles on U.S.- India defense relations. As Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for South and Southeast Asia from 2016-2017, Ms. Abercrombie served as the principal advisor to senior Department leadership for all policy matters pertaining to development and implementation of defense strategies and plans for the region. She was responsible for managing the bilateral security relationships with nations of that region and guiding Department of Defense engagement with regional multilateral institutions.

Her previous positions in the Department have included Principal Director for East Asia Policy, Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Director for South Asia, Human Capital Strategy Advisor to the Under Secretary for Policy, Defense Institution Building Coordinator, and Senior Country Director for India. She joined the Department as a Presidential Management Fellow in 2003. Prior to entering government, Ms. Abercrombie was a Program Officer for Eurasia with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs.

A graduate of Dartmouth College, Ms. Abercrombie holds a Master's degree in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. She is a 2022 recipient of the Presidential Rank Award of Distinguished Executive, numerous Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, and the Department of State Meritorious Honor Award.



### **Mr. Glenn E. Anderson III**

#### **Deputy Assistant Director for Financial Policy and Regional Execution, Defense Security Cooperation Agency**

Glenn Anderson is the Deputy Assistant Director for Financial Policy and Regional Execution. In this role he has led the U.S. Inter-Agency including OMB, State, Treasury, and DoD in developing competitive finance tools to provide our international partners with multiple new means of financing foreign military sales. He is responsible for ensuring the security cooperation community executes Title 10 (DoD) and Title 22 (DoS) programs in accordance with fiscal laws and regulations. Mr. Anderson is responsible for maintaining the health of all international partner trust funds at the U.S. Treasury and the Federal Reserve Bank. He is also responsible for maintaining the health of the FMS Administrative trust fund used to execute the FMS program for the entire security cooperation community. Mr. Anderson is also responsible for all security cooperation financial

policy, as well as Congressional reporting and compliance.

Prior to his current role, Mr. Anderson was the Branch Chief for INDOPACOM and EUCOM country financial management. In this role, he ensured country finance directors executed sustainable country financial strategies that protect and optimize partners' funds while ensuring the solvency of their programs. Mr. Anderson partnered with Ministry of Defense-level and Ministry of Finance-level counterparts and serves as the conduit for partner country inquiries into the U.S. financial system.

Prior to joining country financial management, Mr. Anderson was a financial policy analyst in the Financial Policy and Analysis Division, Business Operations Directorate, Defense Security Cooperation Agency. He developed and implemented security cooperation financial policy for all Military Departments. Mr. Anderson was the lead for all foreign military sales financial concerns as well as commercial banking arrangements, special billing arrangements, standby letters of credit, pre counter-signature reviews, cash management, case reviews, leases, nonrecurring recoupment waivers and calculations, and supply discrepancy reports. He ensured all DoD Security Cooperation financial policies are consistent with National Security Strategy, legislation, and Department of Defense directives and procedures. He was also the lead for ensuring the health of the Foreign Military Sales administrative trust fund and was the financial team lead for the Special Defense Acquisition Fund.

Mr. Anderson joined DSCA in 2011 after ten years in the Department of the Air Force. After joining the Air Force as a civilian he worked in multiple roles such as manpower, financial management, contracting, and information technology services. Immediately prior to joining DSCA Mr. Anderson was the Deputy Chief, Security Assistance Policy and International Training and Education Division, Policy Directorate, Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs. He was responsible for all Air Force Security Cooperation policy and implemented policy concerning all international flight training and Professional Military Education. He was also responsible for all Air Force international training to include flight training, maintenance, English language training, and all instruction provided internationally.



## **Ms. Melissa K. Benkert**

### **Director – Planning, Programs and Analysis, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment) International Cooperation**

Melissa Benkert is the Director for Planning, Programs and Analysis (PPA) in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (A&S). PPA is the Department of Defense focal point for the authorization of international agreements for research, development, production, acquisition, and logistics support. Seeking to foster greater international cooperation, PPA administers the Coalition Warfare Program and the Defense Exportability Features Program. Ms. Benkert serves as the A&S lead for technology transfer and export control issues and is a member of the National Disclosure Policy Committee.

Previously, Ms. Benkert served as the Associate Director for International and Interagency Programs in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), where she provided oversight and management for a complex set of authorities and appropriations associated with the Department's international support programs, including the Afghan Security Forces Fund, support for Coalition Forces deployed in support of U.S. military operations, and partner capacity building.

From 2000-2010, Ms. Benkert served as a research analyst at the Center for Naval Analyses (CNA), a Federally Funded Research and Development Center. She conducted research and analysis on issues ranging from DoD's Partnership for Peace programs to carrier air wing support for Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and served as CNA's deployed representative to the Commander, Enterprise Carrier Strike Group. In addition, Ms. Benkert served as the Special Assistant and Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Security Affairs and as the Director for Ministerial Development in the Defense Reconstruction Support Office.

Ms. Benkert's other experience includes work as an arms control analyst supporting program offices at the Departments of Defense and Energy and seven years at the Atlantic Council of the United States. She served as the Atlantic Council's Director for Planning and as the Deputy Director for Civil-Military Relations, leading a training program for senior officials in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Ms. Benkert was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2012. She is a recipient of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service. Ms. Benkert earned an M.A. in Security Policy Studies from the George Washington University and received her B.A. in Political Science and History from Creighton University.

## **Mr. Josh Bowers**

### **Deputy Director, Weapons Division, Defense Security Cooperation Agency**



## **Mr. Scott Boyd**

### **Deputy Program Executive Officer for Mobility Aircraft, Mobility and Training Aircraft Directorate, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center**

Mr. Boyd is the Deputy Program Executive Officer (DPEO) for Mobility Aircraft, Mobility and Training Aircraft Directorate, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. He is responsible for acquisition, modernization and sustainment of the USAF's and partner nations' C-5, C-17, C-130, KC-10, KC-135, and KC-46 fleets. He works closely with each weapon system Program Office and the corresponding Warfighter communities within Air Mobility Command, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve Command, to ensure safe, available, and effective systems to meet national security requirements.

Mr. Boyd's career has included dynamic broadening experiences as an aircraft and munitions maintenance officer at one of the most active flying units in the Air Force, as well as time instructing the next generation of Air Force leaders in the Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He is certified as a Level III Program Manager in the Acquisition Professional Development Program, and has managed an ACAT IAC program into sustainment. He was hand-selected as the executive officer for the 3-star Electronic Systems Center Commander and Program Executive Officer for Command and Control and Combat Support systems. Mr. Boyd was deployed in 2010 as the Deputy J7 on the US Forces – Afghanistan staff in Kabul, Afghanistan. Mr. Boyd retired as a Lieutenant Colonel effective 31 January 2012 after almost 22 years of active commissioned service in the United States Air Force. His first assignment as a civil servant was the C-130 Foreign Military Sales Branch Chief.



### **Dr. Julie Chalfin**

#### **Deputy Director and Chief, Security Forces Capacity Building Division, Political Military Bureau's Office of Global Programs and Initiatives, U.S. Department of State**

Dr. Julie Chalfin is the Deputy Director, and Chief of the Security Forces Capacity Building Division, in the U.S. Department of State's Political Military Bureau's Office of Global Programs and Initiatives (PM/GPI) in Washington. She oversees PM/GPI's mission to improve security sector governance and institutional capacity through foreign assistance and partnerships. Prior to joining PM, Dr. Chalfin was the Chief of Staff for the interagency Security Governance Initiative (SGI) housed in State's Africa Bureau where she coordinated efforts to align partner nation security priorities with U.S. national interests, resources, and expertise, and focused on enhancing the governance of security and justice sectors. She previously worked with African security forces to develop strategies and policies to reform security institutions in post conflict environments. Prior to her work in the Africa Bureau, Dr. Chalfin was an American Association for the Advancement of Science diplomacy fellow in the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization at the Department of State.

Before coming to the Department of State, Dr. Chalfin worked for several international non-governmental organizations, including Save the Children, the Carter Center, and the International Rescue Committee. She conducted research as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Solomon Asch Center for Study of Ethno-political Conflict and earned her Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Claremont Graduate University where she researched international conflict management. She is also a graduate of the National Defense University's Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy where she earned a master's degree in National Resource Strategy.



### **Mr. Paul Cormarie**

#### **Policy Analyst, RAND**

Paul Cormarie is a policy analyst in RAND's Washington D.C. office. His research focuses on NATO, the European Union, and transatlantic relations; force planning and defense modernization; and security cooperation. Previously, Cormarie was a Researcher at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, where he wrote reports on the Alliance and in other topics related to European security, as well as an assistant to the Emeritus Chair in Strategy Dr. Anthony Cordesman of CSIS. Prior to these roles, he has also been affiliated with the Atlantic Council, the EU Delegation to the United States, the United Nations, and the UK Department for International Trade. Cormarie is a dual French-US citizen and is a French native speaker.



### **Ms. Laura Cressey**

#### **Director, Office of Regional Security and Arms Transfers, Bureau of Political Military Affairs, U.S. Department of State**

Laura Cressey, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Director of the Office of Regional Security and Arms Transfers in the State Department's Bureau of Political Military Affairs. She joined the office in 2013, serving as Team Lead for Europe and Western Hemisphere, Deputy Director, and Acting Director until she was appointed Director in 2021. She is responsible for overseeing in excess of \$50 billion in annual worldwide arms transfers; developing global and country- and technology-specific arms transfer policies; managing global regional security issues; and conducting multiple political-military dialogues around the world. She has been the Bureau lead on strengthening and improving partnerships with U.S. industry to advance foreign policy and national security goals.

For ten years, Laura worked on nonproliferation issues in the Department of State. As the Deputy Director for the Office of Chemical, Biological, and Missile Nonproliferation, she was in charge of U.S. chemical and biological weapons nonproliferation policy and related export controls. Laura joined the Department of State as a Presidential Management Intern in 1992.

Laura worked in the private sector for Booz Allen Hamilton, consulting on a variety of defense and intelligence issues, and for Georgetown University advising graduate students on careers in the international sector. Her book, *Careers in International Affairs*, 9th edition, was published in 2014. She received her M.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and a B.A. in International Affairs and History from Tufts University. She resides in Northern Virginia and has two daughters.



### **Mr. David Ferrari**

#### **Assistant Director for Strategy, Plans, and Policy, Defense Security Cooperation Agency**

David Ferrari serves as the DSCA Assistant Director (AD) for Strategy, Plans, and Policy (SPP), where he has responsibility over all Security Cooperation planning activity within the Agency. His portfolio includes Building Partner Capacity planning using the Significant Security Cooperation Initiative process, designing programs to meet required partner capabilities. He is also responsible for incorporating strategic initiatives into Security Cooperation, including Climate Resiliency; Women, Peace, and Security; Cybersecurity; and Space, among others. As AD SPP, he has oversight of all Foreign Military Sales (FMS) policy development, including the Security Assistance Management Manual, multinational FMS, and DSCA efforts to project partner nation FMS demand.

Mr. Ferrari is a native of Deer Park, New York. After graduating from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service in 1992, he began his Security Cooperation career with Veda, Inc., supporting the United States Naval Air Systems Command, E-2/C-2 Program Office (PMA-231) while earning his Master's Degree in National Security, also from Georgetown, in 1996. In 1998, he joined the consulting practice of KPMG Peat Marwick, providing Foreign Military Sales (FMS) and International Armaments Cooperation support to various clients, including the United States Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and the United States Air Force Security Assistance Center. He was promoted to Senior Manager in 2000 and led the firm's FMS/Security Cooperation business unit, with 35 professionals and more than \$5 million in annual revenue. In 2009, he joined Deloitte Consulting and contributed to a firm-wide business development strategy anticipating the shift to International Financial Reporting Standards in various markets in North and South America.

Mr. Ferrari joined the civil service in 2011, serving as the Deputy Director and then Director of the NAVSEA International Security Assistance Office (ISAO). While at ISAO, he had direct oversight of \$30 billion in FMS

operations and responsibility over \$70 million in FMS Administrative and Contract Administrative Services budgets. He also served as an instructor for the NAVSEA FMS Case Management Excellence program. In 2016, he joined the International Armaments Cooperation team in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) as a Country Desk Officer where he was responsible for international armaments cooperation across his portfolio of partner nations. He joined DSCA in 2017 in the Chief Performance Office, where he was responsible for developing functional requirements across the Security Cooperation enterprise for future Foreign Military Sales case execution automation before becoming Chief of Staff in 2020, with responsibility over Front Office operations, strategic communications, and legislative affairs, until his appointment as AD SPP in November 2022.



### **Mr. Alan Gorowitz**

#### **Senior Strategy Advisor, Defense Security Cooperation Agency**

Alan Gorowitz serves as Senior Strategy Advisor, providing analysis and recommendations regarding the DoD security cooperation enterprise in the context of DoD strategy, future scenarios, and emerging trends. He serves as a Senior Leader, supporting the DSCA leadership team.

Mr. Gorowitz has served for over 20 years in the Department of Defense security cooperation community. He began his Department of Defense career in 2000 at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Germany, supporting partner defense reform and strategy development through advising, conferences and seminars, and national security professional networks. Returning to the U.S. in 2007, he served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Policy) for over ten years providing policy advice and oversight including assignments as Director, Counterterrorism Partnerships; Chief of Staff and Director, Partnership Policy and Strategy; and

Domestic Terrorism and Cyber Threat Information Sharing Coordinator. In 2017, he was detailed from Policy to DSCA to stand up a Planning and Program Design team.

He joined DSCA in 2018 as Assistant Director for Strategy, Plans, and Policy (SPP), facilitating strategic planning, leading security cooperation administration and execution policy, and promoting comprehensive security cooperation planning and program design.

Prior to Federal Service, Mr. Gorowitz served at the Center for International Strategy, Technology, and Policy (CISTP), Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, Georgia Institute of Technology.

Mr. Gorowitz is a graduate of the National War College. His awards include the Office of the Secretary of Defense Award for Exceptional Service (3), the OSD Achievement Award, and the Department of the Army Award for Superior Civilian Service.



### **Dr. Celeste Gventer**

#### **President, Defense Security Cooperation University**

Dr. Gventer assumed duties as the President of the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU), a component of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), in December 2021. DSCU's mission is to advance the knowledge and practice of Security Cooperation through the education, training, and development of the U.S. Security Cooperation workforce and through the education, training, and institutional capacity building of partner nations; and to produce research, analysis, and lessons learned that expand the intellectual foundations of Security Cooperation.

Dr. Gventer has been a national security professional for more than two decades with service in government, academia, and the private sector, both in the United States and overseas. Before this assignment, she served as a Senior Lecturer and Regional

Program Lead for Europe at DSCU's Institute for Security Governance. From 2007 to 2009, Dr. Gventer served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Stability Operations Capabilities in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Washington, D.C. For part of that time, she was 'dual-hatted' as the Acting Principal Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations Capabilities. She joined the DoD following her second tour of duty in Iraq, where she was the political-military advisor to the Multinational Corps-Iraq commander from 2005 to 2006.

Dr. Gventer received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Stanford University, a Master of Public Policy degree from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a PhD in History and Certificate in Cybersecurity from UT. Dr. Gventer is also the recipient of the Global War on Terrorism Civilian Service Medal, the U.S. Army Superior Civilian Service Award, and the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service.

She is married to an active-duty U.S. Army Colonel.



### **Mr. Eric Hamlin**

#### **Director, Business Development, International Security Cooperation, ACT1 Federal LLC**

Mr. Eric Hamlin serves as Director, Business Development, International Security Cooperation for ACT1 Federal LLC. Eric is directly responsible for new business capture and relationship evolution for ACT1's endeavors tied to Foreign Military Sales (FMS), Security Assistance, and defense-focused capacity building activities among federal customers, and US allies and partners.

Eric is a high-energy, business leader who believes in the criticality of strong partnerships; strong partnerships encourage collective wins. Prior to re-joining ACT1 in 2023, Eric held a variety of private, government, and military positions spanning the security cooperation enterprise, and the US efforts focused toward the capacity building on the African continent including, Country Director, the Americas

and Africa Division, Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of the Air Force - International Affairs; Nigeria Desk - Sahel Branch, J5 Strategy and Plans Division, US Africa Command; Security Cooperation Program Manager – Air Mobility Advisory Group, 621st Contingency Response Wing (CRW); Senior Logistics Advisor to the Kenya Defense Forces; Staff Trainer/PKO advisor – The ACOTA Program; Lecturer, Institute for Defense Acquisitions Management (IDARM), Institute for Security Governance (ISG); Foreign Area Officer – 48J/Sub-Saharan Africa, US Army. Eric is a member of the Board of Governors for the Foreign Area Officer Association (FAOA) and leads outreach.

Eric holds a Master of Business Administration, International Business (MBA) from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland College Park; Master of Arts in Diplomacy (Counterterrorism emphasis) Norwich University; Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations from Hampton University; Associate of Arts in French, Defense Language Institute (DLI), Defense Foreign Language Center. Eric is an FAA certified Private Pilot and avid traveler, having spent much of his time in Sub-Saharan Africa, Western Europe, and the Near East. He is a PADI Open Water-certified SCUBA diver, enthusiastic skydiver, and enjoys strength training and hiking.

### **Ms. Jen Hanley**

#### **VP International Government Relations, L3Harris**





## **Mr. Aaron Harding**

### **Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer DSCA**

Mr. Aaron Harding serves as the DSCA Chief Financial Officer and is the senior executive overseeing all DSCA financial operations including financial policy, audit readiness, and financial reporting. In this capacity, he is responsible for managing financial aspects of the Foreign Military Sales program and Foreign Military Sales Trust Fund with a total program value of over half a trillion dollars, to include the Foreign Military Financing Program. Additionally, he is responsible for oversight of the programming, budgeting, financial execution, and reporting for a variety of security cooperation programs.

Mr. Harding joined the DSCA in 2013 as the Comptroller responsible for all financial operations and audit readiness activities. In this capacity, Mr. Harding led the successful migration from two separate legacy accounting systems to the Department's Defense Agency Initiative (DAI). Additionally, he oversaw the formulation, execution, and financial reporting for over \$12 billion annually in Security Cooperation and Security Assistance resources. He served as the acting DSCA CIO for a nine month period, in which time he led the divestiture of the common Information Technology (IT) functions to the Washington Headquarters Services (WHS) and laid the ground work for improved governance and portfolio management capabilities for DSCA business systems.

Prior to joining DSCA, Mr. Harding served as the Assistant Director for Program and Budget within WHS, responsible for financial management support, to include performance management and analytical support, to Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), WHS, and multiple Defense Agencies and miscellaneous organizations.

Mr. Harding began his federal career with the Department of Defense in 1994 as an IT professional. He later joined the private sector as a government IT contractor where his experience spanned a number of Federal Agencies to include the Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Defense. In 2004, Mr. Harding rejoined federal service as an IT manager within the WHS responsible for the financial, acquisition, and executive domains.

Mr. Harding has earned his Department of Defense Financial Management Certification (Level 3) and is a Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM).



## **Mr. Dak Hardwick**

### **Vice President, International Affairs at the Aerospace Industries Association**

Dak Hardwick currently serves as the Vice President, International Affairs at the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA). He oversees AIA's international policy and advocacy program on behalf of the U.S. aerospace and defense industry on issues including defense and commercial trade, industrial cooperation, technology security, and global supply chain to stakeholders around the world.

Before joining AIA, Hardwick worked at Harris Corporation, an international communications and information technology company. At Harris, he was the primary interface with the U.S. Government for government communication programs, including airspace modernization, intelligence, and meteorological ground system programs. He was also responsible for interfacing with U.S. Government and international officials to ensure export of Harris radio communications products for U.S.-allied and partner nations.

A former Presidential Management Fellow, Hardwick began his career at Headquarters, Marine Corps as an appropriations budget analyst. He later transitioned to the Office of the Secretary of Defense where he helped establish the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense after September 11, 2001. He later held a variety of national security positions, including as the country director for Georgia and the Republic of

Moldova and director for peacekeeping operations.

Hardwick holds a B.S. in public affairs from Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana and a Master of Public Administration from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia.



### **Mrs. Michèle Hizon**

#### **Deputy Director, Defense Technology Security Administration**

Mrs. Michèle Hizon, a career member of the Senior Executive Service since 2015, is currently serving as the Deputy Director for the Defense Technology Security Administration (DTSA). In this capacity she assists the Director in managing a staff of over 190 policy analysts, engineers, licensing, and security officers responsible for developing and implementing DoD technology security and foreign disclosure policies for international transfers of defense-related goods, services, information, and technology.

Prior to her detail as the Acting Deputy Director, Mrs. Hizon served a one-year assignment as a Senior Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Policy (China).

From 2015 to 2020 she served as the Principal Director of Security Assistance (SA) at the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). She was responsible for the global execution of security assistance activities which include Foreign Military Sales; End Use Monitoring; and Title 22 training and equipping programs such as Excess Defense Articles, Special Defense Acquisition Fund, leases, and Foreign Military Financing.

Before this assignment, Mrs. Hizon was the Chief of Weapons at DSCA from 2011 to 2015. Her responsibilities included providing technical and doctrinal subject-matter expertise on weapons and systems, synchronizing interagency technology release efforts to support weapons sales, serving as the industry ombudsman for FMS, overseeing international FMS competitions, and developing the FMS Forecast. Mrs. Hizon was on the staff of the Director, International Negotiations, in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics/ International Cooperation from 2007 to 2011. Her responsibilities were in cooperative programs and associated international agreements, technology security and foreign disclosure, and export controls. From 2003 to 2007, Mrs. Hizon was the Deputy Director, Technology Assessment, Exchanges, and Disclosure Division in the Navy International Programs Office (Navy IPO), promoting defense cooperation with allied and friendly nations while ensuring protection of U.S. and allied nation warfighting capability through technology controls in accordance with the National Disclosure Policy, the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, and the Export Administration Regulations. Between 2000 to 2003 she served at the Navy IPO as a senior negotiator, responsible for the negotiation of research, development, test, evaluation, licensed production, and other international agreements. Mrs. Hizon worked at the Department of Commerce (1998-2000) in defense trade advocacy, for defense contractors (1992-1998), and as a U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee Associate /Legislative Assistant (1989-1992).

Mrs. Hizon holds a Master's Degree from the London School of Economics and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Notre Dame.



## **Mr. James Hursch**

### **Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency**

Mr. James A. Hursch, a career member of the Senior Executive Service, was appointed as Director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) on January 2, 2022. DSCA's mission is to advance U.S. defense and foreign policy interests by building the capacity of U.S. allies and partner nations to respond to shared challenges. DSCA oversees Security Cooperation programs including: Foreign Military Sales, Foreign Military Financing, International Military Education and Training, and DoD Humanitarian Assistance. DSCA's component organizations include the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies, the Defense Security Cooperation University, and the Institute for Security Governance. The agency also serves as the Executive Agent for the six Department of Defense (DoD) Regional Centers for Security Studies.

Prior to joining DSCA, Mr. Hursch served as the Acting Secretary of Defense Representative in Europe and the Acting Defense Advisor for the U.S. Mission to NATO. In this position, he was responsible for the formulation, coordination, and presentation of DoD policies to the U.S. Ambassador to NATO. Mr. Hursch assumed duties as Deputy Defense Advisor at the U.S. Mission in 2013.

Prior to joining the U.S. Mission, Mr. Hursch served as the Director of the Defense Technology Security Administration (DTSA) from 2008 to 2013. There, he oversaw development and implementation of DoD technology security policies for international transfers of defense-related goods, services, and technologies.

Before his assignment to DTSA, Mr. Hursch served as a Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs from October 2007 to January 2008. He was the Office of the Secretary of Defense Deputy Director of Northern European or European Policy from July 2002 to October 2007. For portions of this period, Mr. Hursch also covered the German and Nordic portfolios. From February 1999 to June 2002, Mr. Hursch served as the Office of the Secretary of Defense/Ministry of Defense exchange officer in Denmark. From October 1996 to February 1999, Mr. Hursch was the Nordic country director in International Security Affairs, European Policy, in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Mr. Hursch first joined DSCA, then known as the Defense Security Assistance Agency (DSAA), in 1991 where his duties included working on the Excess Defense Articles program, writing reports to Congress, and working on the apportionment of Foreign Military Financing funds. He was also the country desk officer for Central Europe. From 1989 to 1991, Mr. Hursch served as a Faculty Member specializing in defense economics and international relations in the Institute of Higher Defense Studies at the National Defense University. During this time, he edited and contributed to the book *Theories of International Relations*, which was published in 1991. Mr. Hursch served first as a consultant to and later as a staff member of the Office of Defense Guidance and Program Planning in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from 1985 to 1989.

Mr. Hursch attended the University of Colorado where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude in International Relations. He received his master's degree in public and international affairs from Princeton University. He has received the Swedish Order of the Polar Star and the Finnish Order of the Lion.

He has received two Presidential Rank Awards, as well as twice receiving the Secretary of Defense Medal for Distinguished Civilian Service, covering his service at DTSA and at the US Mission to NATO.



### **Dr. Hadd Jones**

#### **Dean, School of Security Cooperation Studies, Defense Security Cooperation University**

Dr. Jones joined the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU) in December 2016 as an instructor in the School of Security Cooperation Studies. He teaches students from across the Security Cooperation enterprise in courses like SCO-220, Fundamentals and Application of Security Cooperation Organization Operations; IPTN- 201, International Purchaser Security Cooperation Logistics and Finance; and SC-301, Advanced Security Cooperation Management Seminar.

Dr. Jones retired as colonel from the Air Force, serving in several Security Cooperation roles as a logistician and Latin America FAO. Most of his overseas duties were in the SOUTHCOM AOR, where he planned combined, interagency counterdrug operations while assigned to USMILGP-Bolivia, served as the deputy commander of Joint Task Force – Bravo in Honduras, and represented the USAF as the Air Attaché in Peru. He also served

as a Security Cooperation planner on the USNORTHCOM staff and commanded the Defense Language Institute English Language Center. He has deep experience in military institutions of higher learning, having served as an award-winning instructor in the Air Force Academy's History Department and later as a professor in the USAF's School of Advanced Air and Space Studies. He earned his PhD in Business History from Johns Hopkins University, published articles, and presented at conferences around the country.



### **Dr. Jennifer Kavanagh**

#### **Senior Fellow, American Statecraft Program, The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace**

Dr. Jennifer Kavanagh is a senior fellow in the American Statecraft Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. A political scientist by training, she has spent her career studying national security threats and their consequences for U.S. foreign policy and defense strategy. At Carnegie, Kavanagh's research focuses on U.S. defense and military strategy in Europe and the Indo-Pacific, with an emphasis on deterrence, military alliances and coalitions, and security assistance programs. Prior to joining Carnegie, Kavanagh was a senior political scientist at the RAND Corporation, where she led projects focused on deterrence, military interventions, and U.S. military posture for defense and national security clients. She was also director of the Strategy, Doctrine, and Resources Program in RAND's Arroyo Center, which supports the U.S. Army. Kavanagh co-authored *Truth Decay: An Initial Exploration of the Diminishing Role of Facts and Analysis in*

*American Public Life* and co-founded and led RAND's Countering Truth Decay Initiative.

Kavanagh received an AB in government from Harvard University and a PhD in political science and public policy from the University of Michigan. She is also a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and an adjunct professor in the Security Studies Program at Georgetown University.



## **Colonel Jason Kim**

### **Chief, Security Cooperation Office, American Institute in Taiwan**

Colonel Jason Kim is a U.S. Army Foreign Area Officer (FAO) specializing in the Indo-Pacific and serves as the Chief of the American Institute in Taiwan Security Cooperation Office in Taipei. In this capacity, he oversees and FMS portfolio of approximately \$55B with Taiwan. Colonel Kim has extensive international engagement and political-military experience working with allies and partners throughout this region. His key FAO assignments include serving as the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command Liaison Officer to the Republic of Korea Army, Country Director for Japan, Korea, India, and Vietnam at U.S. Army Pacific, Executive Officer to the Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific, and Deputy Chief, Joint-U.S. Military Affairs Group – Korea (JUSMAG-K), U.S. Embassy Seoul, and on the staff of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J5), Security Cooperation Division, where he oversaw daily operations with 24 U.S. Embassy Security Cooperation Offices. Colonel Kim earned a bachelor's degree in

information systems engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point where he was commissioned in 2003, and a master's degree in international affairs with a concentration in Japan and Korea from the School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California San Diego in 2012. He completed his U.S. Army War College Fellowship during academic year 2022 to 2023 as a Visiting Scholar at the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University.

## **Mr. Christopher King**

### **Director of Global Defense, Anduril**

Mr. Christopher King is Anduril's Director of Global Defense. In this role, he is responsible for managing Anduril's Security Cooperation activities with USG and foreign partners. Prior to this role, Mr. King worked for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) as the Deputy Assistant Director for Regional Operations (D-AD REX), where he managed 5 integrated regional teams consisting of 80 country portfolio directors and regional planners that oversaw execution of all FMS cases for the DOD. In a previous position at DSCA, he was the Weapons Portfolio Director for non-kinetic effects (secure communications, electronic warfare, space and cyber) and drafted policy that supported FMS cases for allies and partners across the world. He also worked for the Navy International Programs Office as the service's Electronic Warfare FMS Functional Manager. Chris started his career as a Combat Systems Officer (CSO) in the USAF, flying ~1,700 hours and 985 combat hours in the EC-130H.

Mr. King is a graduate of National Defense University's Eisenhower School and has graduate degrees in National Security from National Military University and undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and Biblical Languages from Oklahoma Baptist University.



## **Ms. Stephanie Kostro**

### **Executive Vice President for Policy, Professional Services Council**

Stephanie Kostro is Executive Vice President for Policy at the Professional Services Council, where she leads a strong policy team that is committed to advocating for and supporting productive collaboration between the federal government and services industry. As a recognized executive, on-air commentator, and policy expert with more than 20 years of experience in the U.S. Government and industry, she brings a wealth of knowledge in federal procurement policy and acquisition regulations, government processes and programs, and public-private partnerships.

Prior to joining PSC in 2021, Kostro was a Principal at a government relations and consulting firm where she developed and implemented policy, funding, and business development strategies for a global client base. She worked extensively with civilian, defense, diplomatic, and intelligence officials, as well as with federal departments'

oversight committees in Congress.

From 2010-2015, she was a senior fellow and director of the Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a prominent national security think tank. Kostro served as a State Department contractor at U.S. Embassy Baghdad for one year, and from 2005-2008, she was a senior professional staff member and policy director on the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee. At the Pentagon from 1998-2005, she worked in a variety of offices within the Office of the Secretary of Defense, on the Joint Staff, and in embassies and missions overseas.

Kostro holds a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and a bachelor's degree in communication from Cornell University. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia with her husband, Rich, and their two daughters. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, gardening, and – when conditions allow – travel.



### **Mr. Shawn P. Lyman**

#### **Deputy Director, Air Force Security Assistance and Cooperation Directorate**

Mr. Lyman is the Deputy Director, Air Force Security Assistance and Cooperation (AFSAC) Directorate, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Mr. Lyman is directly responsible for day-to-day business and providing advice and support to the AFSAC Director. He delivers direction, leadership, and management of the Air Force's \$230 billion security assistance portfolio supporting foreign military sales to 115 international partner countries in support of our National Defense Strategy. He also serves as the directorate's senior civilian leader responsible for management and mentoring of over 700 civilian and military personnel.

Prior to joining AFSAC, Mr. Lyman was the lead for Digital Product Support in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Logistics and Product Support. His responsibilities included oversight and integration of the Air Force digital transformation efforts. Previous assignments included Director of Logistics positions in the Fighters and Advanced Aircraft Directorate and Fighters and Bombers Directorate. Mr. Lyman served as the Product Support Manager, Helicopter Program Office, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

### **Mr. Raymond A. Meinhart**

#### **Deputy for International Agreements Policy International Cooperation Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Sustainment)**

Mr. Raymond A. Meinhart is the Deputy for International Agreements Policy in the Office of International Cooperation within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Sustainment), Industrial Base Policy. He is responsible for developing U.S. Department of Defense policy, processes, and guidance for drafting, negotiating, and establishing international agreements for cooperative research, development, testing, evaluation, production, sustainment, and scientist/engineer personnel exchanges. He advises on, provides critical review of, and recommends authorization of all such international agreements to ensure their alignment with national laws, regulations, policies, and interests.

Mr. Meinhart received his officer commission in 1984 from the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics. In 1988, he graduated from the Air Force Institute of Technology with a Master of Science in Systems Engineering and graduated in 1997 with a Master of Business Administration in Finance from Wright State University. Mr. Meinhart is also a graduate of Squadron Officer School (residence), Air Command and Staff College (correspondence), the Advanced Program Management Course of the

Defense Systems Management College (residence), and Air War College (seminar).

Mr. Meinhart retired from active U.S. Air Force duty in August 2009 and has been a career civil servant since then, serving in his current position since 2014. His last 32 years of combined military and civilian service have been in international positions, primarily related to armaments/security cooperation and political-military affairs. He has experience ranging from the laboratory and program office, through command headquarters, Air Force Secretariat staff, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense, to the State Department. He speaks German and was stationed in Germany as both a liaison and exchange officer. His last active Air Force duty assignment was in Australia as a liaison officer.



### **The Honorable Christopher Mewett**

#### **Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Partnerships, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy**

Chris Mewett is the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Partnerships in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. He has policy responsibility for security cooperation, humanitarian assistance, and international humanitarian affairs.

Before joining the Department of Defense in this role, Mr. Mewett spent more than eight years as a Senate staffer, most recently as Legislative Director to Senator Chris Murphy of Connecticut. He previously served as National Security Advisor to Senator Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island, as a strategic planner and policy analyst in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation, and as an export license analyst for the Navy International Programs Office.

Mr. Mewett has a BA in history from Texas A&M University and did graduate coursework in central and eastern European studies at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Poland.

He lives with his wife and two children in Washington, DC.



### **Mr. Michael F. Miller**

#### **Deputy Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency**

Mike Miller serves as the Deputy Director, responsible for the oversight of DSCA's diverse portfolio of Security Cooperation programs and working with external stakeholders to synchronize DSCA's activities with U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives.

A career Civil Servant and member of the Senior Executive Service, Mr. Miller previously served at the Department of State for over twenty-four years. His last assignment there was as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade in the Bureau of Political- Military Affairs (PM), where he oversaw the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) that govern U.S. commercial exports of defense articles and defense services.

His other previously-held positions at the Department include serving as PM's Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense Trade and Regional Security, Office Director for Regional Security and Arms Transfers, Program Manager for the Anti-Terrorism Assistance program, Special Assistant to the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Counterterrorism Policy Advisor for the Middle East region, and Desk Officer for Oman and Yemen. He also served abroad on a two-year Foreign Service assignment in Tripoli, Libya as the U.S. Embassy's Economic and Commercial Attaché. Mr. Miller first joined the State Department in 1998 as a Presidential Management Fellow.

Mr. Miller received a Bachelor of Arts in International Politics with honors from Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA. He also earned a Master of Arts in International Affairs with a focus on International Security Studies from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs in New York, NY.



### **Mr. J. Mario Miranda**

#### **Director of Technology, Security and Cooperative Programs at the Navy International Programs Office**

Mr. J. Mario Miranda is the Director of Technology Transfer and International Agreements at the Navy International programs Office (NIPO). The Directorate is responsible for establishing DON policy for the transfer of controlled information and technology to our allies and international partners and for negotiating, concluding and implementing international research, development and acquisition agreements on behalf of the DON and, on occasion, on behalf of the Department of Defense.

Mr. Miranda was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in July 2020. Prior to his current appointment, Mr. Miranda served as a government civilian for a total of thirty-five years. He functioned as Chief of Staff for the Program Executive Office for Integrated Warfare Systems responsible for a portfolio of over 150 programs.

Moreover, as the Deputy Major Program in the Future Combat Systems Program Office he led the development of Navy Integrated Fire Control that greatly expanded the US Navy's defensive capability to include over the horizon defense capability. In addition, Mr. Miranda was responsible for development and fielding of the Navy's training systems, advanced technology programs, and for developing the Navy's Open Architecture policy.

Mr. Miranda earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering at Wichita State University. Additionally, he earned his Masters of Science degree in Management/Contracts Management at Florida Institute of Technology. Mr. Miranda had also attended The Executive Program at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business.



### **Ms. Madeline Mortelmans**

#### **Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans and Capabilities and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities**

Madeline Mortelmans is the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans and Capabilities and is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities. In this capacity, Madeline supports the Assistant Secretary of Defense and holds leadership, policy management, and advisory responsibilities for the following offices: Force Development and Emerging Capabilities; Global Partnerships; Plans and Posture; Strategy, and the Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

Prior to assuming her current role, Madeline served as Special Advisor for Cyber, Space, and Technology in the Office of the Vice President from March 2021 to March 2022. In this role, she advised the Vice President, shaping policies related to cyber, space, technology, nuclear, homeland defense, intelligence, and global health. Madeline played a leading role in establishing the Biden-Harris Administration's National Space Council and led efforts on behalf of the Vice President to expand our alliances and partnerships to address cybersecurity, space, and pandemic preparedness.

From 2017-2021, Madeline served as the Principal Director for Cyber Policy, responsible for developing DoD policy guidance to improve national and DoD cyber defenses. In this role, she led the 2018 DoD Cyber Strategy, the first ever Cyber Posture Review, and Department efforts that secured new authorities from the President and Congress



for conducting cyber operations.

Previously, Madeline held positions at the U.S. Mission to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), advising the Ambassador on defense issues and supporting negotiations for cyber confidence building measures; Special Assistant to two Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; and numerous roles advising on strategy, budget, technology, and Asia.

Madeline joined the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a Presidential Management Fellow in 2004 and is a career member of the Senior Executive Service.

## **Major Antony Munyeti**

### **Foreign Military Sales Program Officer, Defence Headquarters, Kenya Defense Forces**

Major Antony Munyeti is the Foreign Military Sales Program Officer for the Kenya Defence Forces at Defence Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. In this role, he manages all foreign military sales cases impacting the Kenya Army, Navy, and Air Force. Graduating from the University of Nairobi in 2008, Major Munyeti commissioned into the Kenya Army as a Second Lieutenant in 2010 and was deployed to the Kenya Army Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering as a Maintenance Officer.

Prior to his appointment as the DHQ FMS Manager, Major Munyeti has held diverse roles within the Kenya Army, including Adjutant, Workshop Battalion, Officer Commanding of Nairobi Regional Workshop and two deployments to Somalia as the Logistics/Maintenance Officer for the KDF Contingent in the Africa Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS).



## **Brigadier General Jason "Brad" Nicholson**

### **Commanding General, U.S. Army Security Assistance Command**

Brigadier General Jason B. Nicholson is the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command and leads the Army Materiel Command Security Assistance Enterprise. The command executes foreign military sales with more than 140 countries and a total value exceeding \$215 billion in support of combatant commands and theater armies to strengthen the United States' global partnerships and alliances. Brigadier General Nicholson has served in a wide variety of tactical, operational, and strategic assignments in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Africa. These include embassy postings to Nigeria, Uganda, and Tanzania. He was commissioned into the Field Artillery in 1998 through the Reserve Officers Training Corps at North Carolina State University, where he studied history and English. Brigadier General Nicholson holds a Master of Policy Management from Georgetown University and is currently a Doctoral Candidate (ABD) in Political Science at the

University of Utah. Brigadier General Nicholson is a foreign area officer for Sub-Saharan Africa and speaks both French and German. His military education includes a Senior Service College Fellowship through the Advanced Strategic Planning and Policy Program at the School of Advanced Military Studies, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Joint and Combined Warfighting School. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, the Army Staff and Joint Staff Identification Badges, and the Master Parachutist Badge.



**Dr. Douglas A. Ollivant**  
**Managing Partner, Mantid International**

Douglas A. Ollivant is a managing partner of Mantid International, LLC, a global strategic consulting firm focusing on compliance and anti-corruption, with offices in Washington D.C., Baghdad, Beirut, and Guam. He is also a co-founder of Rappahannock Capital, a venture debt provider to Veteran-owned and adjacent firms. He holds appointments as a senior fellow at both New America in Washington D.C. and the Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) in Philadelphia. A retired Army officer (Lieutenant Colonel), his last position in government was as Director for Iraq at the National Security Council. He served two tours in uniform in Iraq, spent a year as a contracted advisor in Afghanistan and taught politics at West Point.

A graduate of Wheaton College in Illinois, Ollivant holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Indiana University, is a graduate of the U.S. Army's School of Advanced Military Studies, and holds an MBA (Information Security) from James Madison University. He is a frequent television commentator on defense and Middle East issues. A life member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Political Science Association, he also serves in various advisory capacities to a wide range of firms. He is a widely published essayist and is a contributing editor of *War on the Rocks*. He is presently researching the topics of Foreign Military Sales and the Defense Industrial Base, and Grand Strategy in the Middle East, as well as writing on the Iraq conflict and reconstruction, 2003-present.

**Mr. Peter L. Venoit**  
**Senior Logistics Analyst, Defense Security Cooperation University**

Mr. Peter L. Venoit serves as the DSCA Senior Logistics Analyst for Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU). His portfolio includes providing logistics advice and guidance, integrating logistics into Combatant Commands security cooperation (SC) programs to meet required partner nation capabilities, and identifying opportunities that develop logistic interoperability as a core element for operations, and ensuring partner absorptive capacity are viable. Since March 2022, he provides logistics advice in support of the Ukraine Presidential Drawdowns, Ukraine Security Assistance Initiatives, and Foreign Military Sales (FMS). He is also a member of the DSCA Logistics Lessons Learned team researching the impacts of SC on DoD logistics readiness.

Prior to his appointment with DSCA, Mr. Venoit was a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Defense Policy & Planning, International Staff, leading policy oversight Teams for the development of the political military advice on Enablement of Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) area of responsibility, NATO Logistics Policy, NATO Logistic Vision & Objectives, NATO Contracting support, and the logistics policy implications for NATO Exercise and Education. Highlights included negotiating policy agreements for NATO Summits and Ministerial meetings. Mr. Venoit served as the Civilian Co-Chair of the NATO Logistics Committee Executive Group alongside a military one-star, and a principal advisor to the NATO Logistics Committee. Prior to this he served as a U.S. Department of Defense civilian with the Joint Staff, Force Development, as Exercise Director for Logistics support of allies and Partner Nation programs.

Mr. Venoit served as the Senior Military Analyst assigned to the U.S. Joint Forces Command, leading the development of Security Cooperation Programs. As a retired United States Marine Corps officer, Mr. Venoit served in a variety of command and leadership positions during his 30 years of service, including Head of NATO Joint Education and Training Coordination, Allied Command Transformation. In military service, he acquired a wide range of experience in High Readiness missions with diverse challenges in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East.

Mr. Venoit has lectured on NATO "Deterrence and Defense", "Crisis Response Operations Planning," "Comprehensive Planning," and "Multinational Logistics," at numerous international military colleges, universities and senior leader forums.

Mr. Venoit graduated summa cum laude from the University of New Haven, with a Bachelor of Science, and received

his Master of Science from the Marine Corps University. He is also a graduate of study from the Joint Forces Staff College, National Defense University, the NATO Defense College.



### **Mr. Mark J. Webber**

#### **Vice President, International Global Programs & Policy – 21st Century Lockheed Martin Government Affairs**

Mark J. Webber is Vice President, International, Global Programs & Policy within Lockheed Martin’s Government Affairs organization, where he is responsible for managing a diverse portfolio of issues affecting Lockheed Martin’s global programs and business, including international trade, export control policy and sanctions, export financing and advocacy, global supply chain, foreign direct investment, and other international regulatory issues.

Before joining Lockheed Martin in 2011, Mr. Webber held several senior positions within the U.S. Government, including Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for South and Central Asia on the National Security Council Staff, and Special Advisor for National Security Affairs in the Office of the Vice President of the United States. Mr. Webber also served as the Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary

for Industry and Security and as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Prior to serving in the U.S. Government, Mr. Webber worked under contract for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and the former U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency as an advisor on missile defense and strategic arms control issues.

Mr. Webber received his J.D. from the George Washington University Law School and is a member of the Maryland State Bar. He earned his M.A. and B.A. in comparative politics from American University in Washington, DC.

Mr. Webber lives in Maryland with his wife and two sons.



### **Mr. Ian Wexler**

#### **Director, Institute for Security Governance**

Mr. Ian Wexler became the Director of the Institute for Security Governance (ISG) in September 2023. Mr. Wexler comes to ISG by way of the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies (DIILS), where he served for four years as the 13th Director. Under Mr. Wexler’s leadership, DIILS continued to thrive through a highly dynamic period, sustaining global mission execution during the substantial constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic. Among many other changes, he guided DIILS through significant growth and transition, including adding Legal Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) as a major mission element, significant staff growth to meet the expanded demand for DIILS Security Cooperation programs, integration into DSCU, and the start of renovation of the DIILS Education Center.

Before joining ISG, Mr. Wexler served for 25 years in the United States Navy (USN). He retired in 2023 as a Captain in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps, USN. Mr. Wexler also completed three overseas deployments during his career. He first deployed as the Executive Officer of the Military Liaison Office assigned to the Central Criminal Court of Iraq. On his second Iraq deployment, Mr. Wexler was detailed as the Director of the Law and Order Task Force primarily based at Forward Operating Base Shield in Sadr City, Baghdad, Iraq. Finally, Mr. Wexler deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as the Staff Judge Advocate for Joint Task Force – Guantanamo.

Mr. Wexler earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Rutgers University, a Doctor of Law degree from the

University of Richmond School of Law, a Master of Laws in Military and International Operational Law from the Army Judge Advocate General School and Legal Center, and a Master of Arts in National Security Policy Studies from the U.S. Naval War College. Mr. Wexler started his naval career in 1997, when he was commissioned in the Navy JAGC Student Program.

