



Speaker Bios

2024 SC Conference

Ambassador Javid Ahmed

Javid Ahmad is a nonresident senior fellow with the Atlantic Council's South Asia Center. He was formerly Afghanistan's ambassador to the United Arab Emirates. He has a BA in international relations from Beloit College and an MA in security studies from Yale University.

Dr. Folahanmi Aina

Folahanmi Aina is a political scientist and currently a lecturer at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Aina's research interests include peace, security, development, terrorism, insurgencies and extremism in West Africa's Sahel and Lake Chad Basin regions.

LTC Paul Aldaya

Paul Aldaya is a U.S. Army foreign area officer and currently an assistant professor at the Army Command and General Staff College. He has previously worked in security cooperation positions in Ukraine, Uzbekistan, and Germany.

Dr. Veronica de Allende

Veronica de Allende is an expert in international and development economics, with fifteen years of experience as a U.S. Department of Defense operations research scientist. She is a Fulbright scholar and holds an MA and PhD in economics from The Ohio State University.

Dr. Saud Al-Sharafat

Dr. Saud Al-Sharafat is a former brigadier general in the Jordanian General Intelligence Directorate, as well as founder and chairman of the Shorufat Center for the Study of Globalization and Terrorism.

Ms. Ewa Andryjalowicz

Ewa A. Andryjalowicz is an experienced researcher, analyst, and advisor at the House of Representatives in Germany with extensive experience in political analysis, problem-solving, and management. She holds an MA in European Administrative Management.

Dr. Paul Angelo

Paul Angelo is the director of the of the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies. Angelo holds an MPhil in Latin American studies from the University of Oxford and a PhD in politics from University College London.

Dr. Christina Arabia

Christina Arabia is an analyst in security assistance, security cooperation, and the global arms trade at the Congressional Research Service. She holds an MA in international conflict and security studies from The New School.

Mr. Tamim Asey

Tamim Asey is a senior visiting fellow at King's College London and a graduate of the Royal College of Defense Studies. He is the former deputy minister for policy and strategy at the Ministry of Defense of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Dr. Olatokunbo (Tokz) Awoshakin

Tokz Awoshakin is a writer and public engagement expert. He trained at Poynter Institute with Peter Roy Clark and Christopher "Chip" Scalan. He has worked in the United Nations and in Washington, DC, as a journalist.

Ms. Shawn Baker-Garcia

Shawn Baker-Garcia is founder and CEO of Coalescion, an Alexandria, VA, based nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance and operationalize global security literacy, representation, outcomes, and stakeholder interaction models through research and analysis, engagement, education and training, and advocacy.

Dr. Vasabjit Banerjee

Vasabjit Banerjee is an assistant Professor of Political Science at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville and the author of *Undoing the Revolution: Comparing Elite Subversion of Peasant Rebellions*.

Ms. Marisa Bassett

Marisa Bassett is an institutional capacity building attorney at the Defense Institute of International Legal Studies. She received her JD from American University's Washington College of Law.

Ms. Jessica A. Bell

Jessica A. Bell is a senior director for NTI's Global Biological Policy and Programs team. She holds an MS in biohazardous threat agents and emerging infectious diseases from Georgetown University.

Ms. Melissa Benkert

Ms. Melissa Benkert is Director for International Cooperation in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy.

Mr. Clay Benton

Clay Benton is the current lead of DOD International Military Student Alumni Connectivity and Engagement at the Defense Security Cooperation University.

Dr. Louise Alexandre Berg

Alex Berg is an associate professor of political science at Georgia State University. He received an MPA from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs and a PhD in government from Georgetown University.

Ms. Aneliese Bernard

Aneliese Bernard is the founder and director of Strategic Stabilization Advisors, with a decade of expertise in counterterrorism, stabilization, demobilization, disarmament and reintegration, and security sector reform in North and West Africa.

Mr. Sahipulhijaiman bin Sulaiman

Sahipulhijaiman bin Sulaiman is the Deputy Undersecretary of the Policy and International Relations Branch within the Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Ministry of Defence, Malaysia.

Mr. Clayne Bradley

Clayne T. Bradley has been a member of the Joint Staff since 2019 and is currently an operations researcher for the Joint Center for International Security Force Assistance.

Ms. Sarah Bufano

Sarah Bufano is a senior national security consultant supporting the U.S. Department of State in security assistance. and a master's student at the Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies.

Ms. Ashley Bybee

Ashley Bybee is a researcher at the Institute for Defense Analyses.

Dr. Daniel Byman

Daniel Byman is a senior fellow with the Warfare, Irregular Threats, and Terrorism Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. He is also a professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

Dr. Brendon Cannon

Brendon J. Cannon is assistant professor of international security at Khalifa University, Abu Dhabi, UAE. His research focuses on the nexus of international relations, security studies, and geopolitics.

Dr. Jonathan Caverley

Jonathan D. Caverley is professor of strategic and operational research at the U.S. Naval War College. He is a non-resident global fellow at the Wilson Center.

LTC Wes Chaney

Wes Chaney is the current director of foreign military sales in the Middle East region under U.S. Army Security Assistance Command. LTC Chaney received MAs from the United States Army War College and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Ms. Lauren Chapman

Lauren Chapman joined is the lead for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency's eleven-person Ukraine Team, which has executed over \$60 billion in defense transfers to Ukraine under the Presidential Drawdown Authority, Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative programs, and Foreign Military Financing.

Dr. Alexandra Chinchilla

Alexandra Chinchilla is an Assistant Professor in the Department of International Affairs at Texas A&M's Bush School of Government and Public Service and a core faculty member with the Albritton Center for Grand Strategy. Dr. Chinchilla received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Chicago in 2021.

Dr. Lindsey Cohn

Lindsay P. Cohn is Associate Professor of National Security Affairs at the US Naval War College, where she teaches strategy, international security, foreign policy analysis, and civil-military relations. She has a PhD in Political Science from Duke University.

Mr. James Cunliffe

Mr. James Cunliffe is a senior advisor on two UK-sponsored programs in Iraq. Mr. Cunliffe also is a part-time member of the UK Government's Conflict, Stability and Mediation Unit and national security strategy consultant.

Dr. Jennifer Cunningham

Dr. Jennifer Cunningham is Booz Allen consultant, working with clients to ensure security cooperation initiatives with foreign partners align with U.S. defense objectives. She is also an adjunct professor at Old Dominion University's Graduate Program in International Studies.

COL Steven Day

Stephen R. Day is the Mobilization Assistant to the Chief, Information Dominance and Chief Information Officer, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Pentagon, Washington, DC.

Ms. Erin Densford

Erin Densford is a career civil servant. She specializes in interagency coordination and government capacity building. In addition to incorporating CHMR considerations into U.S. military operations, she prioritizes collaboration to increase CHMR capacity in AFRICOM's partners.

Dr. Sarah Detzner

Sarah Detzner is a consultant who focuses on measuring the impacts of security sector assistance and reform efforts. Current and past projects include work with the U.S. Department of State, and the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance.

Dr. Chris Dolan

Chris Dolan is Professor of Cyber Defense and Director of Intelligence and Security Studies at Lebanon Valley College. In 2024, he was a Fulbright Specialist in Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure with the Kosovar Centre for Security Studies in Prishtina, Kosovo.

Mr. Andrew Dziengeleski

Andrew Dziengeleski is currently a Senior Lecturer at the Defense Security Cooperation University and a guest lecturer at the USMC Security Cooperation Planner Course.

Dr. Ehud Eiran

Ehud (Udi) Eiran is a Senior Lecturer (US Associate Professor) of International Relations, University of Haifa, Israel. He is also a senior fellow at the center for the Research of Intelligence Methodology.

Dr. Ike Ejikeme

Dr. Ike Ejikeme is a Federal Government Civil Servant within the United States Department of Homeland Security. He holds a Doctor of Science degree in Civil Security Leadership, Management & Policy from New Jersey City University.

Dr. Thomas Ekström

Dr. Thomas Ekström is an Assistant Professor in War Studies at the Swedish Defence University. His research is focused on defense supply chain resilience.

Dr. Barbara Elias

Barbara Elias is the Sarah and James Bowdoin Associate Professor of Government & Legal Studies at Bowdoin College specializing in international relations, insurgency warfare, U.S. foreign policy, national security, and Islam and politics. Professor Elias received her Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in political science.

Colonel Elizabeth Erickson

Elizabeth Erickson is the Director of Center Operations at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences Center for Global Health Engagement. She attended the

University of Minnesota Medical School and Family Medicine residency training at David Grant Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, California, serving as Chief Resident 2005-2006.

Dr. Sandor Fabian

Sandor Fabian is a former Hungarian Special Forces officer with twenty years of military experience. Dr. Fabian is the author of *Irregular Warfare: The Future Military Strategy for Small States*.

Dr. Bernard Finel

Bernard I. Finel is Dean of the College of International and Security Studies at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies. Before joining the Marshall Center Team, Dr. Finel was faculty at the U.S. National War College in Washington, D.C. from 2010-2024.

Mr. Robert Foxcurran

Mr. Robert Foxcurran is a former Boeing employee who worked extensively in weapons procurement. He also served as an appointed secretary on the U.S. delegation for Industry Interface supporting the NATO Industrial Advisory Group.

Ms. Mirna Galic

Mirna Galic is a senior policy analyst for China and East Asia at the U.S. Institute of Peace. Her areas of expertise include relations between U.S. partners in Asia and Europe and how such relations enable these partners to address regional and international security issues.

Dr. Nadia Gerspacher

Nadia Gerspacher is a senior faculty member at the DSCU Young Institute. She has contributed to security sector governance and reform for over eighteen years through academic and applied research.

Dr. William Godnick

Dr. William Godnick is the Dean of Academic Affairs at the William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies. Dr. Godnick holds an MA in International Policy Studies from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and a PhD from the University of Bradford in the United Kingdom.

Dr. Dmitry Gorenburg

Dmitry Gorenburg is an expert on security issues in the former Soviet Union, the Russian military, Russian foreign policy, and ethnic politics and identity. He received Ph.D. in political science from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Arts in international relations from Princeton University.

CDR Rachael Gosnell

Rachael Gosnell is a Foreign Area Officer and Navy Strategist, with extensive academic and operational expertise in maritime security, strategy, and the Arctic. CDR Gosnell is a doctoral candidate in International Security and Economic Policy at the University of Maryland, with a focus on U.S. Arctic strategy.

Dr. Whitney Grespin

Whitney Grespin joined the Institute for Security Governance (ISG) in August 2022 as an Africa Regional Program Lead (RPL) within Regional Advising. Dr. Grespin holds a PhD from King's College London's Defence Studies Department at the UK Joint Services Command and Staff College.

Dr. Sharan Grewal

Sharan Grewal is an Assistant Professor of Government at American University, a research fellow at the Middle East Initiative at Harvard, and a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Lt Col Paul Griffith

Paul Griffith is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Air Force with more than 23 years of military and federal government experience. Griffith holds an MBA from Texas A&M, an MA from Universidad Antonio de Nebrija (Madrid, Spain), a BS from Utah State, and is a graduate from Spain's Joint Staff College, and the U.S. Air Force's Air War College.

Dr. Mohammed Hafez

Mohammed M. Hafez is a Professor in the Department of National Security Affairs (NSA) at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, since 2008. From 2013 to 2018, he was the Chairman of the NSA department. Prof. Hafez earned his Ph.D. from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2000.

Lieutenant Colonel Sarder Ali Haider

Sarder Ali Haider is a distinguished Research Fellow and PhD candidate at the Bangladesh University of Professionals, focusing on non-state actors and insurgents in Myanmar and Northeast India. He is a graduate of the Terrorism and Security Studies course at the George Marshall Center.

Ms. Jennifer Hanley

Jennifer Hanley is the Vice President of International Government Relations at L3Harris Technologies. Ms. Smith is an experienced foreign policy professional with significant legislative, policy-making, and political-military experience.

Dr. James Hauger

Jame (Scott) Hauger founded Climate and Environmental Security, LLC, to provide a vehicle for research and consulting upon retirement as Professor of environmental security at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies.

Lt. Colonel Ali Haxhimustafa

Ali Haxhimustafa is CGSC graduate from Army University at Fort Leavenworth and holds an MBA from Sheffield University, UK. He is currently deputy chief of G3/7 and before that served as the Commander of KSF military Academy, Deputy Commander of 2nd Infantry Regiment, Company Commander and other staff positions.

Mr. Devin Hess

Devin Hess is a Program Manager at the National Defense University's (NDU) International Student Management Office where he leads several portfolios contributing to international student enrollment, alumni and stakeholder engagement, and community outreach.

Ms. Michèle Hizon

Hizon is a career member of the Senior Executive Service since 2015, is currently serving as the Deputy Director for the Defense Technology Security Administration (DTSA). 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. Brian Hobbs

Brian Hobbs is a PhD candidate at Virginia Tech. He has an M.A. in National Security Affairs, a B.A. (double major) in psychology and East Asian languages & cultures, and proficiency in Japanese, Korean, and Chinese.

Dr. Amy Austin Holmes

Amy Austin Holmes is Research Professor of International Affairs and Acting Director of the Foreign Area Officers Program at George Washington University. Dr. Holmes earned her PhD from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Matt Hounnikpo

Matt Hounnikpo is an independent scholar whose work focuses on security sector reform, civil-military relations, and democratic governance in Africa. He holds doctorates from the University of Paris VIII Saint-Denis in France and the University of Denver.

MAJ Matthew Hughes

Matthew A. Hughes is a U.S. Army foreign area officer currently assigned to the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation. He holds MAs from Johns Hopkins University and American Military University.

Brigadier General Stephen M. Huria

Stephen Maina Huria has served in various capacities to include command, training and staff appointments in his career in the Kenya Defence Forces. He is currently Chief of Research, Doctrine and Training Evaluation at the Kenya Defence Headquarters since 2021.

Mr. Aaron Jay

Aaron Jay is a career civil servant in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. He is currently the Director for Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) Policy. Prior to this assignment, he served in the Offices of Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia; Middle East Policy; European and NATO Policy; and Security Cooperation Policy.

Dr. Rebecca Jensen

Rebecca Jensen is an assistant professor at the Canadian Forces College, and a visiting researcher at the Royal Danish Defence College. Her research interests include operational art and campaign planning, strategy, military change and innovation, and multidomain operations.

Dr. Seth Jones

Seth G. Jones is president of the Defense and Security Department and Harold Brown Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Jones is a graduate of Bowdoin College and received his MA and PhD from the University of Chicago.

Mr. Doug Jordan

Doug Jordan is Research Faculty in the Department of Applied Research at the Joint Special Operations University. He is currently a Doctoral Candidate in Communication at Liberty University.

Mr. Nicolas Jouan

Nicolas Jouan is a defense and security analyst at the RAND Corporation. Working primarily with RAND Europe, his research interests relate to arms production, acquisition policy, supply-chain analysis, European defense and regional geopolitics. He holds a M.Litt. in international relations from the University of St Andrews.

Dr. Renanah Joyce

Renanah Joyce is an assistant professor Security Studies in the Walsh School of Foreign Service and Center for Security Studies at Georgetown University. She received her PhD in Political Science from Columbia University in 2020.

Dr. Joseph Karle

Joseph Karle is a senior faculty associate at the Defense Security Cooperation University at the College of Strategic Security Cooperation Studies. He holds a PhD in International Affairs from Virginia Tech.

Dr. Vinay Kaura

Vinay Kaura is an Assistant Professor in the Department of International Affairs and Security Studies, Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal Justice, India. He is also an adjunct faculty on the Program on Terrorism and Security Studies (PTSS) at the Marshall Center, Germany.

Mr. Jeff King

Jeff King served 25 years as an Engineer-Protection Officer. He's bridged a decade working lessons learned (LL) as a contractor-civilian that includes Korea interoperability and developing nations LL programs with CALL; five years with the Joint Center for International Security Force Assistance (JCISFA) with global and Europe-Ukraine focus.

BG Kevin Lambert

Kevin Lambert is the Commanding General for the Security Force Assistance Command at Fort Liberty, North Carolina. He is a graduate of the United States Army War College.

Mr. Erik Leklem

Erik Leklem joined the Institute for Security Governance (ISG) in June 2017 as an Indo-Pacific Regional Program Lead. Mr. Leklem manages security sector advisory and consulting teams conducting institutional capacity building projects with Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, and other countries in Asia.

MAJ Erin Lemons

Erin Lemons is an Instructor of International Affairs in the Department of Social Sciences at West Point. Erin holds a PhD in Government from Georgetown University and an MA in German from the Pennsylvania State University.

Mr. Ido Levy

Ido Levy is an associate fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy and a PhD student at American University's School of International Service. His work focuses on counterterrorism, jihadism, military operations, and security force assistance with a focus on the Middle East and North and East Africa.

Dr. Bryce Loidolt

Bryce Loidolt is a Senior Research Fellow at National Defense University's Institute for National Strategic Studies. Dr. Loidolt's current research examines the relationship between security assistance and interstate competition and conflict.

Mr. Issac Lubega

Isaac Lubega completed his undergraduate studies in Bachelor of Public Administration at the Islamic University in Uganda. After joining the Security Cooperation office, he attended several Security Cooperation courses at Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management (DISAM).

Dr. Daniel Mabrey

Daniel Mabrey holds an appointment as Professor of Transnational Security Studies in the College of International and Security Studies at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. He also holds an appointment at the University of New Haven.

Mr. Jeffrey Malone

Jeffrey Malone has extensive experience in the Foreign Military Sales arena with an emphasis in logistics and project management. Mr. Malone's education includes an MBA from the University of Maryland Global Campus and a Bachelor of Science in International Business from York College of Pennsylvania.

Lieutenant Colonel Ronald Mañeje

Ronald Mañeje is a Filipino tactical Airlift Pilot who has served as a squadron commander of the 223rd Airlift Squadron, engaged in maritime patrol, relief goods transportation, VIP flights, logistics, and administrative support.

Mr. Kevin Manley

Kevin Manley is an analyst with DSCA, where he works on the CENTCOM Division within the Regional Execution Directorate. Kevin previously worked as a country desk officer within the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Defense Exports and Cooperation.

Lt. Col. Dr. Jahara Matisek

Jahara "Franky" Matisek is an active-duty officer in the U.S. Air Force, currently serving as a military professor U.S. Naval War College. He has an MPA from the University of Oklahoma, an MS from Troy University, and a PhD in Political Science from Northwestern University.

Dr. Jerry McGinn

Jerry McGinn is the Executive Director of the Greg and Camille Baroni Center for Government Contracting in the Costello College of Business at George Mason University. In this role, he has established a university center for research, education and training, and collaboration on issues facing the \$500B+ government contracting community.

Mr. David McNevin

David T. McNevin served in the U.S Army for 28 years as an Infantry and Intelligence Officer, with a specialty in sub-Saharan Africa as a Foreign Area Officer. He was on the AFRICOM Transition Team that established the new command in 2008. Since 2018, he has worked for the DoD in Africa on implementation of Security Cooperation programs.

Dr. Rachel Metz

Rachel Metz is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at George Washington University. Metz received her PhD in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she was a member of the Security Studies Program.

Major James Micciche

James P. Micciche is a U.S Army Strategist (FA59) and Civil Affairs Officer with deployment and service experience in the Middle East, Africa, Afghanistan, Europe, and Indo-Pacific. He holds a Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy from The Fletcher School at Tufts University.

Dr. Liudmila Mikhailova

Liudmila Mikhailova has been working in the security sector for the last fifteen years, measuring effectiveness and impacts of capacity-building for biological, chemical, nuclear, cyber security, export control, and border-related security programs.

Dr. Rebecca Moore

Rebecca Moore is Professor of Political Science at Concordia College. She has published three books on NATO, including two co-edited volumes, as well as peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, including a chapter on NATO partnerships for the *Routledge Handbook of NATO*.

Ms. Sahr Muhammedally

Sahr Muhammedally is a senior Faculty Associate at the Defense Security Cooperation University where she teaches and undertakes research on civilian harm mitigation and response (CHMR) and advises on CHMR engagement with allies and partners. Her expertise is in urban warfare, emerging technologies, and international humanitarian and human rights law.

Colonel Kevin Murphy

Kevin J. Murphy was commissioned as a Field Artillery Officer in 2001. His initial assignment was with 2-319 Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, serving as the Company Fire Support Officer for A/3-325 Airborne Infantry Regiment during the initial 2003 invasion of Iraq. Murphy was a practicing litigation attorney for 10 years while serving in the National Guard.

Ms. Francesca C. Music

Francesca Music is the Deputy Director for Global Health Engagement in Global Partnerships, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities. She represents the Office of the Secretary of Defense in National Security Council meetings related to global health.

Ms. Elina Noor

Elina Noor is a senior fellow in the Asia Program at Carnegie where she focuses on developments in Southeast Asia, particularly the impact and implications of technology in reshaping power dynamics, governance, and nation-building in the region. Noor holds a MA in security studies from Georgetown University.

Major General Francesco Olla

Major General Francesco Olla is the Head of III Department (Military Policy and Planning) for the Italian Army Staff.

Dr. Ozgur Ozkan

Özgür Özkan is a research fellow with the Middle East Initiative at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs and a visiting scholar at the Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He holds a Ph.D. in International Studies from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Ms. Tammy Palacios

Tammy Palacios is a Senior Analyst leading the Priority Sustainable Counterterrorism Initiative at the New Lines Institute and 2023-2024 Research Fellow with the Modern War Institute at West Point. Palacios earned a master's degree in security and terrorism studies from the University of Maryland Graduate School.

Mr. Alexander Palmer

Alexander Palmer is an associate fellow in the Warfare, Irregular Threats, and Terrorism Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). He holds a master in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Dr. Megghi Pengili

Dr. Megghi Pengili holds an MA in International Relations, from the University of Sussex, and an Executive Master in EU Studies from the Centre International de Formation Européenne.

Dr. Fabiana Perara

Dr. Fabiana Perara is a senior faculty associate at the Defense Security Cooperation University and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. Dr. Perara holds a PhD in Political Science from the George Washington University and a Masters in Latin American studies from Georgetown University.

Ms. Alison Petchell

Ms. Alison Petchell is the acting First Assistant Director General SSN Construction at the Australian Submarine Agency. Ms. Petchell has over 15 years' experience delivering technology to the Australian Defence Force across all stages of the capability life cycle.

Mr. Steven Peterson

Mr. Peterson is the Deputy Assistant Director and Dean for Institutional Capacity Building (ICB) within the Defense Security Cooperation University (DSCU). Mr. Peterson has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Bethel University (Minnesota) and a Master of Science degree in Defense and Strategic Studies from Missouri State University.

Ms. Susan Pond

Ms. Pond is the Director of the Glendon School of Public and International Affairs at York University.

Ms. Kristin Post

Ms. Post is currently a Senior Lecturer with the Executive Education Department at DSCU. In 2009-10, she conducted outside-the-wire research in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Afterward, she taught and published qualitative research on cultural understanding at Marine Corps University (MCU).

Mr. Zachary Porter

Mr. Porter has a decade of experience strengthening alliances through security cooperation with the Air Force, the Department of State, and the Army. Porter currently serves as DASA DE&C's Security Cooperation Strategist collaborating with INDOPACOM and USARPAC.

Mr. Razaqat Ali Raja

Mr. Razaqat Ali Raja is part of the Security Cooperation Office at the Office of Defense representative in Pakistan. As Program Specialist and team lead for the local staff in the security cooperation office, Raja is engaged with the host nation on the broader areas of security cooperation between the two countries.

Dr. Louise Rasmussen

Louise Rasmussen is principal scientist at Global Cognition. Rasmussen earned her Ph.D. in Human Factors Psychology from Wright State University in 2007.

Ms. Julia Raven

Julia Raven is a Ph.D. candidate at UC Berkeley in political science specializing in military effectiveness and security sector adaptation. Her dissertation project looks at the ethnic exclusion in and effectiveness of contemporary militaries and explores their origins in the colonial era.

Major Sharon Rollins

Major Sharon Rollins currently serves as a Commandant of the Marine Corps Fellow at Dominion Energy in Richmond, VA and will execute orders to U.S. Cyber Command, Cyber National Mission Force in July 2024.

LTC Pete Roongsang

LTC Pete Roongsang is currently a student at the U.S. Army War College. His operational Army experiences was as a military intelligence and field artillery officer with deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. Grant Rumley

Grant Rumley is the Meisel-Goldberger Senior Fellow and Director of the Diane and Guilford Glazer Foundation Program on Great Power Competition and the Middle East, where he specializes in military and security affairs in the Middle East.

Dr. Jean-Loup Samaan

Jean-Loup Samaan is a senior research fellow at the Middle East Institute of the National University of Singapore, as well as a nonresident senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Middle East Security Initiative. His research covers Middle Eastern security affairs.

Commander Thomas Schmitz

CDR Thomas Schmitz currently serves as the Chief of Operations for the US Military Observer Group. Schmitz's previous experience that contributed to this research included the Deputy of International Partnerships at USCYBERCOM, the Naval Section Chief at the Guatemalan Office of Security Cooperation, and a multinational exercise planner at Naval Forces Africa.

Ms. Catherine Sendak

Catherine Sendak is the Director of the Transatlantic Defense and Security program at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA). Prior to this post, Sendak was the Vice President for Policy and Projects for Business Executives for National Security (BENS).

Captain Danny Shiau

Captain Danny Shiau is Director of the USU Center for Global Health Engagement. Shiau previously served as Director of the Programs and Joint Force Support Division at the Center. He received a Biological Sciences degree from Stanford University and earned his Doctorate in Medicine from USU.

Dr. Michael Shurkin

Shurkin is an expert in European defense and West African politics and security. He holds a PhD from Yale University, and his experience includes serving on the National Security Council, being the senior political scientist at RAND, and serving as a political analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency.

Ms. Lisa Smith

Ms. Lisa Smith is the Vice President of International Government Relations at L3Harris Technologies. Ms. Smith is an experienced foreign policy professional with significant legislative, policy-making, and political-military experience.

Dr. Joanna Spear

Dr. Spear directs the Foreign Area Officer Regional Skill Sustainment Initiative at the George Washington University, where she previously directed the Security Policy Studies and National Security Studies programs.

Dr. Jennifer Spindel

Jen Spindel is an assistant professor of political science at the University of New Hampshire, and a non-resident fellow with the Institute for Future Conflict.

Ms. Lynette Stevenson

Lynette T. Stevenson is a pioneering financial strategist and the acclaimed founder of DALC Credit Solutions Co. in Central PA. Stevenson's distinguished tenure at Defense Security Corporation University empowered her to dissect and navigate global cultural differences.

Dr. Whitney Stewart

Dr. Whitney Stewart is the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist at the Department of State and a Managing Consultant with Guidehouse. Dr. Stewart holds a Ph.D. in International Psychology focused on Organizations and Systems from The Chicago School and a Master of Science from Columbia University in the City of New York.

Colonel John Suggs

Colonel John Suggs is a graduate of military professional education courses in the US and Argentina. In addition to an associate degree in Spanish, he has earned bachelor's degrees in government and history, a master's degree in business and Master of Latin American Studies from Vanderbilt University.

Mr. George Swift

George Swift is an expert in interagency planning and decision making, conflict zone stabilization, and NATO integration. Mr. Swift is currently serving both as the National Security Strategy Advisor to the Prime Minister and the National Defense Strategy advisor to the Minister of Defense of the Republic of North Macedonia as part of the Department of State's Global Defense Reform Program.

Ambassador Bill Taylor

Ambassador William B. Taylor is vice president, Europe and Russia at the U.S. Institute of Peace. In 2019, he served as chargé d'affaires at the U.S. embassy in Kyiv and as the U.S.

ambassador to Ukraine from 2006 to 2009. Ambassador Taylor is a graduate of West Point and Harvard's Kennedy School.

Brig Gen (ret.) E. John Teichert

Brig. Gen. E. John "Dragon" Teichert is the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs, Department of the Air Force. In this position, he provides oversight and guidance for U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force international policy and programs supporting national security objectives through a broad security cooperation portfolio.

Ms. Brianne Todd

Brianne Todd is the Director for Central Asian Affairs at the National Security Council, where she is responsible for coordination of U.S. policy on Central Asia, including diplomatic, economic, defense, and intelligence efforts.

Mr. Jason Vandenberg

Jason Vandenberg is currently serving as an advisor to the Romanian Ministry of National Defense. Previously he served as the Chief of Air Force Policy for a portfolio including wounded warrior care, mortuary and casualty affairs, and service member retention and readiness programs.

Dr. Katie Ward

Katie R. Ward is assigned as a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Chief at the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center (AFLCMC) C/KC-135 System Program Office (SPO) at Tinker Air Force Base (AFB), Oklahoma.

Dr. Sean Webeck

Dr. Webeck is an assistant professor at the Defense Resources Management Institute at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. He received a PhD in Public Policy from Indiana University in 2018.

Dr. Spencer Willardson

Dr. Spencer L Willardson served as a counterintelligence agent and Russian linguist for 9 years in the Utah Army National Guard and served two combat tours to Iraq in 2003-04 and 2007-08. Willardson earned a master's in Strategic Intelligence from AMU and a PhD in Political Science from University of Iowa.

Dr. Paul Williams

Dr. Paul Williams is Professor in the Elliott School of International Affairs at the George Washington University, and Director of the MA program in Security Policy Studies. Williams research focuses on the politics and effectiveness of contemporary peace operations, the dynamics of warfare in Africa, and emerging security threats.

Mr. Thomas Wilkins

Dr Thomas S. Wilkins is a Senior Lecturer in International Security at the University of Sydney, Senior Fellow at Australian Strategic Policy Institute, and Senior Visiting Fellow at the Japan Institute for International Affairs. Wilkins received his Ph.D. from the University of Birmingham, UK.

Mr. Michael Wiltz

Michael Wiltz is a military intelligence specialist with a thirty-year career in the U.S. military. In his current role, he plans and implements military intelligence security cooperation programs throughout the continent of Africa on behalf of U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, Africa (SETAF-AF) and AFRICOM.

Dr. Aiden Winn

Dr. Aiden Winn is policy researcher at RAND. Winn received her Ph.D. in War Studies from King's College, London in 2018. Winn holds a master's degree in International Affairs from Carleton University and a Bachelor's degree in History and Philosophy from McMaster University.

Colonel Michael Wise

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