

Delegation Biographies



Dr. David Adesnik, Policy Director, Foreign Policy Initiative (FPI)

David Adesnik is the Policy Director at the Foreign Policy Initiative, where he focuses on defense and strategy issues. Previously, David was a visiting fellow at the Marilyn Ware Center for Security Studies at the American Enterprise Institute. For two years, he served as deputy director for Joint Data Support at the U.S. Department of Defense, where he focused on the modeling and simulation of irregular warfare and counterinsurgency. David also spent several years as research staff member at the Institute for Defense Analyses. In that capacity, he spent several months in Baghdad as an operations research and systems analyst for Multinational Corps – Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In 2008, he was part of the foreign policy and national security staff for John McCain’s presidential campaign.

David holds a doctorate and master’s degree in international relations from Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. His dissertation focused on the Reagan administration’s approach to democracy promotion. David received a bachelor’s degree in history from Yale University. He has been the recipient of fellowships from the Council on Foreign Relations, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Harvard University, and the University of Virginia. His work has been published in *Foreign Policy*, *The Weekly Standard*, *The National Review*, *The Washington Free Beacon*, *The Washington Quarterly*, *Forbes.com*, *FoxNews.com* and *The Daily Caller*. David has served as a commentator on several cable television networks and radio programs.



Rachel Hoff, Director of Defense Analysis, American Action Forum (AAF)

Rachel Hoff is Director of Defense Analysis at the American Action Forum. She previously served as the Director of Government Relations & External Affairs at the Foreign Policy Initiative, a think tank she helped found in 2009. From 2006 to 2008, Rachel worked as a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Mac Thornberry (R-TX), focusing on foreign affairs and national security issues. From 2004 to 2006, she was a Research Assistant working with several foreign and defense policy scholars at the American Enterprise Institute. Rachel received a master’s degree in Global Policy Studies from the University of Texas at Austin’s LBJ School of Public Affairs and a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Tufts University. She has worked and volunteered for numerous Republican Party campaigns and organizations and represented Washington, DC as a delegate at the 2012 Republican National Convention. Rachel has also been elected as a 2016 convention delegate and will serve on the Platform Committee.



Phillip Lohaus, Research Fellow, American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

Phillip Lohaus is a Research Fellow in the Marilyn Ware Center for Security Studies at the American Enterprise Institute. Previously, he conducted studies into emerging technological trends for the Long Term Strategy Group and served as a research assistant in the Merrill Center for Strategic Studies at Johns Hopkins. From 2006-2012, Phillip was a targeting and intelligence analyst with the U.S. Department of Defense, a period which included tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. In his current role, Phillip focuses on hybrid warfare and grey zone challenges across the globe, including in East Asia. He also serves as the Executive Director of the American Internationalism Project, a bipartisan effort chaired by former Senators Jon Kyl and Joe Lieberman, which seeks to reaffirm the importance of

American leadership in world affairs. In addition to commentary and analysis published in outlets such as the *National Interest* and *The Hill*, his research has been cited in several congressional testimonies. He is the recipient of a Joint Civilian Service Commendation Medal from U.S. Special Operations Command, and holds a B.A. from the University of Florida and an M.A. in Strategic Studies from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Delegation Biographies (cont'd)



Samuel J. Brannen, Senior Manager, Global Business Policy Council, A.T. Kearney

Sam is senior manager in A.T. Kearney's Global Business Policy Council (GBPC), a strategic advisory service specifically designed for the world's top CEOs and far-sighted thought leaders in both business and government. He joined A.T. Kearney in December 2014. Sam was previously a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), where he focused on U.S. national security strategy and policy. Prior to that time, Sam served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He holds a B.A. in political science from Trinity University (San Antonio, TX) and an M.A. in international affairs from the George Washington University. He resides in Alexandria, Virginia with his wife and daughter.



Melissa Dalton, Senior Fellow and Chief of Staff, International Security Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Melissa Dalton is a senior fellow and chief of staff of the CSIS International Security Program (ISP). Her research focuses on U.S. defense policy in the Middle East, global U.S. defense strategy and policy, and security cooperation with U.S. allies and partners. As chief of staff, she advises the director of ISP on a broad range of strategic and management issues. Prior to CSIS, she served in a number of positions at the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from 2007-14. She most recently was a senior adviser for force planning, where she contributed to the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review and DoD's planning guidance. Previously, she served as special assistant to the under secretary of defense for policy, as policy adviser to the commander of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan, and as country director for Lebanon and Syria. From 2003-5, she served as an intelligence analyst at the Defense Intelligence Agency. Her commentary and analysis has appeared in CNN, MSNBC, Bloomberg, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Fortune, Defense News, and the National Interest. She holds a B.A. in foreign affairs from the University of Virginia and an M.A. in international relations/economics from Johns Hopkins SAIS.



Brian Harding, Director for East and Southeast Asia, National Security and International Policy Team, Center for American Progress (CAP)

Brian Harding is Director for East and Southeast Asia for the National Security and International Policy team at American Progress. From 2009 to 2013, he served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Policy) as country director for Asian and Pacific security affairs, where he managed defense relations with major U.S. partners in Southeast Asia and Oceania—including Indonesia, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand—and advised senior Department of Defense leadership on Asia-Pacific regional strategy. In this position, Harding played an instrumental role in several high-profile defense policy initiatives, including agreements to station U.S. Marines in Darwin, Australia, and littoral combat ships in Singapore. Prior to working at the DoD, Harding was a research associate at CSIS, where he focused on Southeast Asia and Japan. Previously, he was a Fulbright scholar in Indonesia, a research assistant at the Wilson Center, and a research assistant at the Institute for National Strategic Studies. Harding holds an M.A. in Asian studies from the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, a B.A. in history and Japanese studies from Middlebury College, and has studied at Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, and Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan.

Delegation Biographies (cont'd)



Dr. Jeffrey Hornung, Fellow for Security and Foreign Affairs, Sasakawa USA

Dr. Jeffrey Hornung is the Fellow for the Security and Foreign Affairs Program at Sasakawa USA. Previously, Hornung worked as an Associate Professor for the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, a Department of Defense executive education facility in Honolulu, Hawaii. In that capacity he led courses, served as a seminar facilitator and briefed DOD and U.S. Pacific Command officials on Japanese security issues. From 2009-2010, Hornung served as a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Ohio State University's East Asian Studies Center, where he taught courses on Japan and East Asia. Previously, he served as a research assistant at George Washington University on the project, "Memory and Reconciliation in the Asia-Pacific." In addition to three years of teaching English in Japan on the JET Program, he also worked for a member of the Japanese Diet during the 2001 House of Councillors election. Hornung has written about Japanese security and foreign policy issues for numerous outlets including Asian Security, The Washington Quarterly, Foreign Affairs, The Wall Street Journal, CNN and The Diplomat. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the George Washington University. He also holds an MA in international relations with a concentration in Japan Studies from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a BA in political science and international affairs from Marquette University, where he graduated magna cum laude. During 2005-2006, Hornung conducted 15 months of doctoral research as a Fulbright Fellow at the University of Tokyo, where he was a visiting scholar.