

Matthew Armstrong

Mr. Matthew Armstrong is an author and advisor on public diplomacy, international information, and propaganda. His emphasis is examining how operating structures, authorities, doctrine, and individual opinions impact informational activities in support of national or organizational strategy with a focus on traditional and emerging security issues facing civilian and military government agencies. He is an Associate Fellow at King's Centre for Strategic Communication at King's College London.

From August 2013 through December 2016, he served as a Governor on the Broadcasting Board of Governors. He was nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate into this part-time role where he provided strategic guidance and oversight over the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, Office of Cuba Broadcasting, and the Middle East Broadcasting Network. Collectively, and separate from the expansive Internet Freedom programs of the BBG and RFA, the networks operated in up to 61 languages in over 100 countries.

Since 2012, Mr. Armstrong has served as a Member of the Board of [The Public Diplomacy Council](#), and since 2014 as the Board Secretary. The PDC is a nonprofit organization committed to the importance of the academic study, professional practice, and responsible advocacy of public diplomacy.

In 2011, Mr. Armstrong served as the Executive Director of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy where he reoriented the organization to its core purpose of "advocacy and oversight over U.S. government efforts that intend to understand, inform, and influence foreign publics."

In 2010, he founded and led the MountainRunner Institute, a 501(c)3 non-profit focused on issues related to public diplomacy. In 2004, he launched the leading blog on public diplomacy and strategic communication, www.MountainRunner.us.

Mr. Armstrong is a member of the [John Hays Initiative](#), [DACOR](#), the [Pen & Sword Club](#), and sits on several "small councils" advising various agencies and NATO-member ministries on issues related to strategic communication. He is on the editorial boards for the journal of the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence and the Journal of Strategic Security. He has been a member of the National Press Club since 2009.

He taught graduate courses on public diplomacy at the USC Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism, and continues to lecture and speak at U.S. military schools, NATO, and other military and civilian foreign government institutions across Europe and in Asia on strategic communication and public diplomacy. He has worked extensively with the Congress, think tanks, and the academic community across several continents on the same topics. In October 2015, he testified before a subcommittee of the U.S. House Armed Services Committee on the subject of emerging threats in today's information environment. In October 2016, he was made an Honorary Member of the PSYOP Regiment at Fort Bragg.

He is a Founding Board Member of the [Lodestone Trust](#), a land conservation trust established in 2016 for the research and development of outdoor therapy for military service-related post-traumatic stress disorder patients under professional supervision; identifying, mentoring, and enabling outstanding entrepreneurs; and, preserving wilderness and wildlife habitat.

Prior to his work in foreign affairs, he developed and deployed enterprise knowledge management systems and was a director at a public relations and communications company.

Mr. Armstrong earned a B.A. in International Relations and a Master of Public Diplomacy from the University of Southern California. He also studied European security and the Middle East at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

He currently resides near Zürich, Switzerland, with his wife, two children, and dog (a rescue from a Romanian shelter).