

# Clara M. Kim

---

## Strategic Planning & Analysis | Executive Communication | Global Partnerships Project & People Management | Creative & Multidisciplinary Initiatives

Outcome-driven leader with chief of staff and management expertise, as well as a highly successful 15+-year record of substantive national security and policy work, public-private partnerships, and cross-sector relationship building. Able to distill large volumes of complex information to provide actionable advice to senior executives, including to the President of the United States and senior government officials in the Executive and Legislative Branches, as well as C-Suite.

---

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### *Bank Policy Institute*

##### **Senior Vice President | Washington, D.C., 2025 – Present**

- Leads advocacy and engagement initiatives with the CEOs, CROs, CCOs, as well as global/U.S. heads of anti-money laundering (AML), sanctions, financial crime, national security, privacy, and fraud at the largest banks (of asset value no less than \$100 billion) to drive consensus, and develop strategy to advance these positions.
- Works with banks and stakeholders to research and compile information to develop regulatory comment letters, white papers, and articles, with a specific focus on Bank Secrecy Act modernization.
- Meets with top political and career officials at federal agencies and the banking regulators to advocate policy and regulatory changes, briefs staff and members on Capitol Hill, develops communications strategies, and contributes to meetings and conferences on issues of importance to BPI's member banks.

#### *U.S. Department of the Treasury*

##### **Senior Advisor, Office of Global Affairs | Washington, D.C., 2020 – 2025**

- Developed and recommended courses of action to address threats to U.S. national security, including responses to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, U.S. geostrategic competition with the PRC, and ongoing management of key alliances with partners in India, the Republic of Korea, and Japan.
- Regularly communicated, educated, and coordinated U.S.-Asia and U.S.-Europe policy and strategy priorities and key regulatory changes with stakeholders in the Executive Branch, the U.S. Congress, and the Federal Reserve. Duplicated those efforts with private industry (commodities, energy, etc.), trade associations, think tanks, and banks to provide updates to compliance and regulatory changes.
- Served as representative to a senior-level Treasury, National Security Council, and State Department task force to address Ukraine's funding gap through the use of immobilized Russian sovereign assets held in G7 countries.
- Researched and contributed to strategies on identifying money laundering, terrorist/proliferation financing, and other financial crimes across Europe and Asia, as well as de-risking in the Indo-Pacific region.
- Part of the U.S. negotiating team for the Treasury Department during U.S.-Taliban negotiations in 2022, and led a task force in 2021 to expedite visa processing for over 600 displaced Afghans.
- Led, mentored, and coached over 20 professional policy officers. Played a key leadership role during the COVID-19 pandemic, by covering management responsibilities for two other offices while helping more than 30 staff to transition to work-from-home duties.

##### **U.S. Financial Attaché to Switzerland, Italy, and Liechtenstein | Zurich, Switzerland, 2023**

- Appointed as the first-ever U.S. financial and economic liaison to Switzerland, Italy, and Liechtenstein, providing detailed analysis to Washington on illicit financing and regulatory risks affecting U.S. national security interests. Served as a bridge between U.S. policymakers and European officials on regulatory, compliance, and sanctions policy and development to aid European responses to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- Stood up a multi-billion-dollar trust fund in Switzerland through engagements with international financial partners and governments to safeguard Afghanistan's Central Bank reserves from diversion to illicit actors.
- Improved dialogue on technology policy, digital assets, and payments innovation and regulation across European capitals to better protect the integrity of the global financial system from emerging threats and vulnerabilities.

## ***U.S. Department of State***

### **Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary of State | Washington, DC, 2018 – 2020**

- Senior advisor, communications and press lead, Congressional liaison, and speechwriter to U.S. Deputy Secretary of State and Special Representative for North Korea during the Presidential-level U.S.-North Korea talks in 2018–2019.
- Briefed State Department Principals, the Secretary of State, and the National Security Council on a regular basis regarding political, economic, and security issues affecting critical foreign policy decisions.
- Led and coordinated key interagency coordination of recommendations, policy positions, and negotiating strategies in advance of Cabinet- and Presidential-level summits.
- Proofed press points and executive and external communications, cultivating key relationships with press and media.
- Represented the State Department in key exchanges with European and Asian partners, think tanks, and academic counterparts.

## ***U.S. Department of Defense***

### **Indo-Pacific Country Director, Office of the Secretary of Defense | Washington, DC, 2017**

- Served on a one-year rotation to advise Defense Department leadership, including the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense, on political developments in the Indo-Pacific region, as well as to provide strategic policy recommendations on military trends.
- Developed, led, and executed critical U.S. policy initiatives involving technology agreements and the building of regional centers with India, Singapore, and Australia and South Korea-Japan-U.S. trilateral cooperation.
- Initiated 50+ new relationships with global stakeholders and thought leaders across U.S., Europe, and Asia.
- Designed and executed multiple regional summits, with over 100 attendees.

## ***U.S. Department of State***

### **Intelligence Analyst | Washington, DC, 2012-2016**

- Briefed State Department policy bureaus, the Secretary of State, and the National Security Council on political, economic, and security issues derived from fast-breaking information affecting foreign policy decisions.
- Produced executive briefs for the President of the United States, Secretary of State, and additional Cabinet officials; authored over 10 articles for the President's Daily Brief.
- Engaged U.S. and international diplomats daily on political, economic, and security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region. Organized cost-efficient IT projects saving Bureau \$5 million yearly, oversaw major budgets, and helped implement cost-savings measures to the Bureau.
- Led a multi-year product and process redesign for Presidential-level intelligence analysis products.

### **EDUCATION AND SKILLS**

- MA, *International Security*, Georgetown University
- BA, *Political Science*, The College of William and Mary
  - Languages: Korean, French
- Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information Security Clearance (Active: 2010-2025)

### **AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

- U.S. Department of the Treasury Salmon Chase Award, Group Award, and Bonus Award
- New America – Asian American Pacific Islander National Security and Foreign Policy Next Generation Leader
  - U.S. Department of State Quality Step Increase, Superior Honor Award (2x), Meritorious Honor Award
    - German Marshall Fund Manfred Worner Seminar Fellowship
    - U.S. Department of Defense Outstanding Achievement Award
  - Office of the Director of National Intelligence Pat Roberts Intelligence Scholarship