

The Honorable Steve Yates
Senior Research Fellow for China and National Security Policy
and Chung Ju Yung Fellow at The Heritage Foundation.

A former deputy national security advisor to the Vice President, The Honorable Steve Yates returns to Heritage after two decades as an analyst and practitioner of politics, policy, media, and national security affairs.

As Senior Research Fellow for China and National Security and Chung Ju Yung Fellow in Heritage's Asian Studies Center, Yates leads the effort to define, amplify, and execute a comprehensive strategy to contain the malign influences of the Chinese Communist Party, strengthen and rebalance alliances, and put American families, jobs, and sovereignty first.

Yates comes to Heritage from the America First Policy Institute, where he launched the China Policy Initiative. He previously served as President of Radio Free Asia and Professor in the Practice of International Business and Politics at Boise State University. Before opening D.C. International Advisory in 2006, Yates served in the White House as Deputy Assistant to Vice President Dick Cheney for National Security Affairs from 2001 through 2005. Yates served as chairman of the Idaho Republican Party from August 2014 to April 2017 and as co-chair of the 2016 Republican Platform Subcommittee on National Security.

From 1996-2001, Yates was a senior policy analyst at Heritage and received the prestigious W. Glenn and Rita Ricardo Campbell Award. The honor goes to the staff member determined to have made "an outstanding contribution to the analysis and promotion of the free society."

He received a master's degree in China Studies from the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.

In October 2023, Steve lost his beloved daughter Christina to fentanyl poisoning. To honor her memory, he and his family are tireless advocates for upholding the hundreds of thousands of families affected by this scourge. They dedicate their lives to stopping and holding accountable those responsible for bringing it into our country, communities, and homes.