



# Robert Herman

**Vice President for International Programs; Vice President for  
Emergency Assistance Programs and Multilateral Initiatives**

Dr. Herman is vice president for international programs where he oversees a range of programs in Eurasia and Latin America, emergency assistance to frontline activists and organizations that have come under threat, and multilateral initiatives. He has more than twenty-five years of experience in democracy promotion and human rights. Before joining Freedom House he was Senior Technical Director for Democracy and Governance at Management Systems International. He was the co-founder and co-director of the Democracy Coalition Project, a global democracy promotion initiative of the Open Society Institute and previously served on the State Department's Policy Planning staff working on democracy and human rights and was instrumental in launching the Community of Democracies, the first ever gathering of democratic states dedicated to strengthening democratic institutions, practices and values worldwide. As Senior Social Scientist with USAID's Bureau for Europe and the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union, Dr. Herman helped to craft U.S. assistance strategies to countries making the transition from communist rule. He has held positions with the Brookings Institution, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels and served as a staff member in the U.S. Congress. He earned his Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University having written his dissertation on the political and intellectual origins of the Gorbachev Revolution. He received a Master's degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (Princeton University) and a Bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College.