#### **DAVID SCHENKER**

Washington Institute for Near East Policy 1828 L Street, NW Suite 1050 Washington DC20036

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, DC February 2021-Present Senior Fellow and Director of the Program on Arab Politics

Research and write policy papers, scholarly articles, and op-eds about Islamic politics and political and economic developments throughout the Arab world, Iran, and Turkey. Brief government officials, provide policy recommendations to the USG, and expert analysis for leading news outlets.

U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC June 2019-January 2021 Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs

Served as the Senate-confirmed principal Middle East advisor to the secretary of state and the senior official in the U.S. Government overseeing the conduct of U.S. policy and diplomacy in a region stretching from Morocco to Iran to Yemen, with responsibility for eighteen countries, the Palestinian Authority, and Western Sahara. Supervised more than 9,000 staff and administered an annual budget in excess of \$7 billion.

Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, DC April 2006-June 2019 Director, Arab Politics Program

Research Arab and Islamic politics, democracy, reform, economics, and governance issues in the Arab world with an emphasis on Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and the Palestinian Authority. Write policy papers, journal articles, and op-eds about developments in the region. Provide expert analysis for leading news outlets, brief government officials on issues of concern.

Office of the Secretary of Defense, The Pentagon, Washington, DC January, 2002-March 2006 Levant Country Director

Advise and brief the secretary, deputy secretary, undersecretary for policy, and assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs on Syrian, Jordanian, Lebanese, Israeli, and Palestinian political/military affairs and Arab reform issues; travel with and brief principals prior to meetings in Washington and abroad. Represent OSD in interagency process on pertinent topics. Interact daily with senior officials in the Departments of State, Treasury, Office of the Vice President, NSC and the Intelligence Community. Recommend for/against weapons sales and funding initiatives to key ME allies.

Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, DC August 1998-December 2001 Fellow in Arab Politics Researched Arab politics and governance in the Arab world and US policy in the ME, with an emphasis on the Palestinian Authority, Jordan and Syria. Published extensively about Palestinian and Islamic politics; lectured and provided comment and written analysis for the media. Authored two books: *Palestinian Democracy and Governance* (Washington Institute, 2000), a study about the Palestinian Parliament and US support for democratic development in the Palestinian Authority, and *Dancing with Saddam* (Lexington Press, 2002), about Jordanian-Iraqi relations.

The Investigative Project, Washington, DC April 1997-August 1998 Senior Researcher

Researched and wrote briefs on Middle Eastern terrorism and US counterterrorism policy, and prepared congressional testimonies on terrorism. Focus of research: Al Qaida, Hamas, and Hizbollah ties to militant Islamic groups in the United States. Emphasis of work was on funding support and recruitment mechanisms.

SAIC/Pentagon, Vienna, VA Consultant September 1995

Provided consultation to the Department of Defense on Egyptian foreign policy. Worked with DOD's Office of Net Assessment on regional scenarios geared toward predicting Egyptian foreign and defense policy.

# University Research Corporation, International Development Group, Bethesda, MD January 1994-April 1997 Project Coordinator

Managed \$2,000,000 and \$15,000,000 USAID projects in Jordan and Egypt. Responsible for administration and oversight of USAID grant funding for two centrally funded projects; worked with Ministries of Heath in Jordan and Egypt as well as USAID personnel in Washington and the Middle East. Traveled periodically to field offices to review financial records and assess project progress for USAID reporting requirements.

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Michigan, Master of Arts, Modern Middle Eastern History, June 1992.

Center for Arabic Studies Abroad (CASA), American University of Cairo, Egypt, 1992-1993.

Certificate, Arabic Language Institute (ALI), American University in Cairo, Egypt, 1992.

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, University of Vermont, with honors, 1990.

Study Abroad Year-long Program, Tel Aviv University, Israel, 1988.

Columbia University, NYC, Summer 1987.

# PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/HONORS

International Election Monitor, *International Republican Institute*, Jordan (2009 and 2013) and Egypt (2011).

Member of the Board of Advisers, Institute for Contemporary Affairs, The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, 2007-2015.

Office of the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service, 2005.

Council on Foreign Relations, Term Member, 2004-2009.

Washington Institute Presidential Study Group, Taskforce Member, 2000.

Book Research Book Grant, "Jordanian-Iraqi Relations," Smith Richardson Foundation, 1999.

Center for Arabic Study Abroad Fellowship, American University in Cairo, Egypt, 1992-1993.

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Vermont, 1990.

Kidder Scholarship Award, University of Vermont 2-year undergraduate tuition fellowship for outstanding Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Student (1988-1990).

LANGUAGES: Arabic

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- Books and Monographs
- <u>Power to the People</u>, (with Katherine Bauer, Ben Fishman, Hanin Ghaddar, Simon Henderson, Andrew Tabler), Policy Note #116, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, December 2021.
- "Washington and the Next Arab Spring," in <u>Reform, Protest, Change</u> (Essay Series), (with Sarah Feuer), Policy Notes #111, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, October 2021.
- "Series Introduction," in <u>Beyond Islamists and Autocrats: Prospect for Political Reform Post Arab Spring</u> (Essay Series), The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, November 27, 2017.
- <u>Growing Stress on Jordan</u>, (with Robert Satloff), Contingency Planning Memo Update, Council on Foreign Relations, March 2016.
- "Lebanon's [Un]Civil Society," in <u>Beyond Islamists and Autocrats (Essay Series</u>), The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, March 2016.
- "Introduction," in <u>Beyond Islamists and Autocrats</u> (Essay Series), The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, 2015-2016.
- "Spillover from Strife in Lebanon," in No Good Outcome: How Israel Could Be Drawn into the Syrian Conflict, Policy Focus #131, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, November 2013.
- <u>Political Instability in Jordan,</u> (with Robert Satloff), Contingency Planning Memo #19, Council on Foreign Relations, May 2013.
- Egypt's Enduring Challenges: Shaping the Post-Mubarak Environment, Policy Focus #110, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, April, 2011.
- "America and the Lebanon Issue," in <u>Lebanon: Liberation, Conflict, and Crisis</u>, edited by Barry Rubin, Palgrave/Macmillan, NY, 2009.
- "Jordan: Keeping All Quiet on the Western Front," in <u>With Neighbors Like These: Iraq and the Arab States on its Borders</u>, edited by David Pollock, Policy Focus #70, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, June 2007.
- <u>Countering Islamists at the Ballot Box: Alternative Strategies</u> (editor), Policy Focus #61, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, November 2006.
- Dancing with Saddam: The Dangerous Tango of Jordanian-Iraqi Relations, Lexington Books, 2003.
- <u>Palestinian Democracy and Governance: An Appraisal of the Legislative Council</u>, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy Press, 2000.
- Congressional Testimony
- <u>Regional Security Cooperation Partnerships in the Middle East,</u> Testimony Before the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 21, 2022.

- <u>Libya</u>, Testimony of the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, February 12, 2020
- Middle East Policy, Testimony of the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on International Relations Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, October 19, 2019.
- <u>Confirmation Hearing</u>, Nominee to be Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, June 14, 2018
- <u>The Revolution in Egypt: Turning Point?</u> Testimony Before the House of Representatives Committee on International Relations Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, June 20, 2012.
- The Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003: Two Years On, Testimony Before the House of Representatives Committee on International Relations Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia, June 7, 2006.

# Scholarly Articles and Op-eds

- "There is No Better Time to Disarm Hezbollah, Al Majalla, April 23, 2025.
- "Surprisingly, the Lebanon-Israel Cease-Fire is Holding," Foreign Policy, April 4, 2025.
- "Enough with the Hand-Wringing: Al Sharaa is Better than Assad," Caravan, March 11, 2025.
- "Iraqis Fear that Trump's America Will Depart Once and For All," National Interest, March 4, 2025.
- "Lebanon Headed Towards Promised Sovereignty," Asharq al-Awsat, January 8, 2025.
- "While Israel Now Wants to Go After Iraqi Militias, Trump May Not," Al Majalla, December 23, 2024.
- "30 Years of Israel-Jordan Relations," National Interest, October 26, 2024.
- "The Day After in Lebanon," Rawabet Center, October 13, 2024.
- "Israel Dead Set on Beating Hezbollah Back," Al Majalla, September 27, 2024.
- "Israel Turns Up the Heat on Hezbollah, The Wall Street Journal, August 29, 2024.
- "Behind the US Plan to Prevent an All-Out Israel-Hezbollah War," Al Majalla, June 25, 2024.
- "Iran Targets Jordan: The Kingdom Joins the Theocracy's List of Enemies," Caravan, June 5, 2024.
- "Will Israel Temper Its War on Iran's Regional Proxies?" Al Majalla, April 24, 2024.
- "Leaving Iraq May Be Washington's Wisest Choice," Foreign Policy, February 26, 2024.
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- "There Is a Lot More Egypt Could Do for Gaza," Foreign Policy, January 9, 2024.
- "The World Prepares for Gaza War Escalation," Al Majalla, January 7, 2024.
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- "The Risks of a Wider War with Iran and Its Proxies," The Economist, October 23, 2023.
- "Will Hezbollah Target American Assets Amid Israel's War on Gaza?" Al Majalla, October 23, 2023.
- "Israel Focused on the Wrong Iranian Threat, With Deadly Results," Haaretz, October 10, 2023.
- "Gulf De-escalation and Hedging in the Shadow of US Retrenchment," Caravan, September 12, 2023.
- "Is a New Israel-Hezbollah War Looming?" Al Majalla, September 9, 2023.
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- "Washington Keeps a Watchful Eye as the PMF Consolidates Its Dominance in Iraq," *Al Majalla*, June 8, 2023.
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- "Securing or Insecuring Israel? Assessing the Israel-Lebanon Maritime Agreement," *Caravan*, March 7, 2023.
- "The UNIFIL Follies Turn Deadly on the Israel-Lebanon Border," *Tablet*, January 24, 2023.
- "Israel Falls for Lebanon's Treat Bait-and-Switch," The Wall Street Journal, October 11, 2022.
- "Biden's Indifference Has Given Iran the Upper Hand in Iraq," Foreign Policy, August 24, 2022.
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- "There's a Better Way to Sell American Weapons," (with Grant Rumley), *The Wall Street Journal*, March 29, 2022.
- "Jordan and America: An Enduring Friendship," (Book Review), *Middle East Quarterly*, *Volume 29* (Spring 2022).

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- "Saving Jordan's King Abdullah Must be a U.S. Priority," Wall Street Journal, March 20, 2013.
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- "Morsi Goes Courting," with Christina Lin, Los Angeles Times, August 24, 2012.
- "Hezbollah's Karma in Syria," WeeklyStandard.com, August 10, 2012.
- "What The Tlass Defection Means to Assad," New York Daily News, July 6, 2012.
- "Egypt's Islamist Future," Los Angeles Times, July 4, 2012.
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- "A Fighting Chance: Why Obama's Support For Syria's Non-Violent Protests Isn't Enough," *New Republic Online*, October 25, 2011.
- "Mubarak's Flawed Trial," CNN Global Public Square, September 27, 2011.
- "Washington's Limited Influence in Egypt," WeeklyStandard.com, September 15, 2011.
- "Five Things Obama Can (and Should) Do to Topple Assad," New Republic Online, August 20, 2011.
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- "Insecure in Egypt," WeeklyStandard.com, July 14, 2011.
- "Why Hezbollah Had a Really Bad Week," New Republic Online, July 1, 2011.
- "Turkey's Shift on Syria Gives West Room to Get Tougher on Assad," *Christian Science Monitor*, June 9, 2011.
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- "Egypt and the Arab Fall," Los Angeles Times, June 1, 2011.
- "Damascus on Trial," Middle East Quarterly, Spring 2011.
- "Step Assad," New Republic Online, April 9, 2011.
- "A Purge too Far," The Weekly Standard, April 4, 2011.
- "President Obama's First Two Years in the Middle East," Al Hayat, December 27, 2010.
- "Egypt Should Learn from Jordan at the Polls," The Daily Standard, November 24, 2010.
- "China's Rise in the Middle East," (with Christina Lin), The Los Angeles Times, November 16, 2010.
- "Sick Man on the Nile," The Daily Standard, September 2, 2010.
- "The Women of Hezbollah," The New Republic, August 9, 2010.

- "Passing of Shiite Cleric Fadlallah Spells Trouble for Lebanon," Christian Science Monitor, July 9, 2010.
- "Turning Against US," (with Judith Miller), New York Post, June 3, 2010.
- "Road From Damascus: Lebanon Hangs Suspended between Past and Present," *The Weekly Standard*, May 31, 2010.
- "Is the US Wiser to Syrian Provocation?" Beirut Daily Star, May 11, 2010.
- "Is Israel Facing War with Hizballah and Syria?" Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, April 6, 2010.
- "Hezbollah's Penance: The Shiite Militia Works to Rebuild its Tarnished Image," *The Daily Standard*, March 5, 2010.
- "Hope on the Nile," Forbes.com, March 2, 2010.
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- "US Stepping Up Engagement with Syria," Los Angeles Times, February 19, 2010.
- "Defending Lebanon or Israel?" Forbes.com, January 7, 2010.
- "The Murdered Fathers Club," *The Weekly Standard*, December 19, 2009.
- "Syria and Turkey: Walking Arm in Arm Down the Same Road?" *Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs*, December 2009.
- "A NATO without Turkey," Wall Street Journal Europe, November 5, 2009.
- "Paradoxes of Egyptian-Saudi Relations," (with Simon Henderson), *Jane's Islamic Affairs Analyst*, October 12, 2009.
- "Normal Peace?" Middle East Strategy at Harvard, October 8, 2009.
- "Who Decides on the Levant in Washington?" Beirut Daily Star, October 6, 2009.
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- "Cairo Joins the Battle against Tehran," Commentary Magazine.com, August 4, 2009.
- "Where Have All the Palestinian Moderates Gone?" Foreignpolicy.com, August 4, 2009.
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- "Gaza Tunnels: No Path to Peace," Boston Globe, January 14, 2009.
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- "Duplicity in Damascus," The Daily Standard, October 31, 2008
- "The Hidden Imam," The New Republic, September 24, 2008.
- "A Dangerous Precedent," The Daily Standard, September 10, 2008.
- "Israel: Don't Undermine Beirut," The Jerusalem Post, June 2, 2008.
- "Syria: Between Negotiations with Israel and the Iranian Axis," *Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs*, May 2008.
- "Egypt Builds a Wall, Changes its Tune on Israel's Barrier," The Weekly Standard, April 28, 2008.
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