

Dan E. Davidson
President, American Councils for International Education;
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Dan E. Davidson, has focused much of his professional life on the development, oversight, and support of international initiatives in educational development, training, and research, primarily through the work of American Councils and its partner organizations in the U. S., and the world. In its four decades, American Councils has developed into one of the premier American education and international training organizations, designing and implementing large-scale U.S. and foreign government-funded exchange and fellowship programs, as well as major initiatives in research, assessment, development and innovation funded by private foundations and donor groups.

Dr. Davidson holds a Ph.D. in Slavic Languages from Harvard University and is author or editor of 44 books, and over 60 articles in the fields of language, culture, and educational development, including a major twenty-year longitudinal study of adult SLA. He is professor of Russian and Second Language Acquisition at Bryn Mawr College where he has directed 36 Ph.D. dissertations. Dr. Davidson has overseen the creation and development of national testing/assessment projects/programs in the Republic of Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Ukraine, and the U.S., with support from USAID, and the World Bank. From 1992-1995 he served as co-chairman of George Soros' Transformation of the Humanities and Social Sciences initiative. He is current Chair of the College Board World Languages Academic Advisory Committee, Vice Chair of the Board of European Humanities University and past president of the Joint National Committee for Languages and Board member of a number of universities and international organizations.

Dr. Davidson is an elected foreign member of the Russian and the Ukrainian Academies of Education and recipient of an honorary professorship from Kyrgyz National University (Bishkek) and of honorary doctoral degrees from Almaty State University (Kazakhstan), the Russian Academy of Sciences (Division of Language and Literature), and the State University of World Languages (Uzbekistan). He has received awards for distinguished service to the profession from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL) and the Association of Departments of Foreign Languages of the Modern Language Association (ADFL/MLA). In 2005 he received the Kyrgyz National Medal of Honor ("Dank").