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DoD contributions to the President's Central America Strategy, expanding defense institution building programs, and championing Women, Peace, and Security initiatives in the region.

Prior to joining OSD Policy, Dr. Chavez was Professor of Political Science with tenure at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Her research and teaching have focused on international relations, comparative politics, democratization, the rule of law, and Western hemisphere security. At the Naval Academy, Dr. Chavez served on the Admissions Board and was elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Chavez served as advisor to the Commander of U.S. Southern Command from 2007 through 2012 during which time she traveled extensively across Latin America with the Combatant Commander to strengthen U.S. defense relations in the region. She served as an advisor to U.S. European Command from 2009 until 2012.

Dr. Chavez is the author of *The Rule of Law in Nascent Democracies: Judicial Politics in Argentina* (Stanford University Press). Her work has appeared in edited volumes and scholarly journals, including *Courts in Latin America* (Cambridge University Press), *The Oxford Handbook of Law and Politics*, *Comparative Politics*, *Joint Forces Quarterly*, *The Journal of Latin American Studies*, and *Latin American Politics and Society*.

Raised in Austin, Texas, Dr. Chavez received her M.A. and Ph.D. in Political Science from Stanford University and her A.B. in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs from Princeton University. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the recipient of multiple grants to conduct research in Latin America, including a Fulbright Scholarship.