

Victoria K. Holt Biography

Victoria K. Holt is a Managing Director at the Henry L. Stimson Center, and an adjunct professor at Columbia University. Her expertise includes international security and multilateral tools, peace operations and conflict prevention. Previously, Holt served as U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Security in the Bureau of International Organization Affairs from 2009 to early 2017. In that role, she was responsible for policy and guidance for U.S. actions in the UN Security Council, and oversaw offices handling peace operations, sanctions, counter-terrorism, and UN political affairs. She led development of U.S. diplomatic initiatives, including the 2015 *Leaders' Summit on U.N. Peacekeeping*, hosted by President Obama to increase capacities for UN operations.

Holt previously worked on Capitol Hill on defense and foreign affairs; served as Senior Policy Advisor in the Bureau of Legislative Affairs at the U.S. Department of State; and co-directed the *Future of Peace Operations* program at Stimson Center. Holt served on the *Genocide Prevention Task Force* and wrote a pioneering report on UN missions and the protection of civilians. She has written widely on UN and regional peace operations, the protection of civilians and atrocity prevention, targeted sanctions, rule of law and U.S. policy. Holt also worked at Washington-based policy institutes on international affairs and nuclear weapons issues. She is a graduate of the Naval War College and Wesleyan University.