

RICHARD GOLDBERG

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Richard Goldberg is a senior advisor at FDD. He previously served as deputy chief of staff and senior foreign policy adviser to former U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk of Illinois, chief of staff for Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner, and director for countering Iranian weapons of mass destruction on the White House National Security Council. He was sanctioned by Iran in 2020.

As a staff associate for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations, Goldberg worked on a wide range of issues related to U.S. foreign assistance, including foreign military financing, international security assistance, international peacekeeping, development, global health, and economic support funds. He was a founding staff director of the House U.S.-China Working Group and was among the first Americans ever to visit China's human space launch center.

A leader in efforts to expand U.S. missile defense cooperation with Israel, Goldberg played a key role in U.S. funding for the Arrow-3 program, Iron Dome, and the deployment of an advanced missile defense radar to the Negev Desert.

In the Senate, Goldberg emerged as a leading architect of the toughest sanctions imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran. He was the lead Republican negotiator for three rounds of sanctions targeting the Central Bank of Iran, the SWIFT financial messaging service, and entire sectors of the Iranian economy. Goldberg also drafted and negotiated legislation promoting human rights and democracy in Iran, including sanctions targeting entities that provide the Iranian regime with the tools of repression. His Iran sanctions work was featured in the book *The Iran Wars*.

As the governor's chief of staff, Goldberg managed government in America's fifth-largest state with oversight of all day-to-day operations, including homeland security, public safety, and public health. He also spearheaded the first-ever state legislation to divest public pension funds from companies engaged in boycotts of Israel, which sparked a nationwide initiative in state capitals around America.

On the NSC, Goldberg coordinated key elements of President Trump's maximum pressure campaign on Iran, including efforts to bring Iranian oil exports to zero, impose sanctions on additional non-oil sectors of Iran's economy, and counter Iran's nuclear and missile programs.

Goldberg holds a BS in Journalism and an MA in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern University. He served as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve with military experience on the Joint Staff and in Afghanistan.