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Daniel W. Drezner is Professor of International Politics, a nonresident senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and the co-director of Fletcher's Russia and Eurasia Program. Prior to joining The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, he taught at the University of Chicago and the University of Colorado at Boulder. He has previously held positions with Civic Education Project, the RAND Corporation and the U.S. Department of the Treasury and received fellowships from the German Marshall Fund of the United States, Council on Foreign Relations, and Harvard University. Drezner has written seven books, including *All Politics is Global* and *Theories of International Politics and Zombies*, and edited three others, including *The Uses and Abuses of Weaponized Interdependence*. He has published articles in numerous scholarly journals as well as in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Politico*, and *Foreign Affairs*, and has been a regular contributor to *Foreign Policy* and the *Washington Post*. He received his B.A. in political economy from Williams College and an M.A. in economics and PhD in political science from Stanford University.

Aaron L. Friedberg is Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1987, and co-director of Princeton's Center for International Security Studies. He is also a counselor to the National Bureau of Asian Research, a non-resident senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, and a member of the Congressional US-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

Friedberg is the author of several books and monographs, including *The Weary Titan: Britain and the Experience of Relative Decline, 1895-1905* (1988), *In the Shadow of the Garrison State: America's Anti-Statism and Its Cold War Grand Strategy* (2000), *A Contest for Supremacy: China, America, and the Struggle for Mastery in Asia* (2011), *Beyond Air-Sea Battle: The Debate Over U.S. Military Strategy in Asia* (2014), and *The Authoritarian Challenge: China, Russia and the Threat to the International Order* (2017). His most recent book is *Getting China Wrong* (2022).

Dr. Friedberg received his A.B., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University.

Christopher B. Johnstone is a Managing Principal at The Asia Group, with unparalleled expertise across the Indo-Pacific including Japan, Australia, and Southeast Asia. Previously, Chris served as Senior Advisor and Japan Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). At CSIS, Chris led and expanded the Center's role in shaping the U.S.-Japan alliance agenda, including on economic security, defense industrial cooperation, and multilateral frameworks.

Chris served in government for 25 years in a variety of senior positions with a focus on U.S. policy toward Japan and the Indo-Pacific region. He served twice on the National Security Council, as Director for East Asia under President Biden (2021-2022) and Director for Japan and Oceanian Affairs under President Obama (2014-2016). In the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Chris led offices with responsibility for South and Southeast Asia (2017-2021) and East Asia (2016-2017). While at the Pentagon, he also served as Director for Northeast Asia (2010-2014), where he had principal responsibility for developing strategy for the U.S.-Japan and U.S.-South Korea alliances. Chris began his career as an intelligence officer in the Central Intelligence Agency, where he served as the senior political analyst at an East Asian field station, then as team chief in the Office of Asia Pacific Analysis. He is a member of the board of trustees of the Japan-America Society of Washington, D.C., and the recipient of the Ryoza Kato Award for Service to the U.S.-Japan Alliance.

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Chris Kennedy is the lead for Economic Statecraft at Bloomberg Economics. He joined Bloomberg in July after six years as a civil servant in the US Government, most recently as a member of Secretary Rubio's Policy Planning staff at the US Department of State. Chris previously served as Director for International Economics on the National Security Council under both Trump and Biden, and as Senior Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist at State. Prior to government service, Chris was an academic economist and associate professor at George Mason University.

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Kazuhiro Maeshima is a Professor of American Government and Foreign Policy in the Department of Global Studies at Sophia University. He previously served as Dean of the Faculty of Global Studies at Sophia and as President of the Japanese Association of American Studies. Maeshima earned his MA in Government from Georgetown University and both his MA and PhD in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland. Before pursuing his academic career in the United States, he worked as a print journalist in Japan for five years after obtaining his BA from Sophia University. His research focuses on American government and political communication. He has authored numerous books and articles in these fields, including *The Media in American Politics*, *Media as a Political Actor* (in Japanese), and *Internet Election Campaigns in the United States, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan* (co-edited in English, Palgrave, 2017).

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Kathleen R. McNamara is Professor of Government and Foreign Service at Georgetown University and Co-Director of the Global Political Economy Project. Her work focuses on markets, culture, and politics in the European Union and the United States, with particular interest in industrial policy, money, and globalization. She is the author of "The Politics of Everyday Europe: Constructing Authority in the European Union" (Oxford University Press, 2016) "The Currency of Ideas: Monetary Politics in the European Union" (Cornell University Press, 1998) and co-editor of "Making History: European Integration and Institution Change at Fifty" (Oxford University Press, 2007). She is the recipient of the 2018 Distinguished Scholar in International Political Economy award from the International Studies Association and the ISA's 2020 SWIPE Award for Mentoring Women in International Political

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Satoru Mori is a professor at the Department of Political Science, Faculty of Law, Keio University and is also a senior fellow at the Nakasone Peace Institute. He is a former Foreign Ministry official and holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Tokyo, LL.M. degrees from Columbia University Law School and Kyoto University, and a LL.B. degree from Kyoto University. During his sabbatical leave, he was a visiting researcher at Princeton University (2014-2015) and George Washington University (2013-2015). He specializes in contemporary U.S. foreign and defense policy. Dr. Mori is currently undertaking research on the U.S. strategy in Asia including the Japan-U.S. Alliance and U.S.-China relations, defense innovation and its implications for U.S. allies, and the history of U.S. defense strategy during the Nixon Administration. He has delivered remarks at workshops and events organized by government agencies, academic institutions and think tanks in the United States, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Professor Mori was awarded the Hiroshi Shimizu Prize for distinguished monograph from the Japanese Association of American Studies in 2010 and is a recipient of the 2015 Nakasone Yasuhiro Incentive Award. He has been a member of the Ministry of Defense's New Defense Policy Roundtable since 2020 and the Space Domain Advisory Board since 2025. He was one of the experts summoned in 2022 by the Japanese government's National Security Secretariat to the hearings on the revision of the strategic documents.

Mitsuhiro Nishida is the Special Advisor for the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) in Japan. He is also the Director of Industrial Research at the Japan External Organization (JETRO) New York Office. He is a senior METI representative in the U.S., covering economic, trade, and technology policies.

Prior to this post, he was engaged in energy and environmental policy from 2020 to 2025, where he played a key role in promoting Japan's nuclear energy policy and launching its carbon pricing mechanism. From 2011 to 2013, he also worked on supporting evacuees from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident.

Mr. Nishida joined METI in 2003 after earning a Master of Laws from Kyoto University. He also holds a Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). He currently resides in New York.

Adam Posen is the president of the [Peterson Institute for International Economics \(PIIE\)](#), a leading nonpartisan think tank on economics and globalization, a position he has held since 2013. His expertise includes macroeconomic policy, central banking, financial crisis resolution, and the economies of Europe, Japan, and the U.S. He previously served as an external voting member of the Bank of England's [Monetary Policy Committee](#) from 2009 to 2012. Areas of Expertise, Macroeconomic policy and forecasting, Monetary and fiscal policies, European economic integration, Japanese economy and financial crises, and Central bank independence. Posen received his BA and PhD from Harvard University.

Daniel Russel is a Distinguished Fellow at the Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI). Previously, he served as Vice President for International Security and Diplomacy and a Diplomat in Residence and Senior Fellow with ASPI. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service at the U.S. Department of State, he most recently served as the

Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Prior to his appointment as Assistant Secretary on July 12,

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Mr. Russel was educated at Sarah Lawrence College and University College, University of London, UK.

Masakazu Toyoda currently serves as the Chairman and CEO of the Japan Economic Foundation (JEF), as well as Special Advisor to the Institute of Energy Economics of Japan and Director of the Pacific International Center for High Technology Research.

He is the former Chairman and CEO of the Institute of Energy Economics (2010-2021); served also for nearly a decade on both the Board of Governors of the Oxford Institute of Energy Studies (2012-2021); and the International Advisory Board Council of the King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC) in Saudi Arabia (2011-2019).

During his distinguished government career, he served in numerous key positions within the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Japan culminating in his service as Vice Minister for International Affairs (2007-2008). He also subsequently served as Secretary General of the Secretariat for Space Policy in Japan's Cabinet Secretariat. Mr. Toyoda holds a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University (1979), and an undergraduate Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Tokyo (1973).

Masanori Tsuruda was appointed as Minister at the Embassy of Japan in the United States of America in July 2025.

Mr. Tsuruda has rich experience in industry, trade and energy-related policies through the course of his public service after joining the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in 1996. Prior to his current assignment, he served as Deputy Commissioner for International Affairs at METI's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy where he focused on the promotion of bilateral and multilateral energy cooperation with other countries.

He also previously served as Director-General at the New Energy Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), the government arm responsible for the implementation of METI's energy and industrial projects. His diverse experience includes appointments such as Senior Director at the Electricity and Gas Market Surveillance Commission, Director at the European Affairs Division, and Director for the Space Industries Division at METI. In addition to his current position, his prior overseas experience includes assignments at the Embassy of Japan in Saudi Arabia (2005-2009), Iraq (2009-2010), and Russia (2012-2016).

Mr. Tsuruda earned his (MPA) master's in public administration, after focusing on international security studies at the Harvard Kennedy School from 2000 to 2002. He also earned a Bachelor of Engineering from Kyushu University in Japan in 1996.

Teruko Wada is the Executive Director of Keidanren USA, leading the Washington, DC office of Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)—Japan's foremost economic organization representing over 1,500 major companies, industry associations, and regional economic bodies. Keidanren plays a pivotal role in promoting sustainable economic growth and shaping domestic and international policy dialogue.

In her role, Teruko advances U.S.-Japan economic relations and promotes the contributions of Japanese businesses in the United States. She has extensive experience in public policy advocacy, developed a distinguished career at Keidanren. As Director of International Affairs at the organization's Tokyo headquarters, she managed portfolios spanning trade policy, economic security, and strategic engagement with partners such as the U.S., EU, and Canada.

She also coordinated dialogue with key global forums, including the G7, G20, WTO, OECD, and APEC. Earlier in her career, she led initiatives in antitrust, taxation, corporate governance, energy, and regulatory reform.

Teruko holds a B.A. in Law from Waseda University and LL.M. degrees from the University of Tokyo and Georgetown University Law Center, where she was a Fulbright Scholar and graduated with distinction. She is admitted to the New York Bar.

Mariko Watanabe is Professor of Business Strategy, Gakushuin University, a specialist in business strategy, supply chain management, manufacturing systems, and management science. She holds a BA and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Tokyo and an M.Phil from the University of Hong Kong. Her academic career spans over three decades, including her tenure as a Research Fellow at the Institute of Developing Economies (1991–2013) and a Visiting Scholar at Peking University's Guanghua School of Management.

Her research focuses on applied microeconomics—particularly empirical industrial organization, contract theory, and law and economics—with a strong emphasis on the Chinese economy and institutional analysis of firms. Professor Watanabe has authored influential works on trade credit, corporate governance, and financial systems in emerging markets.

She is the editor of *The Disintegration of Production: Firm Strategy and Industrial Development in China* (Edward Elgar, forthcoming) and *Recovering Financial System* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006) and has published in journals such as *China Economic Review*.

Professor Watanabe is an active member of several academic societies, including the Japan Economic Association, Japan Association for Chinese Economy, and the Econometric Society.

Thomas (Tom) Wright is a senior fellow with the Strobe Talbott for Security, Strategy and Technology at the Brookings Institution. Tom most recently served as special assistant to the president and senior director for strategic planning at the National Security Council in the Biden administration.

Tom has a doctorate from Georgetown University, a Master of Philosophy from Cambridge University, and a bachelor's and master's from University College Dublin. He has also held a pre-doctoral fellowship at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs and a postdoctoral fellowship at Princeton University.