



HEIGHTENED GLOBAL CONFLICT IMPLICATIONS FOR U.S. PREPAREDNESS & HOMELAND SECURITY



DAVID BRANNAN

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David Brannan, PhD is an innovator and world authority in the field of homeland security, terrorism analysis, theologically motivated terrorism/extremism, and the use of Social Identity Theory in counterterrorism. He currently serves as Vice President of Strategy for The Hoffman Group and is a Senior Faculty member at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Equal parts scholar and warrior, Dr. Brannan combines deep academic knowledge with real-world experience and practicality. He has an extensive background in domestic and international extremism, conflict, and subnational violent groups. In addition to serving in domestic law enforcement, Dr. Brannan was the Director of Security Policy and MOI Chief of Staff for the Department of Defense Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq.

He has received multiple awards and recognition, including the 2012 Lt. Cdr. David L. Williams, Outstanding Professor Award at the Naval Postgraduate School.



EILEEN O'CONNOR

FORMER DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

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Eileen O'Connor joined The Rockefeller Foundation in 2019 as the Senior Vice President for Communications, Policy, and Advocacy. Prior to joining the Foundation, O'Connor was the principal at Garnet Group Public Affairs. She was also the Vice President for Communications at Yale and the Obama Administration's Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia and senior adviser to the special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Before joining the Administration, O'Connor founded and led legal crisis management practices for several law firms in Washington, D.C. As an attorney, O'Connor developed legal and communications strategies for Fortune 500 companies facing litigation or investigations in multiple forums, both in the U.S., Russia, Eastern Europe, and former Soviet states.

Earlier in her career, O'Connor was a journalist at ABC News and at CNN. She was awarded the Peabody Award, the DuPont Award, multiple Overseas Press Club awards, two NY Film Festival Golden Eagle Awards for Documentaries, Emmy, Cable Ace, and National Headliner awards for her political, investigative and war zone work.



ROBERT (BOB) STEPHAN

FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION, US DEPARTMENT OF
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Colonel Bob Stephan (USAF, Retired) currently serves as a subject matter expert in the fields of emergency management, critical infrastructure resilience, and cybersecurity. From 2005 to 2009, Colonel Stephan served the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Infrastructure Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. In this capacity, he was responsible for the Department's efforts to catalog our critical infrastructures and key resources, develop the National Infrastructure Protection Plan and coordinate risk-based strategies and protective measures to secure our infrastructures

from terrorist attack, as well as enable their timely restoration in the aftermath of natural disasters and other emergencies.

With the initial activation of the Department of Homeland Security in 2003, Colonel Stephan served as Special Assistant to the Secretary and Director of the Secretary's Headquarters Operational Integration Staff. He also directed the Interagency Incident Management Group, integrating Department and interagency capabilities in response to domestic threats and incidents.

Previously, Colonel Stephan served as the first Senior Director for Critical Infrastructure Protection in the Executive Office of the President and held a variety of key operational and command positions in the joint special operations community during a 24-year Air Force career.

