

Steven R. Koltai

Summary

Hybrid executive with business and public policy experience with over thirty-five years' experience combining:

- Business management (especially strategy, organizational culture and operational management) and entrepreneurship development (especially in developing countries)
- Working at the intersection of technology and media/communications
- Foreign Policy and a lifetime of "internationalism"
- Experienced and successful public speaker, writer, blogger

Professional

KOLTAI & CO LLC. Washington, DC

Managing Director (2002 to present)

International entrepreneurship ecosystem building consulting firm, primarily working in developing countries. Clients include: the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and national development agencies such as the UK's DFID, Australia's DFAT, Switzerland's SECO and others, as well as corporations, foundations and investors seeking to spur entrepreneurship. Worked in over 20 countries including: Algeria, Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, South Africa, Turkey, 14 countries of CARICOM

NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION, Bretton Woods II, Washington DC

Fellow and Senior Advisor (April 2016 to present)

Our mission is to mobilize 1 percent of the world's \$25 trillion in long-term investments on behalf of development, social impact, and good governance. BWII uses groundbreaking analytics and advocacy to demonstrate how targeted investments in social impact and development coupled with smart policy can improve development outcomes and incentivize good governance while increasing long-term investment returns by reducing global volatility.

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION, Washington, DC

Guest Scholar (Apr. 2013 to present)

Guest Scholar in Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution, wrote a book "[Peace through Entrepreneurship: Investing in a Startup Culture for Security and Development.](#)" Brookings Press

US DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, DC

Senior Advisor, Entrepreneurship, and Director, Global Entrepreneurship Program (Aug. 2009-Sept 2011)

Served as first Senior Advisor, Entrepreneurship (brought to State as a Schedule B, "Expert Consultant"). Conceived, launched and managed the Global Entrepreneurship Program (GEP), a key, new initiative of the Obama/Clinton foreign policy to promote entrepreneurship in emerging market countries as a way to further economic development, spur job creation and promote the political stability and civil society that rely on these foundations. The GEP is a partner-based program that catalyzes, convenes and coordinates over 100 US and international NGOs (such as Endeavor, SEAF, Grassroots Business Fund, TechnoServe, On the Frontier), universities (such as MIT, Babson College, Santa Clara University, American University in Cairo, Nile University), foundations, corporations (such as Cisco, Ernst & Young, Google), investors, and key US Government agencies, especially, USAID, OPIC, SBA and the Department of Commerce. These groups offer programs around six key areas considered essential to creating a successful entrepreneurial ecosystem: Identify, train, connect & sustain, fund, enable policy and celebrate entrepreneurs. GEP's full programs, headed by entrepreneurs-in-residence, operate in Egypt, Indonesia and Turkey. Additional GEP programs have been mounted in Lebanon, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco.

EVENT411, INC., Marina del Rey, CA

Founder, Chairman & CEO (1996-2002)

Steven R. Koltai

Managed, from founding through to sale, the leading developer of online event registration and meeting management software in the meetings industry. Raised (alone) over \$35 million in equity capital; managed more than six hundred staff over the lifespan of the company serving more than fifty clients including: Philip Morris, Verizon, Barclays, Goldman Sachs, Allianz, News Corp, Shangri-La Hotels, Nortel, PricewaterhouseCoopers, the California Department of Education, the Anderson School of Business at UCLA, and in the summer of 2000, the 40,000 attendee Democratic National Convention in L.A. Event411 was acquired in the summer of 2002 by Passkey, Inc. a private, Boston-based software company owned by Lazard Technology Ventures, Sabre Holdings, Galileo/Cendant Corporation, McCord Travel and Worldspan.

WARNER BROS. INC (a Time Warner Company), Burbank, CA

Founder & General Manager, Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment and Warner Bros. Online (1994-1996);

Senior Vice President, Corporate Strategy & Business Development (1987-1994)

For six of nine years at Warner Bros., served as Vice President and then Corporate Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Development, involved in a variety of corporate issues including the acquisition of Lorimar/Telepictures, the launches of the WB Studio Stores and the WB Television Network, creation of Warner Bros. state-of-the-art film archive and preservation facility, as well as work in investor relations, international new business and operating management of the Studio as a member (and for two years, Chair) of Warner Bros. three-person Operating Committee. In 1993, left corporate staff to oversee the implementation of Warner Bros.' new interactive division for which created business plan. Managed the division (Warner Bros. Interactive Entertainment), which included Warner Bros. video game licensing business and WB Online, first Hollywood Studio venture in the Internet.

MCKINSEY & CO., New York, NY and London, UK

Consultant (1986-1987)

Associate in the Media Practice

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, New York, NY

International Affairs Fellow (IAF) (1985-1986)

Research, writing and teaching on entrepreneurship in the European broadcast media industry.

SES-ASTRA TELEVISION SATELLITE COMPANY, Luxembourg

Directeur Délégué (Managing Director) (1983-1985)

Founding Managing Director of Coronet, S.A., precursor company of Europe's first private television satellite venture, SES-Astra. The company is today the second largest satellite communications company in the world, with 52 satellites carrying over 6,200 channels of TV, audio and digital transmissions to over 2 billion million viewers in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

SALOMON BROS. INC., New York, NY and London, UK

Vice President, International Project Finance (1980-1983)

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, New York, NY and Singapore

Vice President, International Corporate Finance Department (1979 -1980)

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE U.S., Washington, DC

Trade Economist - Competitiveness (1978-1979)

Education

Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, MA

Master of Arts, International Economics, 1978

Thesis Topic: History of the formation of the European Economic Community: an international organization designed to keep the peace.

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium

Licence, European Economics (as a Fulbright Scholar), 1977

Served concurrently as (the only American) *stagiaire* (intern) in the Office of the Secretary General (Emile Noël) at the Commission of the European Communities (now EU). Also President of the *Comité des Stagiaires* (Interns' Association)

Tufts University, Medford, MA

Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, History, 1976

Selected Appearances/Publications/Press/Speeches

March 27, 2017 – Keynote Speaker, International Conference on Business Incubation (InBIA), Seattle WA

<https://inbia.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/InBIA-Conference-Brochure.pdf>

March 14, 2017 – William Davidson Institute Global Impact Speaker, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI

March 3, 2017 – Harvard Kennedy School at Harvard University, Cambridge MA

March 2, 2017 – University of Massachusetts, Lowell MA

March 2, 2017 – Legatum Center at MIT, Cambridge MA <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/peace-through-entrepreneurship-with-steven-koltai-tickets-28578882206>

January 31, 2017 – Distinguished Speaker's Series, The World Bank, Washington DC

December 29, 2016 – Harvard Business Review – Refugees Need Jobs. Entrepreneurship Can Help.

<https://hbr.org/2016/12/refugees-need-jobs-entrepreneurship-can-help>

December 19, 2016 – Mid-Coast Forum on Foreign Relations, Rockport ME

<http://www.freepressonline.com/Content/Download-the-current-issue-as-a-pdf/Features/Article/Entrepreneur-Says-U-S-Not-Using-Proven-Weapon-Against-Global-Terrorism-/93/78/49660>

December 13, 2016 – Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington DC

December 12, 2016 – 1776 Startup Incubator, Washington DC

December 5-7, 2016 – Belgrade Venture Forum, Belgrade, Serbia <http://www.belgradeventureforum.org>

December 1, 2016 – Central European Startup Awards, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<http://centraleuropeanstartupawards.com/events>

October 25, 2016 – Vetimpact, Alexandria VA

October 20, 2016 – Truman National Security Project, Washington DC

October 12, 2016 – The Fletcher School at Tufts University, Medford MA

October 11, 2016 – WorldBoston, Boston MA

October 11, 2016 – Babson College, Wellesley MA

Steven R. Koltai

October 10, 2016 – Devex – The Mouse and the Hippo: Solving Problems in Procurement
<https://www.devex.com/news/the-mouse-and-the-hippo-solving-problems-in-procurement-88851>

October 7, 2016 – Defense Entrepreneurs Forum 4th Annual Conference, Chicago – Developing real solutions, real partnerships, and building the participant's skills to instill a more innovative culture in the US military.

October 7, 2016 – U.S. News & World Report – ‘Business Sense’ is Nonsense in 2016
<http://www.usnews.com/opinion/articles/2016-10-07/end-the-phony-war-between-trump-and-clinton-over-business-experience>

October 5, 2016 – Columbia University, New York

September 30, 2016 – Jewish Journal – Shimon Peres: Godfather of Israeli entrepreneurship
http://www.jewishjournal.com/israel/article/shimon_peres_godfather_of_israeli_entrepreneurship

September 28, 2016 – World Affairs Council, San Francisco – <https://youtu.be/-AV6wXf1KiQ>
<http://www.worldaffairs.org/radio>

September 27, 2016 – Google Authors Event, Mountain View CA

September 18, 2016 – The Hill – The truth about email at the State Department <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/technology/296497-the-truth-about-email-at-the-state-department>

September 13, 2016 – Brookings Book Launch – Steven Koltai and panelists discuss *Peace through Entrepreneurship* at the Brookings Institution <https://youtu.be/lJPhHk98Uyg>

September 30, 2016 – Georgetown University, Washington DC – Speech at “Engines of Growth: Small and Medium Enterprises and the Missing Middle”

August 15, 2016 – Harvard Business Review – Entrepreneurship needs to be a bigger part of US foreign aid
<https://hbr.org/2016/08/entrepreneurship-needs-to-be-a-bigger-part-of-us-foreign-aid>

June 28, 2016 New America Foundation Blog – Brexit and the Lessons of History
<https://www.newamerica.org/bretton-woods-ii/articles/brexit-and-lessons-history/>

June 21, 2016 – Time.com, Obama Made a False Promise for Jobs in the Middle East: A commitment to entrepreneurship would secure America far more effectively than drones <http://time.com/4364968/obama-entrepreneurship/>

Peace through Entrepreneurship: Investing in a Startup Culture for Security and Development, published by the Brookings Institution Press, 2016

October 14 and June 9, 2015 (St Lucia and Barbados respectively) – Speech: Building entrepreneurship ecosystems in the Caribbean

October 8, 2015 Center for Emerging Market Economies, Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy
Hungary and Migrants
<http://sites.tufts.edu/ibgc/ceme-senior-fellows/hungary-and-the-migrants-groundhog-day-by-steven-koltai-ceme-senior-fellow/>

September 21, 2015 – Keynote Address, Global Board of Junior Achievement Worldwide, Job Creation through Entrepreneurship in Developing Countries

Steven R. Koltai

July 28, 2015 Brookings Blog on Global Entrepreneurship Summit Kenya
<http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/fixgov/posts/2015/07/28-obama-kenya-visit-koltai>

October 7, 2014 Brookings Institution UpFront Blog Fighting ISIS with Entrepreneurship;
<http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/fixgov/posts/2014/10/07-combating-isis-through-entrepreneurship-koltai>

February 2014 – UK Department for International Development (DFID). Review of the Entrepreneurship ecosystem of Ghana; <http://koltai.co/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/KolCo-Final-Report-DFID-Ghana-Entrepreneurship-Ecosystem-Analysis-FINAL-REDACTED.pdf>

October 31, 2013 – Izmir, Turkey 5th Economic Congress. Speech on the role of entrepreneurship and innovation.

August 21, 2013 - Brookings Institution Blog. Egypt in Turnaround: Entrepreneurs to the Rescue...if Only the U.S. Government Could Connect the Dots; <http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/up-front/posts/2013/08/21-egypt-entrepreneurs-koltai>

March 13, 2013 – Fletcher Forum: World Peace Through Entrepreneurship...but only if you fund it;
<http://www.fletcherforum.org/2013/03/13/koltai/>

January 11, 2013 – Library of Congress, comments on the accession of the Clay T. Whitehead papers to the Library

January 4, 2013 – State Magazine, Turkey entrepreneurship review;
<http://digitaledition.state.gov/publication/?m=11956&l=1>

December 7, 2012 – United States Institute of Peace panel discussion, “The Business Case for Sustained Peace”; <http://www.usip.org/events/the-business-case-sustained-peace-and-shared-prosperity-in-countries-affected-violent-conflict>

November 2, 2012 – France 24, state of the U.S. economy from an entrepreneur’s perspective;
<http://www.france24.com/en/20121102-business-interview-steven-koltai-ceo-of-koltai-and-company-US-election>

October 20, 2012 – TEDxDirigo, Bates College, Lewiston, ME, speech on enabling entrepreneurship;
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SpH7cBEK0So&feature=youtu.be>

September 27, 2012 – United States Institute of Peace *Peace Brief*, “Using Entrepreneurship to Promote Stability in Fragile Regions”, with Raymond Gilpin; <http://www.usip.org/publications/using-entrepreneurship-promote-stability-in-fragile-regions>

July 1, 2012 – Wamda (Arab entrepreneurship website), interview on “The elements for creating a healthy entrepreneurship ecosystem”; <http://www.wamda.com/2012/07/the-critical-elements-for-creating-a-healthy-entrepreneurship-ecosystem-steven-koltai-of-gep->

May 12, 2012 – King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia;
<http://koltai.co/notebook/steven-speaks-about-entrepreneurial-ecosystems-at-king-abdullah-university>

December, 2011 – “Insider’s Roundtable” panel discussion with Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan at the Second Global Entrepreneurship Summit, Istanbul, Turkey; <http://koltai.co/notebook/second-global-entrepreneurship-summit-istanbul-turkey>

July, 2011 – Regional Entrepreneurship Summit in Bali with Google Chairman Eric Schmidt, Indonesian Trade Minister Mari Elka Pangestu, and U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Rodham Clinton, Bali, Indonesia;
<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2011/07/13/clinton-and-google-chairman-attend-summit-bali.html>

Steven R. Koltai

July, 2011 – Featured in *New York Times* article, “Arab Spring, Start-Up Summer?”;
http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/17/business/global/egypts-entrepreneurs-look-beyond-the-revolution.html?pagewanted=1&_r=3&emc=eta1&

June, 2011 – TiE Spotlight interview, “Foreign Investment in Next Tier Markets”; <http://youtu.be/hDFTZXjLw5w>

June, 2011 – Jakarta Globe article, “Promoting Peace”; http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/specialfeatures/promoting-peace-through-entrepreneurship/444569#Scene_1

January, 2011 – Featured in *Daily News Egypt* article, “GEP Delegation in Egypt”;
<http://dailynewsegyp.com/2011/01/14/gep-delegation-see-egypt-going-entrepreneurial/>

Selected Board Affiliations (Current and Former)

Hillary for America – Member National and State of Maine Finance Committees, LGBT for Hillary, and Policy Committees on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Global Development - current

Member – Internet Society - current

Board Member, Neumann Society, San Francisco, CA - current

Senior Fellow, Center for Emerging Market Economies, Fletcher School (Tufts University) - current

Board Member, Babson Global (Babson College), Wellesley, MA – current

Founding Advisory Board Member, Library of Congress, Literacy Awards - former

Advisory Board Member, Lumia Capital, San Francisco, CA - current

Board Member, Advancing Girls’ Education Africa (AGE Africa), Malawi - former

Board Member, Maine Center for Entrepreneurship Development (MCED), Portland, ME - former

Member, Board of Trustees of the Museum of Hungarian-speaking Jewry, Safed, Israel - current

Vice Chair, Board Entrepreneurial Leadership Studies Program, Tufts University - former

Member, Board of Advisors, Tisch College of Active Citizenship, Tufts University - former

Member, Board of Overseers for Arts, Sciences & Technology, Tufts University - former

Board Member, Communications and Media Studies Program, Tufts University - former

Member, Council on Foreign Relations (since 1984), former Member Board Nomination, Term Membership and Membership Committees, New York, NY - current

Member and Founding Director, Pacific Council on International Policy, Los Angeles, CA - former

Founding Chairman, Entertainment Technology Center, USC School of Cinema/Television, Los Angeles, CA – former

Honors, Volunteering and Other

USAID Grant Reviewer - Development Innovation Ventures, 2014-Present

US Dept of State Grant Reviewer - Middle East Partner Initiative, 2014-Present

Center Senior High School (Kansas City, MO), distinguished alumni award February 2014

Tufts University, Alumni Achievement of the Year, announced for May 2013

Member, Cosmos Club, Washington, DC

Franklin Fellow, US Department of State, Washington, DC (2009-2010)

Recipient, Rabbi Hermann Humanitarian of the Year Award, Congregation Beth Chaim Chadashim, Los Angeles, CA, 2007

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Finalist, Southern California, 2000

International Affairs Fellow, Council On Foreign Relations, 1985-1986

Child actor, "The Art Linkletter Show", "Kids say the Darndest Things", the Dinah Shore Chevy Specials (1961-1962)

Born May 10, 1954 in Budapest, Hungary, coming to US with family following the Hungarian Revolution, in 1956. Raised in Los Angeles and Kansas City. Fluent in Hungarian, French, English. Limited ability in German and Hebrew. US Citizen. Reside in Washington, DC and Lincolnville, ME. Partner: Ivan Zizek. Two children.

January 2017