

Richard Michael Nephew

Experience

Mar 2016 – Present **Senior Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University**
Feb 2015 – Feb 2016 **Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University**

Conduct research on sanctions and broader economic statecraft topics for public dissemination. Perform expert-reviewed academic research into a variety of foreign policy and national security issues that relate or utilize sanctions and/or other economic tools.
Publish research for policymaker, business, academic and public consumption. Venues have included the Center on Global Energy Policy website, as well as academic journals. Commentary has been published in a variety of journals and newspapers, including editorials and comments to media.

Feb 2015 – Present **Non-resident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution**

Conduct research on an ad hoc basis into nuclear nonproliferation issues. Research has thus far focused on the implications for nonproliferation and global nuclear energy policy from the Iran nuclear deal.

Jan 2015 – Present Principal, BSD Advisory, LLC

Perform consultancy services for various clients, on an ad hoc basis, related to international sanctions and nuclear nonproliferation topics.

Feb 2013 – Dec 2014 **Principal Deputy Coordinator, Office of the Coordinator for Sanctions Policy, U.S. Department of State**

Responsible for the development and implementation of all U.S. sanctions programs. Served as the #2 official in the State Department for sanctions matters, regularly provides guidance and decisions about sanctions issues to State Department staff.

Sanctions negotiator for U.S.-Iran nuclear talks. Served as the lead sanctions negotiator with Iran and U.S. partners in the talks. Responsible for development of sanctions relief concept in the initial step agreement of November 2013 and long-term agreement concluded on July 14, 2015.

Advised Senior State Department officials with respect to new sanctions ideas and challenges in implementing existing measures. Called upon regularly to problem solve current sanctions challenges and problems dealing with U.S. partners, foreign governments, and non-governmental organizations.

Negotiated both within the U.S. Government and with foreign partners the development and implementation of new sanctions. Participated in internal USG deliberative processes for the creation of new sanctions authorities and the implementation of existing ones. Worked with Congress on the development of its own sanctions ideas as well as on the U.S.-Iran negotiations currently underway.

Performed outreach to private sector business and industry leaders with respect to U.S. sanctions, including U.S.-Iran negotiations.

Managed 7-person office on behalf of the Coordinator for Sanctions Policy, including all administrative, personnel, and budgetary functions.

May 2011–Jan 2013

Director for Iran, National Security Staff

Led an interagency team in the development of six Executive Orders imposing sanctions on Iran.

Negotiated and implemented the content of three Acts of Congress imposing sanctions on Iran. Specifically: the FY12 National Defense Authorization Act, Section 1245 (sanctions on the Central Bank of Iran and oil purchases); the Iran Threat Reduction and Syrian Human Rights Act of 2012; and, the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act (additional sanctions on Iran).

Advised the President of the United States on the design and implementation of U.S. sanctions policy toward Iran. Regularly briefed the President of the United States, the National Security Advisor, the Deputy National Security Advisor, the Secretary of State, and other members of the President's cabinet.

Regularly communicated U.S. sanctions policy on Iran to various public audiences.

Advised foreign government officials, members of the media, non-governmental organizations, and U.S. corporations on the contents of U.S. sanctions authorities, their implementation, and ways in which to conduct legitimate business with Iran. Led sanctions development and implementation delegations to Israel, the European Union, and the "Likeminded Group" for Iran sanctions.

July 2006–May 2011

**Middle East Team Chief / Senior Iran Officer, Office of Regional Affairs
Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, U.S. Department of State**

Negotiated four United Nations Security Council resolutions imposing international sanctions on Iran. Served as the lead U.S. negotiator on elements of two United Nations Security Council resolutions (1803 and 1929) imposing sanctions on Iran. Served as a support negotiator for U.N. Security Council resolutions 1737 and 1747.

Simultaneously developed both U.S. government sanctions approaches and diplomatic engagement options toward Iran. Served from 2006-2011 as a member of the small cadre of State Department officers assigned to develop sanctions approaches toward Iran, negotiate new sanctions with foreign partners, monitor their implementation, and take corrective action where necessary. On a parallel track, developed engagement options with Iran, such as the 2008 "P5+1" refreshed incentives package and the Tehran Research Reactor refueling proposal of 2009.

Developed and implemented U.S. policies and diplomatic responses to other Middle East nonproliferation challenges. Provided policy advice to senior U.S. government policy makers not only on Iran's nuclear program, but also on Syria's clandestine nuclear activities, disposition of residual issues with regard to Libya and Iraq's nuclear programs, managing the spread of nuclear power and technology writ large to the Middle East, and broader U.S. nonproliferation priorities. Regularly briefed senior U.S. government officials, including the President's Coordinator for Arms Control and Nonproliferation, the Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, and the Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, on the nature and scope of foreign proliferation activities and U.S. responses.

Regularly communicated U.S. strategic objectives in Iran and the Middle East, including proliferation concerns and U.S. policy responses, to various public audiences. Provided information briefings to members of Congress, Deputy Foreign Ministers and other foreign government officials, domestic and foreign media outlets, domestic and foreign civil society groups, students, and members of the public.

Managed a team of six nonproliferation professionals. Responsible for line supervision of six professional staff members, as well as project management, thought leadership, budget and resource allocation, hiring, performance management, and other managerial and supervisory duties for the Middle East team.

May 2004 –July 2006 **Special Assistant for Nonproliferation Policy, Office of Nonproliferation and International Security, National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Energy**

Referred Iran to the United Nations Security Council for sanctions. Prepared and presented detailed technical and policy briefings on Iran's nuclear program. Led U.S. government delegations to India, Turkey, Indonesia, Egypt and Algeria to deliver these briefings. Served on the U.S. delegations to the meetings of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 2005 and 2006 at which member states -- including the key countries I previously briefed -- found that Iran was in noncompliance with its IAEA obligations and reported Iran to the United Nations Security Council. Briefed the Secretary of Energy and other senior U.S. Energy Department officials on developments in Iran and international efforts to halt its nuclear proliferation activities.

Dismantled Libya's nuclear weapons program. Served as part of a team that planned, prepared, and carried out the dismantlement of Libya's nuclear weapons program.

Served as advisor on budgetary, personnel, and other management issues to the Assistant Deputy Administrator. Directly responsible for the preparation of budget materials, program reviews, personnel recommendations, and other management documents necessary to support the needs of a 100 person office. Served the role of *de facto* Executive Officer for approximately 18 months.

June 2003 –May 2004 **Nonproliferation Graduate Fellow, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
National Nuclear Security Administration, U.S. Department of Energy**

Coordinated U.S. global nonproliferation policy through individual and team preparation of policy papers and briefings to prevent and reverse the proliferation of nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction, and their means of delivery. Independently, and on my own initiative, researched and analyzed Iranian nuclear ambitions and capabilities; reported findings to senior officials.

Education

Aug 2002-May 2004 **M.A. in Security Policy Studies from The George Washington University**
Graduated in May 2004 with a GPA of 3.9 out of 4.0
Specializations in Transnational Security Issues and National Security Policy

Aug 1999–May 2002 **B.A. in International Affairs from The George Washington University**
Graduated in May 2002, *summa cum laude*, with a GPA of 3.83 out of 4.0
Specializations in Conflict and Security Policy and International Politics
Member of Phi Beta Kappa and the University Honors Program

Awards

Runner-up for the Secretary of State's Award for Excellence in International Security (2011)
5 Superior Honor Awards from the U.S. Department of State (2006-2011)
1 Spot Award from the Iran Mission Manager of the U.S. Director of National Intelligence (2010)
2 Special Act Awards and 1 On-the-Spot Award from the U.S. Department of Energy (2003-2006)
Graduate Fellowship from the George Washington University (2002)