

Participant Biographies



John R. Allen, President, The Brookings Institution

John R. Allen assumed the presidency of Brookings in November 2017, having most recently served as a distinguished fellow at the institution. Allen is a retired U.S. Marine Corps four-star general and former commander of the NATO International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and U.S. Forces in Afghanistan. He is the co-author of the book *Turning Point: Policymaking in the Era of Artificial Intelligence* (2020) and the co-author of *Future War and the Defence of Europe* (2021). After retiring from the Marine Corps, he served as senior advisor to the secretary of defense on Middle East security, during which he led the security dialogue for the Israeli/Palestinian peace process, and then as special presidential envoy to the Global Coalition to Counter ISIL. Allen's first tour as a general officer was as the principal director of Asia-Pacific policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, a position he held for nearly three years during the George W. Bush Administration.



Jessica Brandt, Policy Director and Fellow, Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology Initiative, Center for Security, Strategy, and Technology, The Brookings Institution

Jessica Brandt is policy director for the Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technology Initiative at the Brookings Institution and a fellow in the Foreign Policy program's Center for Security, Strategy, and Technology. Her research interests and recent publications focus on foreign interference, disinformation, digital authoritarianism and the implications of emerging technologies for liberal democracies. She was the lead author on "Linking Values and Strategy: How Democracies Can Offset Autocratic Advances." Jessica was previously head of policy and research for the Alliance for Securing Democracy and a senior fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, a fellow in the Foreign Policy program at the Brookings Institution, special adviser to the president of the Brookings Institution, and an international and global affairs fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University. She received her B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and M.P.P. from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.



Cathy Feingold, Director, International Department, AFL-CIO; Deputy President, International Trade Union Confederation

Cathy Feingold is a leading advocate on global workers' rights issues. As director of the AFL-CIO's International Department, Feingold is a committed and passionate advocate, strategic campaigner, and policy expert. In 2018, Feingold was elected Deputy President of the International Trade Union Confederation, the organization representing 200 million unionized workers worldwide. She brings more than 20 years of experience in trade and global economic policy, and worker, human and women's rights issues. In 2020, Speaker Pelosi appointed Feingold to the Independent Mexico Labor Expert Board. Feingold previously directed the AFL-CIO Solidarity Center's work in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. In Haiti, she developed labor law training programs and helped publish the first Creole language excerpt of the Haitian labor law accessible to workers. She led the organization's humanitarian response to the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti. Feingold holds a B.A. from Pitzer College and an M.P.A. from Columbia University.



Ryan Hass, Michael H. Armacost Chair and Senior Fellow, John L. Thornton China Center, The Brookings Institution

Ryan Hass is a senior fellow and the Michael H. Armacost Chair at Brookings, where he holds a joint appointment to the John L. Thornton China Center and the Center for East Asia Policy Studies. He is also the Chen-Fu and Cecilia Yen Koo Chair in Taiwan Studies. His current research focuses on enhancing policy development on the pressing political, economic, and security challenges facing the United States in East Asia. He is the author of *Stronger: Adapting America's China Strategy in an Age of Competitive Interdependence* (2020) and a coeditor of *Global China: Assessing China's Growing Role in the World* (2020). From 2013 to 2017, Hass served as the director for China, Taiwan and Mongolia at the National Security Council (NSC) staff. Prior to joining NSC, Hass served as a Foreign Service Officer in U.S. Embassy Beijing. He graduated from the University of Washington and attended the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.



Jewher Ilham, Author, Human Rights Advocate, Forced Labor Project Coordinator at Worker Rights Consortium

Jewher Ilham is an author and an advocate for the Uyghur community and for her imprisoned father, Uyghur economist Ilham Tohti. Jewher has testified before the U.S. Congressional-Executive Committee on China, published op-eds in *The New York Times* and *the Guardian*, and received numerous international awards on behalf of her father. In 2015, she recounted her experiences in her book, *Jewher Ilham: A Uyghur's Fight to Free Her Father*. Her second book, *Because I Have To: The Path to Survival, the Uyghur Struggle* will be released in spring of 2022. Jewher currently works at the Worker Rights Consortium as Forced Labor Project Coordinator and serves as a spokesperson for the Coalition to End Uyghur Forced Labour. She is also assisting on the production of a documentary film (*Static and Noise*) about Uyghurs.



Sophie Richardson, China Director, Human Rights Watch

Sophie Richardson serves as the China Director at Human Rights Watch. She has overseen the organization's research and advocacy on China since 2006 and has published extensively on human rights and political reform in the country and across Southeast Asia. She has testified to the Canadian Parliament, European Parliament, and the United States Senate and House of Representatives. Dr. Richardson is the author of *China, Cambodia, and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence* (2009), an in-depth examination of China's foreign policy since 1954's Geneva Conference, including rare interviews with Chinese policy makers. She speaks Mandarin and received her Ph.D. from the University of Virginia and her B.A. from Oberlin College.