

## Why foreign talent is critical to national security: A conversation with Joseph Votel and Christine Fox

### Participant Biographies



**Jude Blanchette**, Freeman Chair in China Studies, CSIS

Jude Blanchette holds the Freeman Chair in China Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Previously, he was engagement director at The Conference Board's China Center for Economics and Business in Beijing, where he researched China's political environment with a focus on the workings of the Communist Party of China and its impact on foreign companies and investors. Prior to working at The Conference Board, Blanchette was the assistant director of the 21st Century China Center at the University of California, San Diego. His book, *China's New Red Guards: The Return of Radicalism and the Rebirth of Mao Zedong*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2019. He holds an M.A. in modern Chinese studies from the University of Oxford and a B.A. in economics from Loyola University in Maryland.



**The Honorable Christine H. Fox**, Senior Fellow, The Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory  
Former Acting Deputy Secretary of Defense, United States Department of Defense

Christine Fox is currently a senior fellow at the John Hopkins Applied Physics Lab and was previously the lab's assistant director for policy and analysis. From December 2013-May 2014, Fox served as acting deputy secretary of defense, making her the highest-ranking woman in DoD history at the time. Fox also previously served as director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (CAPE) for the Office of the Secretary of Defense from 2009-2013. Before that, she worked at CNA for 28 years, acting as CNA President from 2005-2009. She holds a bachelor and master of science degree from George Mason 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.



**General (ret.) Joseph L. Votel**, President & CEO - Business Executives for National Security  
Former Commander, United States Central Command

General Joseph L. Votel is the President and CEO of Business Executives for National Security (BENS). He is also a former U.S. Army Four-Star officer and most recently the Commander of the U.S. Central Command. During his 39 years in the military, he commanded special operations and conventional military forces at every level. Votel is a non-resident Distinguished Fellow at the Middle East Institute and the Belfer Center at the John F. Kennedy School of Government and advises the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point. Votel is a 1980 graduate of the United States Military Academy and earned master's degrees from the U.S. Army Command and Staff College and the Army War College.