

The importance of domestic renewal amid great power competition

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.



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.



Darin LaHood, Representative for the 18th District of Illinois, U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Darin LaHood serves the constituents of the 18th District of Illinois. LaHood currently serves on the House Ways and Means Subcommittees on Tax Policy and Trade and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. He also serves on the House Democracy Partnership. LaHood currently co-chairs the US-China working group, the U.S.-Brazil Caucus, the Digital Trade Caucus, the U.S.-Lebanon Friendship Caucus, the Congressional Bus Caucus, and the Congressional Soccer Caucus. Prior to his election to Congress, LaHood served four years in the Illinois State Senate, beginning in 2011. LaHood spent more than nine years as a State and Federal Prosecutor. From 2001-2006, he worked for the U.S. Department of Justice as an Assistant United States Attorney in Las Vegas, Nevada. He earned a B.A. from Loras College and holds a J.D. from The John Marshall Law School.



Michael J. Mazarr, Senior Political Scientist, The RAND Corporation

Michael J. Mazarr is a senior political scientist at the RAND Corporation. Previously he worked at the U.S. National War College, where he was professor and associate dean of academics; as president of the Henry L. Stimson Center; senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; senior defense aide on Capitol Hill; and as a special assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His primary interests are U.S. defense policy and force structure, disinformation and information manipulation, East Asian security, nuclear weapons and deterrence, and judgment and decision making under uncertainty. Mazarr holds a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of Maryland.



Sujai Shivakumar, Director and Senior Fellow, Renewing American Innovation Project, CSIS

Sujai Shivakumar is director and senior fellow of the Renewing American Innovation (RAI) Project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Dr. Shivakumar brings nearly two decades of experience in preparing and directing policy studies on competitiveness and innovation at the Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and at the National Academy of Public Administration. In addition to preparing and editing over 40 National Academies reports, he is the author of *The Constitution of Development* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005) and coauthor with Nobel Laureate Elinor Ostrom of *The Samaritan's Dilemma: The Political Economy of Development Aid* (Oxford, 2005). Dr. Shivakumar holds a doctorate in economics from George Mason University and was an Earhart Foundation scholar at the Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis at Indiana University Bloomington.



Tara Watson, David M. Rubenstein Fellow, Economic Studies, The Brookings Institution

Tara Watson is an economist focused on U.S. social policy, with interests in the safety net, health, and immigration. She is professor of economics at Williams College, a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), and a co-editor of the *Journal of Human Resources*. In 2015-16, Watson served as deputy assistant secretary for microeconomic analysis in the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Economic Policy. She was previously a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research at the University of Michigan, a visiting scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and a research associate at the Princeton Center for Research on Child Wellbeing. Dr. Watson earned her Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University in 2003.