

A. WESS MITCHELL, D. PHIL.

2096 Stonemont Farm • Keswick, VA 22947 • (202) 213-0406 • a.wess.mitchell@gmail.com

CAREER HISTORY

THE MARATHON INITIATIVE

Washington, DC

Principal and Co-Founder

2019-Present

- Create and lead 501(c)3 institute dedicated to the study of great-power competition.
- Conduct research and writing on international security and applied history.
- Lead strategic projects with senior foreign-policy experts and scholars.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, DC

Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs

2017-2019

- Top U.S. diplomat for Europe, appointed by President Donald J. Trump and confirmed by the U.S. Senate.
- Responsible for U.S. policy toward the 50 countries of Europe and Eurasia, and the institutions of NATO, the EU and OSCE.
- Managed State Department's largest bureau, with 79 diplomatic posts, 12,000 employees and an annual budget of approximately \$1.5 Billion.
- Led U.S. efforts to increase NATO burden-sharing and enlist allied support for U.S. strategic initiatives.
- Spearheaded diplomatic initiatives for Southern Europe, the Eastern Mediterranean and East-Central Europe; led negotiations to resolve conflict in the Western Balkans.
- Led U.S. negotiations with Turkey on military de-escalation in Syria.

CENTER FOR EUROPEAN POLICY ANALYSIS

Washington, DC

President and CEO

2009-2017

Co-Founder and Director of Research

2005-2009

- Co-founded 501(c)3 institute focused on U.S.-Europe relations.
- Oversaw operations at offices in Washington, DC and Warsaw, Poland.
- Provided briefings to intelligence community, State Department and Congress.
- Published more than 100 articles and three books.

EDUCATION

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN Otto Suhr Institut für Politikwissenschaft

2017

D. Phil. in Political Science

Summa Cum Laude

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY Edmund Walsh School of Foreign Service

2004

Master of Arts in German and European Studies

Summa Cum Laude

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY College of Arts & Sciences

2001

Bachelor of Arts in History, Minors: Political Science, German

Honors College

Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS (Sample)

Book: *Great Power Diplomacy*, Princeton University Press, 2025 (forthcoming)

Book: *The Grand Strategy of the Habsburg Empire*, Princeton University Press, 2018

Book: *The Unquiet Frontier: Rising Rivals, Vulnerable Allies and the Crisis of American Power*, Princeton University Press, 2016 (with Jakub J. Grygiel)

Book: *The Godfather Doctrine: A Foreign Policy Parable*, Princeton University Press, 2009 (with John C. Hulsman)

A Grand Strategy of Consolidation, *Foreign Affairs*, May/June 2026

Recovering the Lost Art of Diplomacy, *Imprimis*, Vol. 55, Issue 2, February 2026

The State Department Overhaul Is Long Overdue, *Foreign Policy*, July 8, 2025

America is Overextended. Here's a Better Way Forward, *Washington Post*, July 2, 2025

Wake Up, Europe: Vance's Criticisms Have Merit, *Washington Post*, May 7, 2025

The Return of Great Power Diplomacy, *Foreign Affairs*, April 2025

Strategic Sequencing Revisited, *The Marathon Initiative*, October 18, 2024

How Biden Let Europe Slip Away, *The Wall Street Journal*, September 17, 2024

China's 'New' Diplomacy: Opportunities for U.S. Statecraft (with Chris Vassallo), *The Marathon Initiative*, February 20, 2024

America Is a Heartbeat Away From a War It Could Lose, *Foreign Policy*, November 16, 2023

Western Europe Is Still Falling Short in NATO's East, *Foreign Affairs*, July 5, 2023

Getting Deprioritization Right (with Jakub Grygiel), *The Marathon Initiative*, June 26, 2023

'The Twilight Struggle' Book Review, *The Wall Street Journal*, April 29, 2022

Mastering the Multi-Front Challenge: The Diplomatic Strategies of Metternich and Bismarck, *The Marathon Initiative*, December 14, 2021

Biden's Climate Diplomacy is a Gift to China, *Foreign Policy*, December 17, 2021

A Strategy for Avoiding a Two Front War, *The National Interest*, No. 175, Sept/Oct 2021

The Curzonian Imprint on Indian Foreign Policy, *Hindustan Times*, June 12, 2021

'The Habsburgs: To Rule the World' Book Review, *The Wall Street Journal*, August 21, 2020

'Metternich: Strategist and Visionary' Book Review, *The National Review*, April 2, 2020

The Age of Great-Power Competition, *Foreign Affairs*, Winter 2019 (with Elbridge Colby)

The Middle East in an Era of Great Power Competition, *The Caravan*, December 12, 2019

Rethinking Metternich, *Standpoint Magazine*, Winter 2019

The Case for Deterrence by Denial, *The American Interest*, August 12, 2015

Limited War is Back, *The National Interest*, August 2014 (with Jakub Grygiel)

The Vulnerability of Peripheries, *The American Interest*, February 2011 (with Jakub Grygiel)

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONIES

NATO 2030 Report, Foreign Affairs Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, June 24, 2021

U.S. Strategy Toward Russia, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, August 21, 2018

U.S. Strategy in Europe, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, June 26, 2018

U.S. Policy Toward the Middle East, House Foreign Affairs Committee, April 18, 2018

European Energy Security: U.S. Interests and Coercive Russian Diplomacy, Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation, December 12, 2017

FELLOWSHIPS, ADVISORY ROLES & MEMBERSHIPS (Sample)

Foreign Policy Grants Advisory Council, Smith Richardson Foundation (2024-Present)

Life Member, Council on Foreign Relations (2022-Present)

International Advisory Council, Cambridge University Centre for Geopolitics (2020-Present)

Non-Resident Fellow, Applied History Project, Harvard University (2019-Present)

Co-Chair, NATO 2030 Reflection Group (2020)

Vestryman, Grace Church, Keswick Virginia (2024-Present)

AWARDS (Sample)

Stanton Foundation Prize for Writing in Applied History, 2020 (with Charles Ingrao)

Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit, Republic of Poland, 2019

Gold Medal of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovak Republic, 2019

Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit, Hungary, 2019

Hopper Award, Georgetown University School of German and European Studies, 2004