

# JOSHUA T. WHITE

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## **Professional Experience**

### **Professor of the Practice of International Affairs, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)**

Washington, DC. Jan 2023 – *present*

### **Associate Professor of the Practice of South Asia Studies, Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)**

Washington, DC. Jan 2017 – Dec 2022

- Teach on South Asia, wider Indo-Pacific security issues, and defense technology and innovation. Courses include U.S. Security Policy in the Indo-Pacific; Defense Technology and Innovation in Asia; Security Challenges and Military Modernization in South Asia; The Pakistan Conundrum: Crisis and Connectivity; Writing Skills for a Policy Career; and a capstone travel course, Technology & Security in Asia: India.
- Research interests include India defense and security issues; U.S. technology cooperation with Indo-Pacific partners; defense industrial base development in the Indo-Pacific; India's defense ties with European and other partners; Sri Lanka and Indian Ocean security; and Pakistani politics and political stability.

### **Nonresident Fellow, Foreign Policy, The Brookings Institution**

Washington, DC. Nov 2017 – *present*

- Conduct research on political and security issues in the Indian subcontinent; the growing ties between South and East Asia; and U.S. defense technology innovation with Indo-Pacific partners

### **Senior Advisor and Director for South Asian Affairs, National Security Council, The White House**

Washington, DC. Mar 2015 – Jan 2017

- Staffed the President, National Security Advisor, and other senior White House officials on the full range of South Asia policy issues pertaining to India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the Indian subcontinent.
- Played an instrumental role in advancing the U.S.-India relationship, with a focus on deepened defense and security cooperation and expanded opportunities for trade and investment; sustaining constructive U.S.-Pakistan ties on an array of counterterrorism, economic and regional issues; supporting high-level engagements with Afghanistan and Sri Lanka; and leading a government-wide effort to assess

how the United States can effectively respond to the growing economic, political, and strategic linkages between South and East Asia.

- Worked extensively on issues related to economic policy, nonproliferation, and security cooperation.
- Performed chief of staff duties for a team of ten, coordinating personnel issues, strategic planning, and crisis management in a high pressure environment.
- Regularly represented the White House in engagements with senior foreign government officials, domestic and international media, and the private sector.

#### **Co-Director for South Asia, The Stimson Center**

Washington, DC. Mar 2014 – Mar 2015

- Conducted research on issues related to nuclear deterrence and crisis management, U.S. defense trade, and Islamic politics. Previously served as Deputy Director.
- Wrote regularly on regional issues and planned events in the U.S. and South Asia. Managed two research associates. Prepared grant proposals and budget reports.
- Co-edited, with Michael Krepon, a volume on deterrence stability in South Asia.

#### **Senior Advisor, Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense**

Washington, DC. Oct 2012 – Sep 2013

- Served as a Senior Advisor within the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy's Asia-Pacific directorate. Contributed to initiatives by then-Deputy Secretary of Defense Ash Carter to deepen U.S.-India defense cooperation; supported Afghan President Hamid Karzai's January 2013 visit to Washington; spearheaded an initiative to coordinate U.S. military engagement on Burma with regional allies and partners; and led a Department-wide effort to assess risks and U.S. policy options in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India, briefing the findings to senior general officers and the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

#### **Education and Honors**

**Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Washington, DC**  
Ph.D. with distinction, International Relations (South Asia Studies), 2012

- Dissertation examined decision-making dynamics of Islamist parties in Pakistan, with particular emphasis on the ways in which they attempt to reconcile participatory democratic interests with sympathies for radical Islamist movements that seek to challenge state authority. Research drew on several distinct literatures, and was informed by extensive interview-based fieldwork, translations, and quantitative analysis of Islamist party membership data. The dissertation addressed a notable gap in the literature on Pakistani politics, but also provided wider insights for academics and policymakers regarding the ways in which religious parties contribute to both stability and instability.

- Advisors: Walter Andersen and Sunil Khilnani

**Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Washington, DC**  
Master of Arts in International Relations, 2008

- Concentrated in International Economics and South Asia Studies.  
Research focus: Governance in India and Pakistan, Islam in South Asia, political stability.
- Received Nitze Fellowship, Starr Foundation Asia Fellowship, and the Christian A. Herter Award for highest GPA in graduating class.

**Williams College, Williamstown, MA**  
Bachelor of Arts in History and Mathematics, 2001

- Graduated *magna cum laude*.
- Vice President, Phi Beta Kappa. Received the Sam Goldberg Colloquium Prize in Mathematics.

### **Fellowships and Research Appointments**

**International Affairs Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations**  
Washington, DC. Oct 2012 – Sep 2013

- Served the fellowship term as a Senior Advisor at the Department of Defense.

**Visiting Fellow, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA)**  
New Delhi, India. Sep 2012

**Visiting Fellow, National Defence University (NDU)**  
Islamabad, Pakistan. Aug 2012

**Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar, U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP)**  
Washington, DC. Sep 2011 – Sep 2012

**World Politics and Statecraft Fellow**  
Smith Richardson Foundation, Westport, CT. Feb 2011 – Feb 2012

**Iqbal Fellow, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI)**  
Islamabad, Pakistan. Feb – Mar 2011, May – Jun 2011, Sep 2011

**Harvey Fellowship Scholar**  
Mustard Seed Foundation, Falls Church, VA. Feb 2009 – Jan 2012

**Visiting Research Associate, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)**  
Lahore, Pakistan. Jun – Aug 2007, Aug – Sep 2008

## **Research Fellow, Center on Faith & International Affairs, Institute for Global Engagement**

Peshawar, Pakistan. Aug 2005 – Jun 2006

Washington, DC. Jun 2006 – Aug 2011

- Served as Principal Investigator for a project, “Addressing the Politics of Pakistan’s Frontier,” funded by the Smith Richardson Foundation.

## **Selected Publications**

Joshua T. White, *Vigilante Islamists: Religious Parties and Anti-State Violence in Pakistan* (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2025).

Joshua T. White, “China’s Future Military Presence in the Indian Ocean: Interests and Imperatives” in *Cross Currents: The New Geopolitics of the Indian Ocean*, ed. David Brewster, Samuel Bashfield, and Justin Burke (Haberfield, Australia: ANU National Security College Press, 2024).

Joshua T. White, *After the Foundational Agreements: An Agenda for US-India Defense and Security Cooperation* (Washington: Brookings Institution, January 2021).

Joshua T. White, *China’s Indian Ocean Ambitions: Investment, Influence, and Military Advantage*, Global China Series (Washington: Brookings Institution, June 2020).

Joshua T. White, “Navigating Two Asias: How Washington Deals with the Indo-Pacific’s Rising Powers,” *India Review* 18, no. 4 (2019).

Joshua T. White, “A Cooperative Jihad? The Religious Logic of Hafiz Muhammad Saeed and the Limits of Pan-Sunni Cooperation in Pakistan,” in *Pakistan’s Enduring Challenges*, eds. C. Christine Fair and Sarah Watson (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015).

Joshua T. White and Kyle Deming, “Dependent Trajectories: India’s MIRV Program and Deterrence Stability in South Asia,” in *Deterrence Instability and Nuclear Weapons in South Asia*, eds. Michael Krepon, Joshua T. White, Julia Thompson, and Shane Mason (Washington: Stimson Center, 2015).

Joshua T. White and Niloufer Siddiqui, “Syed Abul A’ala Maududi,” *The Oxford Handbook of Islam and Politics*, eds. John L. Esposito and Emad El-Din Shahin (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013).

Joshua T. White, “Beyond Moderation: Dynamics of Political Islam in Pakistan,” *Contemporary South Asia* 21, no. 2 (June 2012). Reprinted in *Pakistan in National and Regional Change: State and Society in Flux*, eds. C. Christine Fair and Shaun Gregory (London: Routledge, 2013).

Joshua T. White, “Vigilante Islamism in Pakistan: Religious Party Responses to the Lal Masjid Crisis,” *Current Trends in Islamist Ideology* 7 (Autumn 2008).

Joshua T. White, “The Shape of Frontier Rule: Governance and Transition, from the Raj to the Modern Pakistani Frontier,” *Asian Security* 4, no. 3 (Autumn 2008).

Peter Nasuti, Philip J. Reiner, and Joshua T. White, “A Strategy for Hearts and Minds in South and Central Asia,” *Review of Faith & International Affairs* 6, no. 3 (Autumn 2008).

Joshua T. White, *Pakistan’s Islamist Frontier: Islamic Politics and U.S. Policy in Pakistan’s North-West Frontier*, Religion & Security Monograph Series, no. 1 (Arlington, VA: Center on Faith & International Affairs, 2008).

Chris Seiple and Joshua T. White, “Uzbekistan and the Central Asian Crucible of Religion and Security,” in *Religion and Security: The New Nexus in International Relations*, eds. Robert A. Seiple and Dennis R. Hoover (Latham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2004).

### **Other Professional Activities**

- Presented at dozens of academic, think-tank, and government events in the United States, Asia, and Europe on a wide range of Asian political, economic, and security issues.
- Have previously participated in working groups sponsored by the Council on Foreign Relations (2008), Center for American Progress (2008), Center for Strategic and International Studies (2008), and Brookings Institution (2010).
- Testified before the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs (2009).
- Served on U.S. election observer delegations to Pakistan and Bangladesh (2008).
- Member of academic associations, including the International Studies Association (ISA), the American Political Science Association (APSA), the American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS), the American Institute of Sri Lankan Studies (AISLS), and the American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS).