

# U.S. Leadership and the Global Refugee Crisis

Presented by **Human Rights First** and the **International Refugee Assistance Project**

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INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ASSISTANCE PROJECT



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**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**  
**11:30AM–4:30PM**

**Offices of Jones Day**  
**300 New Jersey Ave NW, Washington, D.C.**

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# Agenda

11:30 – 12:15

**Lunch**

12:15 – 12:30

**Welcome and Introduction**

**Betsy Fisher**, Policy Director, International Refugee Assistance Project

**Eleanor Acer**, Senior Director, Refugee Protection, Human Rights First

12:30 – 1:00

**Opening Address**

**Kelly Clements**, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees

1:00 – 2:00

**Panel One: U.S. Leadership, Refugees, and National Security**

**Deborah Amos, Moderator**, Journalist, NPR News

**Antony Blinken (invited)**, Former Deputy Secretary of State

**Dr. Kathleen Hicks**, Former Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy

**Alejandro Mayorkas**, Former Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security

2:00 – 2:15

**Break**

2:15 – 3:15

**Panel Two: The Middle East and Beyond**

**James Traub, Moderator**, Contributing Editor, *Foreign Policy*

**Fran Townsend**, Former Homeland Security Advisor to President George W. Bush

**Ambassador Ryan Crocker**, Former Ambassador to Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Kuwait, and Lebanon

**Ambassador Anne Patterson**, Former U.S. Ambassador and Former Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs

3:15 – 3:30

**Break**

3:30 – 3:45

**Remarks and Introduction**

**Eleanor Acer**, Senior Director, Refugee Protection, Human Rights First

3:45 – 4:30

**Keynote Discussion**

**Madeleine Albright**, Former U.S. Secretary of State; Chair, Albright Stonebridge Group

**David Miliband**, Former Foreign Secretary, United Kingdom; President and CEO, International Rescue Committee



## Speakers



### **Madeleine K. Albright**

Madeleine K. Albright is Chair of Albright Stonebridge Group, a global strategy firm. She was the 64th Secretary of State of the United States. Dr. Albright received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Obama on May 29, 2012. From 1993 to 1997, Dr. Albright served as the U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations and was a member of the President's Cabinet. From 1989 to 1992, she served as President of the Center for National Policy. Previously, she was a member of President Jimmy Carter's National Security Council and White House staff and served as Chief Legislative Assistant to U.S. Senator Edmund S. Muskie.

Dr. Albright's latest book is *Fascism: A Warning*, a #1 New York Times bestseller published in April 2018. She is the author of five other New York Times bestsellers: her autobiography, *Madam Secretary: A Memoir* (2003); *The Mighty and the Almighty: Reflections on America, God, and World Affairs* (2006); *Memo to the President: How We Can Restore America's Reputation and Leadership* (2008); *Read My Pins: Stories from a Diplomat's Jewel Box* (2009); and *Prague Winter: A Personal Story of Remembrance and War, 1937-1948* (2012).



### **Deborah Amos**

Deborah Amos covers the Middle East for NPR News. Her reports can be heard on NPR's *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Weekend Edition*. She has travelled extensively throughout the Middle East covering a range of stories. In 2009, she won the Edward Weintal Prize for Diplomatic Reporting. In 2010, she was awarded the Edward R. Murrow Lifetime Achievement Award by Washington State University. In 2004, she was part of a team awarded the Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia Award for their coverage of Iraq.



### **Antony Blinken**

Antony "Tony" Blinken is the former Deputy Secretary of State and former Deputy National Security Advisor. Tony helped to lead diplomacy in the fight against ISIL, the rebalance to Asia, and the global refugee crisis, while building bridges to the innovation community. As the Deputy National Security Advisor he chaired the Deputies Committee, the administration's principal forum for deliberating foreign policy. During the first Obama term, he was National Security Advisor to Vice President Biden. From 2002 to 2008, Tony served as Democratic Staff Director for the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. From 1994 to 2001, he was a member of President Clinton's National Security Council staff.

**Kelly Clements**

Kelly Clements has served as the UNHCR Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees since 2015. Prior to joining UNHCR, she was the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. Kelly previously led the Bureau's strategic planning, policy development, and financial management arm to protect and assist refugees and forcibly displaced worldwide. Kelly was a career member of the U.S. Government Senior Executive Service, also serving in Foreign Service positions in Geneva, Switzerland, and Beirut, Lebanon.

**Ambassador Ryan Crocker**

Ambassador Ryan Crocker is a career ambassador within the U.S. Foreign Service. He has served as the U.S. Ambassador to Syria, Iraq, Pakistan, Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Lebanon. In 2010, Ambassador Crocker became the Dean of Texas A&M University's George Bush School of Public Service. He has received many of the nation's highest honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Presidential Distinguished Service Award, The Award for Valor, and many others. He was named an Honorary Marine in 2012.

**Dr. Kathleen H. Hicks**

Kathleen Hicks is senior vice president, Henry A. Kissinger Chair, and director of the International Security Program at CSIS. Dr. Hicks is a frequent writer and lecturer on geopolitics, national security, and defense matters. She served in the Obama administration as principal deputy undersecretary of defense for policy and deputy undersecretary of defense for strategy, plans, and forces. She led the development of the 2012 Defense Strategic Guidance and the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review. From 1993 to 2006, she served as a career civil servant in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, rising from Presidential Management Intern to the Senior Executive Service.

**Alejandro Mayorkas**

Alejandro Mayorkas is currently a partner at WilmerHale in Washington, DC. Before joining WilmerHale, Alejandro served as the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security from 2013 to 2016. For his service as Deputy Secretary, he received the Department of Homeland Security's Distinguished Service Award, its highest civilian honor. Prior to joining the Department of Homeland Security, Alejandro served as the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and implemented various key policies, including DACA.



### **David Miliband**

David Miliband is President and CEO of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), where he oversees the agency's humanitarian relief operations in more than 40 war-affected countries and its refugee resettlement and assistance programs in 28 United States cities. From 2007 to 2010, Miliband was the 74th Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom, driving advancements in human rights and representing the U.K. throughout the world. In 2006, as Secretary of State for the Environment, he pioneered the world's first legally binding emissions reduction requirements. He was Member of Parliament for South Shields from 2001 to 2013.



### **Ambassador Anne Patterson**

Ambassador Anne Patterson is the former Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs and former U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, Pakistan, Colombia, and El Salvador. She recently retired with the rank of Career Ambassador after more than four decades in the Foreign Service. She also served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, as well as Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations. In 2017, she was appointed by Congress to the National Defense Strategy Commission to review the country's national security needs.



### **Fran Townsend**

Fran Townsend served as Assistant to President George W. Bush for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism and chaired the Homeland Security Council. Fran spent 13 years at the U.S. Department of Justice under the administrations of President George H. W. Bush, President Bill Clinton and President George W. Bush. Currently, Fran is an on-air national security analyst for CBS News and an Executive Vice President of MacAndrews and Forbes Incorporated.



### **James Traub**

James Traub is a contributing editor at *Foreign Policy* and Fellow at the Center on International Cooperation. Previously, he was a writer for the *New York Times* and *The New Yorker*. James is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and teaches foreign policy at NYU. He has written numerous political profiles, including that of Barack Obama, Al Gore, and John McCain. He has also authored numerous books including *The Freedom Agenda*, *The Best Intentions*, and *John Quincy Adams: Militant Spirit*, among others.