



Thomas G. Mahnken

President and Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Dr. Thomas G. Mahnken is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. He is also a Senior Research Professor at the Philip Merrill Center for Strategic Studies at The Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

He currently serves as a member of the Congressionally-mandated 2022 National Defense Strategy Commission and as a member of the Army Science Board.

He is the author of numerous publications on strategy, policy, intelligence, and other topics. He previously was a Professor of Strategy at the U.S. Naval War College for nearly 20 years. He served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Policy Planning from 2006–2009.

Dr. Mahnken is the author or editor of *Net Assessment and Military Strategy: Retrospective and Prospective Essays* (Cambria Press, 2020), *Learning the Lessons of Modern War* (Stanford University Press, 2020), *The Gathering Pacific Storm: Emerging U.S.-China Strategic Competition in Defense Technological and Industrial Development* (Cambria Press, 2018), *Arms Races in International Politics: From the Nineteenth to the Twenty-First Century* (Oxford University Press, 2016); *Strategy in Asia: The Past, Present, and Future of Regional Security* (Stanford University Press, 2014); *Competitive Strategies for the 21st Century* (Stanford University Press, 2012); *Secrecy and Strategem: Understanding Chinese Strategic Culture* (Lowy Institute, 2011); *Technology and the American Way of War Since 1945* (Columbia University Press, 2008); *Uncovering Ways of War: U.S. Intelligence and Foreign Military Innovation, 1918–1941* (Cornell University Press, 2002); and, with James R. FitzSimonds, *The Limits of Transformation: Officer Attitudes toward the Revolution in Military Affairs* (Naval War College Press, 2003); with Thomas A. Keaney, *U.S. Military Operations In Iraq: Planning, Combat, and Occupation* (Routledge, 2007); with Joseph A. Maiolo, *Strategic Studies: A Reader* (Routledge, 2007); with Emily O. Goldman, *The Information Revolution in Military Affairs in Asia* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2004); and with Richard K. Betts, *Paradoxes of Strategic Intelligence: Essays in Honor of Michael I. Handel* (Frank Cass, 2003). He has appeared on Fox News, CNN, the BBC, and CBC, among other networks. He is editor of *The Journal of Strategic Studies*.

In 2009, Dr. Mahnken received the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service and in 2016 the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal.

CURRENT POSITION

Dr. Mahnken is the President and Chief Executive Officer of CSBA, an independent policy research institute established to promote innovative thinking about defense planning and investment strategies for the 21st century.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Strategy
Intelligence
Defense Planning
Future Warfare
International Strategic Studies

THOMAS G. MAHNKEN

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dr. Mahnken served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Policy Planning from 2006–2009. In that capacity, he was responsible for the Department's major strategic planning functions, including the preparation of guidance for war plans and the development of defense planning scenarios. He was the primary author of the 2008 National Defense Strategy and a contributing author of the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review. He spearheaded the Secretary of Defense's Minerva Research Initiative, which will provide \$100 million in grants to universities to conduct basic research in the social sciences, and led an interagency effort to establish, for the first time in five decades, a National Security Council-run interagency policy planning body.

Between 1996 and 2016, Dr. Mahnken served as a Professor of Strategy at the U.S. Naval War College and from 2010–2016 was the College's Jerome E. Levy Chair of Economic Geography and National Security. From 2004 to 2006 he was a Visiting Fellow at the Merrill Center at SAIS. During the 2003–2004 academic year he served as the Acting Director of the SAIS Strategic Studies Program. His areas of primary expertise are strategy, intelligence, and special operations forces.

Dr. Mahnken has held positions in both the government and the private sector. He served as a member of the 2018 National Defense Strategy Commission and on the Board of Visitors of Marine Corps University. He served on the Staff of the 2014 National Defense Panel and as Staff Director of the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review Independent Panel's Force Structure and Personnel Sub-Panel. He served on the staff of the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction. He served in the Defense Department's Office of Net Assessment, where he conducted research into the emerging revolution in military affairs. He also served as a member of the Gulf War Air Power Survey, commissioned by the Secretary of the Air Force to examine the performance of U.S. forces during the war with Iraq. Prior to that, he served as an analyst in the Non-Proliferation Directorate of the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), where he was responsible for enforcing U.S. missile proliferation policy.

EDUCATION

B.A. in History and International Relations (summa cum laude)
University of Southern California

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John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies

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