The National Security Enterprise: Navigating the Labyrinth

From Brand: Georgetown University Press

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Recent breakdowns in American national security have exposed the weaknesses of the nation's vast overlapping security and foreign policy bureaucracy and the often dysfunctional interagency process. In the literature of national security studies, however, surprisingly little attention is given to the specific dynamics or underlying organizational cultures that often drive the bureaucratic politics of U.S. security policy.

The National Security Enterprise offers a broad overview and analysis of the many government agencies involved in national security issues, the interagency process, Congressional checks and balances, and the influence of private sector organizations. The chapters cover the National Security Council, the Departments of Defense and State, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Office of Management and Budget. The book also focuses on the roles of Congress, the Supreme Court, and outside players in the national security process like the media, think tanks, and lobbyists. Each chapter details the organizational culture and personality of these institutions so that readers can better understand the mindsets that drive these organizations and their roles in the policy process.

Many of the contributors to this volume are long-time practitioners who have spent most of their careers working for these organizations. As such, they offer unique insights into how diplomats, military officers, civilian analysts, spies, and law enforcement officials are distinct breeds of policymakers and political actors. To illustrate how different agencies can behave in the face of a common challenge, contributors reflect in detail on their respective agency's behavior during the Iraq War.

This impressive volume is suitable for academic studies at both the undergraduate and graduate level; ideal for U.S. government, military, and national security training programs; and useful for practitioners and specialists in national security studies.

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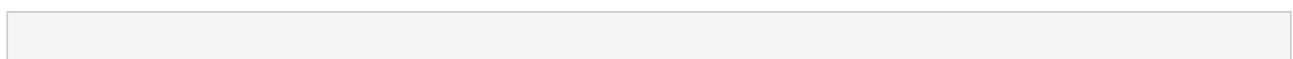
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Editorial Review

Review

"A thought - provoking series of essays that approach the national security enterpise (NSE) as a set of complex interactions between entities both within and beyond government."?

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Review

"Rooted in decades of professional practice, *The National Security Enterprise* provides an insightful survey of the organizational cultures in our national security architecture that will serve as an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to understand key players as they construct US national security policy. "?Graham Allison, director, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and author of *Nuclear Terrorism: The Ultimate Preventable Catastrophe*

"*The National Security Enterprise* approaches the national security policymaking process from every imaginable angle?the intelligence community, the Congress, the State Department, the military, think tanks, lobbies, and much more. This volume's comprehensiveness is remarkable, surpassed only by the erudition of its authors, who are perfectly suited to lead the reader through the many twists and turns of how America formulates its foreign policy."?Lee H. Hamilton, president and director, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

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"Roger George and Harvey Rishikof have assembled a superb team of practitioners and academics, and the result is the most comprehensive analysis yet available of the system by which the United States makes its national security decisions. Especially insightful are the dysfunctions in the current system and the potential remedies to them. This book is essential reading for those concerned with US national security decisionmaking."?Robert Art, Christian A. Herter Professor of International Relations, Brandeis University

About the Author
Roger Z. George teaches national security policymaking at Georgetown University and the National War College. He has also worked at the CIA, National Intelligence Council, the State Department's Policy Planning Staff, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

Harvey Rishikof is a professor of law and national security studies at the National War College and the chair of the American Bar Association Standing Committee on law and national security. He has served as legal counsel to the deputy director of the FBI, as a federal appellate law clerk, and as administrative assistant to the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

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