

Walter Stadler

Member of the Atlantic Council of the United States
Former Chairman and CEO
National Defense University Foundation



As a career officer in the United States Foreign Service for 35 years, Ambassador Stadler was assigned to the United Kingdom, Germany, South Africa, Ethiopia, Sweden, USUN in New York, and Benin. He also served as Senior Fellow in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, working on critical issues including Somalia, on which he negotiated with leaders of a number of countries in the Middle East and Africa. Earlier, he was European advisor to the US Mission to the United Nations. For several years, he was Vice President of National Defense University in Washington, DC, and participated in numerous NATO meetings in Europe. As the US member of the International Defense Advisory Board, he was an advisor to the leaders of the Baltic Republics on developing their post-Cold War defense policies. He also led regional peace-keeping conferences held in the Asia/Pacific region on behalf of the United Nations in Mongolia, Indonesia, Thailand, Nepal and Hawaii. From 2008 – 2010, Ambassador Stadler was President and CEO of the National Defense University Foundation for which he raised funds for NDU programs that are not funded by the federal government.

Ambassador Stadler is a member of the Atlantic Council of the United States and served on the board of the Cooperative Housing Foundation (CHF) for 13 years. He is interested in all aspects of foreign affairs with a particular focus in political-military issues. He has also taken great interest in critical development needs such as the provision of clean water and micro-enterprise capacity building. He served as an officer in the United States Army for four years, with service in the United States, Germany and Japan. He holds a B.A in Classics from Fordham University in Classics, pursued graduate studies at Columbia University, and also studied at the Sorbonne and the University of Perugia in Italy. He speaks fluent French and German and is adept in Swedish and Italian.