

Volker Perthes

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Volker Perthes has been Executive Chairman and Director of SWP (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik), the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, since October 2005.

In 2015/2016 he also served as UN Assistant Secretary General and Senior Adviser to the UN Special Envoy for Syria; from 2016 – 2018 he chaired the Ceasefire Task Force (CTF) for Syria on behalf of the UN

Volker Perthes earned his doctoral degree in 1990 and his habilitation in 1999 from the University of Duisburg. He was an assistant professor at the American University of Beirut from 1991 to 1993, and has been teaching International Relations at Humboldt University Berlin and other schools

Volker Perthes serves on various national and international bodies such as the Scientific Advisory Council of the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA) (as chairperson), the International Advisory Council of the Shanghai Institute for International Studies (SIIS) or the Robert Bosch International Advisory Council

Dr Perthes is a frequent commentator in German and international media on German and European foreign and security policy, international relations and geopolitics, and regional dynamics and transitions in the Middle East.