

David Wurmser

Founder and Executive Member of the Delphi Global Analysis Group and former Senior Advisor to the US Vice President on Middle East



Dr. David Wurmser is a senior fellow and director of the Project on Global Anti-Semitism and the US-Israel Relationship at the Center for Security Policy, as well as being a senior fellow at the Kohélet Policy Forum. He also is the executive and founding member of the Delphi Global Analysis Group, LLC – a firm specializing in geopolitical risk analysis and mitigation for hydrocarbon, infrastructure, high-tech, defense and financial firms from the United States, Japan and India navigating in Israel and the Middle East -- since its founding in 2007. From December 2018 until September 2019, Dr. Wurmser also served as senior advisor (Special Government Employee) to the US National Security Advisor, Ambassador John Bolton.

Prior to founding the Delphi Global Analysis Group, LLC in 2007, Dr. Wurmser was the senior advisor from 2003-2007 to the US Vice President (Richard Cheney) on Middle East, proliferation and strategic affairs — a duty requiring timely, high-pressure and accurate production of information, memoranda and briefings directly for the Vice President and the highest level of the US government during crises.

Before becoming the senior advisor for the Vice President in 2003, Dr. Wurmser was the senior advisor to Under Secretary of State John Bolton at the State Department. His diplomatic missions included participating in sensitive high-level strategic discussions with Israel and Jordan, coordinating with foreign governments on Iran policy, participating on the United States negotiating team at several Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty meetings and conferences, and helping negotiate base rights in key countries (Qatar) prior to the 2003 Iraq War.

Immediately following the 9/11 attacks, Dr. Wurmser consulted until January 2002 for the Office of the Secretary of Defense in the US Department of Defense on a war-related classified project on understanding the nature and strategic significance of terrorist group networks and their interactions with states.

Before entering government, Dr. Wurmser founded the Middle East studies program at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) in 1996. While at AEI Dr. Wurmser, published *Tyranny's Ally: America's Failure to Defeat Saddam Hussein* (which the *New Yorker* called the intellectual framework for President Bush's freedom strategy the Middle East), and over 35 articles in major periodicals – including *the Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times* and *Commentary* -- as well as put the American Enterprise Institute on the map regarding Middle East issues. Dr. Wurmser also helped Richard Perle from 1996-2001 conduct his seminal study on the revolution in military affairs and its impact on US strategy.

Dr. Wurmser's military service includes 11 years of intelligence experience in the US Navy Reserves, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In that capacity, he served several times as the ranking intelligence officer at sea on the *USS Portland* during annual training cycles, where he qualified to serve as commanding-officer-on-deck (at port), and as chief navigator, both when navigating on deck and from the CIC. LCDR Wurmser also commanded the Middle East/Africa desk in the Defense Intelligence Agency's central alert center (National Joint Military Intelligence Center) on weekends – a job demanding daily production of intelligence reports and briefings to the highest levels of the US military, intelligence and defense bureaucracy during crisis situations.

LCDR Wurmser was mobilized during the Operational Vigilant Warrior following Iraq's surge toward Kuwait in 1994 to serve on the Iraq Intelligence Task for the DIA. He was mobilized twice more for the same task force in 1996 and 1998 -- for which the Department of Defense awarded him the prestigious Defense Meritorious Service Medal.