

Volker Perthes

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Volker Perthes is currently Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sudan and Head of the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS). Prior to this, he was Executive Chairman and Director of SWP (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik), the German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin, from October 2005 to January 2021, where he was also Senior Advisor.

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

Volker Perthes earned his doctoral degree in 1990 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 previously served 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.