



Victoria Coates

DISTINGUISHED FELLOW IN STRATEGIC STUDIES

Victoria Coates joined the American Foreign Policy Council as a Distinguished Fellow in Strategic Studies in January 2022. Coates works on regional issues such as energy policy, countering predatory Chinese activity, expanding the historic Abraham Accords between Israel and Muslim-majority nations, and establishing a U.S.-led Middle East strategic alliance. Coates routinely appears on TV and radio outlets such as Fox News, CNN, OANN, Newsmax, The Hugh Hewitt Show, The Erick Erickson Show, and The John Batchelor show. Her writing has appeared in *Bloomberg*, *FoxNews.com*, *The Jerusalem Post*, *The New York Post*, *Newsweek*, *The National Interest*, *National Review*, *The New Criterion*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Examiner*, and *The Washington Times*.

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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TERRORISM AND RADICAL ISLAM

Coates previously served as the Deputy National Security Advisor for the Middle East and North Africa on the National Security Council staff and the Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary of Energy in the Donald J. Trump administration. She also served as the National Security Advisor in the office of Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) and as Director of Research for (former) Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's 2011 memoir, *Known and Unknown*.

Coates holds a B.A. from Trinity College, a M.A. from Williams College, and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, all in art history. Coates is the author and presenter of dozens of publications and conference papers worldwide on the intersections of art and history, including *David's Sling: A History of Democracy in Ten Works of Art* (Encounter Books, 2016) and the forthcoming *Seeing the Light: A History of Christianity in Twelve Works of Art* (under contract with Encounter Books), which are part of a projected trilogy on the key tenets of Western Civilization: democracy, the Judeo-Christian moral code, and the primacy of the individual.

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