



BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Scott C. Buchanan

Director, Security Cooperation



CURRENT ASSIGNMENT: Dr. Buchanan serves as the Director for Security Cooperation Policy in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

PAST EXPERIENCE: Dr. Buchanan is a career policy professional in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. He has served in numerous leadership positions, including: Director for Iraq and Syria Policy; Chief of Staff, SO/LIC; Senior Advisor for the Defeat ISIS Task Force; Director for Domestic Counterterrorism & Global Antiterrorism; Director of Force Transformation Resources and Plans; Deputy Director for Counterterrorism Operations; Deputy Director for Special Operations & Irregular Warfare; and Team Chief and Senior Advisor for NATO Operations.

Dr. Buchanan has served multiple tours in Afghanistan, most recently as the Senior Advisor to the Afghan National Security Advisor in the Resolute Support Mission's Executive Advisory Group in 2018-2019. He served as the Senior NATO Special Operations Component Command Advisor to Afghanistan's Minister of Defense and the General Staff in 2013-2014, and as the Senior Advisor to the NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan in 2014-2015. Dr. Buchanan supported special operations oversight and election security and peace planning, negotiated and concluded the NATO status of forces agreement with Afghanistan, and served as the in-country executive secretary for the NATO Trust Fund. In 2014, the Commander, International Security Assistance Force by-name requested Dr. Buchanan to serve as the senior advisor to the Afghan National Security Council on the National Security Policy and the National Security Strategy.

EDUCATION: Dr. Buchanan received his PhD in Public Policy from George Mason University, graduate degrees from the Naval War College and the University of Denver, and undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He was a 2012 World Politics and Statecraft Fellow (Smith Richardson Foundation) and adjunct with the National Defense University while completing dissertation research. Dr. Buchanan teaches graduate courses on defense policy at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Studies and was a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Buchanan entered government service in August 2001 as a Presidential Management Intern.

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