

H.E. Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad

Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations

Before taking up his current post as Permanent Representative of USA to the UN, Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad was the US Ambassador to Iraq from 2005 to 2007.

Prior to that, from 2003 to 2005, he served as the U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan and also as Special Presidential Envoy to Afghanistan. Apart from diplomatic postings, his past appointments also include serving at the National Security Council as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Islamic Outreach and Southwest Asia Initiatives. He also served as Special assistant to the President and Senior Director for Southwest Asia, Near Asia and North African Affairs. Dr. Khalilzad headed the Bush-Cheney transition team for the Department of Defense and has been a Counselor to Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld.

Between 1993 and 1999, Dr. Khalilzad served in various positions for RAND and was an associate professor at the University of California at San Diego in 1989 and 1991. He advised on the Iraq-Iran war and the Soviet war in Afghanistan.

Dr. Khalilzad has a PhD from the University of Chicago, having received his undergraduate and Master's degrees from the American University of Beirut in Lebanon. He is the author of more than 200 hundred books, articles, studies and reports.