

Background Box
Robert Kagan

Kagan Affiliations:

- Foreign Policy Initiative, board member
- Leigh Speaker's Bureau, speaker
- The Washington Post, monthly columnist
- Working Group on Egypt, co-chairman
- Served in the Reagan State Department (mid to late 80s)

Kagan Brookings Institute Profile Page

<https://www.brookings.edu/experts/robert-kagan/>

State Department Profile Page

<https://2009-2017.state.gov/s/p/fapb/185587.htm>

- Listed areas of expertise
 - o U.S. National Security and Foreign Policy
 - o U.S. Relations with Russia
 - o China and Europe
 - o The European Union
 - o NATO expansion
 - o The Balkans
 - o Eastern Europe
 - o Iraq

Recent Article on the War in Ukraine and the lack of American involvement on the Global Stage; Jan/Feb 2023

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/united-states/robert-kagan-free-world-if-you-can-keep-it-ukraine-america>

Books written by Kagan

- A Twilight Struggle (1996)
- Present Dangers (2000)
- Of Paradise and Power: America and Europe in the New World Order (2003)
- Twentieth Century (2006)
- The Return of History and the End of Dreams (2008)
- Dangerous Nation: America's Foreign Policy from Its Earliest Days to the Dawn of the World America Made (2012)
- Has Obama Made the World a More Dangerous Place (2015)
- The Jungle Grows Back: American and Our Imperiled World (2018)
- The Ghost at the Feast (2022)
- Everything is at Stake: The Fate of America and what it means for the Rest of us (2023)
- Everything is at Stake: The Crisis of our Lifetime (2024)

Where to buy any of his books

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/a/robert-kagan/235456/>

Brookings Institute Short Interview with Kagan about his recent book ‘The Jungle Grows Back’

https://youtu.be/e_mOQzmOSck

- Book about foreign policy
- Why America’s protectionist tendencies are problematic for world peace
- Predicting the diminishing of democracy as protectionist tendencies begin to rise around this world
- This trend he discusses in this book appears frequently in his commentary on other topics

Book Review on ‘The Jungle Grows Back’

<https://www.nyjournalofbooks.com/book-review/jungle-grows>

Robert Kagan on CNN discussing U. S’s passive encouragement of Putin’s efforts in Ukraine; January 12th, 2023

<https://youtu.be/g5SDUUhkxoA>

- Key Points:
 - o Lack of U.S. action in Syria, Georgia, and Crimea, emboldened Putin
 - o There are aggressors out there who will act if the U.S. does not show that it will get involved
 - o Has the U.S. learned their lesson yet?

Recent Article for the Wall Street Journal, ‘Challenging the U.S. Is a Historical Mistake’ by Robert Kagan; February 3, 2023

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/challenging-the-u-s-is-a-historic-mistake-11675441152>

- More about his theory that U.S. involvement (or fear of U.S. involvement) deters conflict
- He says, “In both world wars, the aggressors believed that the U.S. would not try to stop them and that, even if it did try, it lacked the wherewithal to make a difference in time.”
- Talks about this concept in relation to China’s potential future invasion of Taiwan

Robert Kagan’s Recent Articles with the Washington Post Compiled

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/people/robert-kagan/>