



Stephen E. Flynn, Ph.D.

*Director,
Defense Industrial Base Initiative*

*Director,
Global Resilience Institute*

*Professor of Political Science
Northeastern University*

Dr. Stephen Flynn is the Director of the Defense Industrial Base Initiative within the Global Resilience Institute at Northeastern University. He is also Professor of Political Science with faculty affiliations in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Public Policy School, and is Founding Director of the Global Resilience Institute.

Dr. Flynn is recognized as one of the world's leading experts on national security and resilience. From 2022-24, he served as Chair of the Congressionally-mandated National Academies committee to assess the adequacy of strategies related to the nuclear terrorism threat. Additionally, he holds an appointment as a Guest Scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory and he has served in the White House Military Office during the George H.W. Bush administration and on the National Security Council in the Clinton administration.

Before joining the faculty at Northeastern University in 2011, Dr. Flynn served as President of the Center for National Policy. Prior to that he spent a decade as a senior fellow for National Security Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations.

Dr. Flynn has presented expert congressional testimony before the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives on 32 occasions. He has delivered keynote addresses at more than one hundred international and national conferences. Dr. Flynn is a frequent media commentator and has appeared on Meet the Press, 60 Minutes, The News Hour, The Today Show, CNN and on National Public Radio. He has written two of the most widely-cited books on homeland security: *The Edge of Disaster: Rebuilding a Resilient Nation* (Random House, 2007) and *America the Vulnerable* (HarperCollins 2004). Five of his articles have been published in the prestigious journal, *Foreign Affairs*. Excerpts of his books have been featured in *Time*, as the cover story for *U.S. News & World Report*, and as the subject of two CNN documentaries

A 1982 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, Dr. Flynn served in the Coast Guard on active duty for 20 years, including two tours as commanding officer at sea. As a Coast Guard officer, he served in the White House Military Office during the George H.W. Bush administration and as a director for Global Issues on the National Security Council staff during the Clinton administration.

Prior to September 11, 2001, Dr. Flynn served as an expert advisor to U.S. Commission on National Security (Hart-Rudman Commission), and following the 9/11 attacks, he was the executive director of a blue-ribbon Council on Foreign Relations homeland security task force, again co-led by former Senators Gary Hart and Warren Rudman. He served as the principal advisor to the bipartisan Congressional Port Security Caucus, advised the Bush Administration on maritime and homeland security issues, and after the November 2008 election of President Barack Obama, served as the lead policy advisor on homeland security as a part of the presidential transition team. From 2003-2010 he served as a member of the National Research Council's Marine Board.

He was a Guest Scholar in the Foreign Policy Studies Program at the Brookings Institution from 1991-92, and in 1993-94 he was an Annenberg Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Pennsylvania. He received the M.A.L.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, in 1990 and 1991 and in 2009, he received an honorary doctorate of laws from Monmouth University.