

Allison K. Lombardo

Trusted global policy advisor and former strategy consulting senior manager with 20 years of experience across government, private sector, and nonprofits. Coalition builder with deep understanding of US government and global policy institutions, public-private partnerships, and strategies for building an organization's impact. Adept at analytical strategy and operations work, communications products, and engaging diverse constituencies. Leader of cross-functional teams, skilled in generating new business, complex project management, and advising senior executives.

EXPERIENCE

WATSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS, Providence, RI January 2025 – Present
Brown University Senior Fellow

- Co-teach undergraduate/graduate course entitled *Diplomacy, an Art That Isn't Dead* and *Development and Diplomacy*, mentoring students, and advising on thesis projects.

US DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, DC January 2021 – January 2025
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Organizations (promoted to Senior Executive Service)

- Led team of more than 20 professionals focused on supporting the US presence on the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC); orchestrated the US return to the UNHRC, the suspension of Russia from the UNHRC, creation of new resolutions on climate and emerging tech and AI; negotiated resolutions and partnered with other governments to address the human rights situations in Ukraine, China, and Syria.
- Advised Department leadership, including the Secretary, on humanitarian issues in the UN system in New York and Geneva and engaged UN agency heads and leadership teams.
- Oversaw a team of nearly 20 people managing a \$4.4M budget for 5K delegates from across the US government to 333 UN conferences and goals and metrics for business unit success.
- Chosen to reset the new Administration's policy on Ethiopia and Sudan for three months in 2021 as Senior Advisor at the National Security Council on the Horn of Africa.
- Won Superior Honor Award in 2024 for sustained dedication to public service, excellence in human rights advocacy and humanitarian assistance oversight, and exemplary leadership.

DELOITTE CONSULTING LLP, Washington, DC May 2018 – December 2020
Senior Manager (2019 – 2020) & Manager (2018 – 2019), Government and Public Services

- Managed multiple teams of 20+ people to support USAID's Human Resources Transformation, including leading workforce planning and analytical modeling (a first-time effort for USAID) and RACI work for org transformation.
- Led an assessment of USAID's regional hub operating model across the globe, including complex environments like Afghanistan, developing recommendations for senior leadership.
- Expanded Deloitte's reach at USAID headquarters with \$1.7M wins in growth areas (private sector development, blended finance, gender, supply chain), using the new platforms to spur growth with a \$8-10M pipeline of projects.
- Leveraged corporate US experience to translate Deloitte capabilities for partners at national security agencies.

US AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID), Washington, DC January 2016 – July 2017
Senior Advisor, Office of the Administrator

- Steered the planning and execution of the Administrator's priority programs, policies, and events, including the announcement of public and business commitments to invest nearly \$43B in Power Africa by the President.
- Managed operations and tasks (chief of staff-type role) for the Administrator and her two deputies, serving 20 bureaus, USAID Missions in more than 100 countries, including prioritization, strategic time management, compliance, and crisis management response.
- Advised the Global Development Lab in the Center for Transformational Partnerships on partnering on an internal review of USAID's corporate responsibility and shared value partnerships with the private sector to develop strategic options for ways to engage from January 2017 through July 2017.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, THE WHITE HOUSE, Washington, DC

March 2013 – December 2014

Director for African Affairs

- Wrote authoritative materials and briefed and advised the President, the National Security Advisor, and national security senior staff on complex national security issues involving Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, and the African Union.
- Directed the White House response for the 2014 crisis in South Sudan, briefing senior leadership daily.
- Guided eight to 10 federal agencies in policy development by chairing weekly meetings of the sub-policy committee on Sudan and South Sudan and coordinating a shared approach.
- Co-led the historic three-day August 2014 US-Africa Leaders Summit, the largest gathering of African heads of state and governments ever assembled by a US President.
- Developed President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) and briefed the President during the town hall announcement of the program during his trip to South Africa in June 2013.

US DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, DC

August 2017 – March 2013

Strategy Advisor, Office of the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan (Aug 2017 – April 2018), (Jan – Dec 2015)

Presidential Management Fellow, Office of the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan (October 2009 – March 2013)

- Supervised three-person diplomatic team and counseled Special Envoy on peace talks, representing the US government in negotiations, managing policy and public messaging that resulted in the 2018 peace agreement.
- Served as Chief Advisor to the Special Envoy during negotiations between the governments of Sudan and South Sudan, developing US strategy and tactics that resulted in a 2012 agreement for peaceful separation.
- Delivered strategic advice to senior African mediators in advancing peace processes, strategy, sequencing, and communications, representing the US government with international officials, the academic and think tank community, and public audiences during more than 20 trips to the region.
- Managed a budget and program portfolio of approximately \$74M, including budgeting, planning, reporting, and monitoring and evaluation of security and conflict programs.

UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS, Cambridge, MA

Sept 2008 – Oct 2009

Researcher at Harvard Kennedy School

- Researched for Dr. John Ruggie, UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights, for the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights "Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework," which resulted in the 2013 publication of *Just Business: Multinational Corporations and Human Rights*.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH, Washington, DC

October 2005 – May 2007

Advocacy Associate

- Coordinated Washington advocacy efforts of six global divisions on US foreign policy, developing strategy with the Washington Advocacy Director for executive branch and congressional outreach.

EDUCATION

HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL, Master in Public Policy, Cambridge, MA

2009

Thesis: The Mechanics of Accountability: Independent Advisory Panels in the Extractives Industry

BROWN UNIVERSITY, Bachelor of Arts, Providence, RI

2005

Political Science Honors Thesis: Congressional Foreign Policy toward Africa 1994-2004

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Senior Associate (Non-resident), Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) | (2025 – Present)
- Senate Foreign Relations Committee *Minority Staff Intern* | (June 2005 – September 2005)
- Council on Foreign Relations *Term Member* (2017 - 2022)
- *Publications*: [USAID Cuts Weaken US Influence at the UN](#); [Trump to Human Rights Council](#); [Why Junior Professionals at the UN Still Matter](#)