



★ PRO SPEAKER

David Petraeus

AUTHOR

Former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency



VISIT DAVID'S WEBSITE

About:

- **Gender:** Male
- **Nationality:** United States
- **Languages:** English
- **Travels from:** United States

Engagement Types:

- Speaking

Topics:

- Change Management
- Geopolitical Impact
- Leadership & Management
- Political Trends
- Risk Management
- Team Leadership

Biography Highlights

- **Led U.S. Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan:** Key figure in reshaping military strategy during pivotal conflicts.
- **Former CIA Director:** Contributed to national security through intelligence leadership.
- **Strategic Leadership Expert:** Advises on leadership, crisis management, and global challenges.

Biography

General David Petraeus, US Army (Ret.) is one of the leading battlefield commanders and strategists of our time. He served over 37 years in the US military culminating his career with six consecutive commands as a general officer, five of which were in combat, including command of the Surge in Iraq, US Central Command, and Coalition Forces in Afghanistan. He subsequently served as Director of the CIA, following confirmation by the Senate by a vote of 94-0, during a period of significant achievements in the global war on terror.

General Petraeus is now a Partner with the global investment firm KKR and Chairman of the KKR Global Institute, which he established in 2013. He

Websites:

- [Website](#)

also serves on corporate boards, is a strategic advisor to multiple firms, is a member of the Simon and Shuster Advisory Board, and is a personal venture capitalist, invested in over 30 startups. Additionally, he is the Kissinger Fellow at Yale University's Jackson School and is the co-author, with Andrew Roberts, of the award-winning, New York Times best-selling book, *Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from 1945 to Ukraine*.

General Petraeus graduated with distinction from the US Military Academy, earned a Ph.D. from Princeton University in international relations and economics, completed a fellowship at Georgetown, and has held academic appointments at 5 universities (USMA, USC, Harvard, CUNY's Honors College, University of Birmingham (England)) in addition to his current position at Yale. He is the only person in Army history to be the top graduate of both the demanding US Army Ranger School and the year-long Command and General Staff College Course. He is also Co-Chairman of the Woodrow Wilson Center's Global Advisory Council, Senior Vice President of the Royal United Services Institute, and a member of the Trilateral Commission, Council on Foreign Relations, and Aspen Strategy Group.

His awards include four Defense Distinguished Service Medals, the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, two NATO Meritorious Service Medals, the Combat Action Badge, the Ranger tab, and Air Assault and Master Parachutist wings. He has also been decorated by 14 foreign countries and is believed to be the only person in uniform to throw out the first pitch of a World Series game and do the coin toss for a Super Bowl. He was runner-up to Vladimir Putin for Time Person of the Year in 2007, the 2007 Daily Telegraph Man of the Year, twice a Time 100 selectee, three times a Foreign Policy top public intellectual, Prospect magazine's Public Intellectual of the Year, one of US News and World Report's Top 25 Leaders, Princeton University's Madison Medalist, and sanctioned by Russia (in 2022).

Videos





David's Topics

Leadership in the Face of Adversity

A highly decorated general and one of the most prominent combat commanders in American history, Gen. David H. Petraeus, USA (Ret.) dedicated his life to public service, ultimately leading the military campaigns in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the greater Middle East, and then serving as the director of the Central Intelligence Agency. As one of the most effective military leaders in recent U.S. history, General Petraeus led US and Coalition Forces in the most significant global challenges of the post-9/11 period and is regarded as one of the “great battle captains of American history.” In this conversation, he draws on his 38-1/2 years of public service experience and his subsequent 7 years in the private sector to share his strategic insights and perspective on leading in the face of adversity and guiding organizational change to help you address the most pressing challenges facing your organization. Whether you are an up and coming leader within your organization or a seasoned C-suite executive, General Petraeus will provide you with the leadership ideas, intellectual construct, and techniques necessary to make tough decisions in the face of adversity and be a resilient, effective strategic leader.

Available: In person, Virtually

Business Consulting from Gen. David H. Petraeus, USA (Ret.): Strategic Leadership in the 21st Century

Bringing in a business consultant can challenge you and your organization to think differently about your business. Whether you are a new leader seeking a renewed vision for your company or a seasoned C-Suite executive exploring new trends in the marketplace, they provide the deep, strategic insights and much-needed perspective to help you make confident and profitable decisions.

One of the most effective military leaders in recent U.S. history, General David H. Petraeus has addressed the most significant global challenges of our time — including ongoing international security issues, macroeconomic trends, and the tasks of strategic leadership in the 21st century. Widely credited for changing the course of two wars, and regarded as one of the “great battle captains of American history,” Gen. Petraeus was instrumental in reshaping American military doctrine. He leans on his distinguished public service experience to help your executive leadership team address the most pressing challenges facing your organization.

His advisory topics include:

- Corporate Security Strategies
- Crisis Management
- Cyber Security Solutions
- Global Economic Insights
- Global Opportunities
- Harnessing Big Data
- Leadership
- National Security Insights
- U.S. Foreign Policy

Available: In person, Virtually

Conversation with Gen. David H. Petraeus, USA (Ret.)

General Petraeus invites audiences to participate in a moderated question and answer session where he addresses the significant global challenges facing countries and organizations today, including ongoing international security issues, macroeconomic trends, energy policy and the tasks of strategic leadership in the 21st century. Audiences are given unprecedented access to one of the most effective military leaders in recent U.S. history as he takes questions from the interviewer and the audience for an engaging, dynamic and thought-provoking discussion.

Available: In person, Virtually

Testimonials

“

Everything went GREAT last night!! Gen. P has been the BEST speaker we've had... everyone was so thrilled with his comments. Such a SMART guy, and on a totally different level than us.

Legal

“

The segment with Gen. Petraeus went very well. He is an impressive and charismatic guy, and his intellectual incandescence is very obvious.

Utility

“

General Petraeus was fantastic on the podium in the Debate Chamber at Old Parkland. We had a full house because of his presentation.

Real Estate

“

General Petraeus was wonderful and our members and guests were delighted with the event. He

was gracious during the reception and brilliant on stage.

World Affairs Groups

“

General Petraeus provided an incredible experience for our YPO membership to kickoff our season. His insights on global issues, macroeconomics and geopolitical views captivated us all as well his views on the tasks for strategic leadership. “Winter is always coming” he said, “as leaders we must be prepared.” He commanded a record attendance and provided for a truly “Only-in-YPO” experience for our membership.

YPO/WPO/YOUNG Entrepreneurs

“

Overall this was an outstanding event that got rated a 9.4 out of 10 from our chapter - high marks! General Petraeus was gracious and flexible on-site and his answers during the moderated conversation (a perfect format) were very thorough - a credit to his knowledge. The comments we received regarding his presentation were nothing but positive and we consider the event to be a huge success. Thanks to WSB for helping us put it together!

YPO/WPO/YOUNG Entrepreneurs

“

The General was great! Everyone really liked him at the YPO event.

YPO/WPO/YOUNG Entrepreneurs

“

The YPO event was just wonderful. Petraeus really is astounding in his encyclopedic breadth intellectually, obviously in his experience, but he tours the world so succinctly and insightfully. It was something special.

YPO/WPO/YOUNG Entrepreneurs

“

The General was fantastic. It was truly a great event. The group loved him.

YPO/WPO/YOUNG Entrepreneurs

“

We were elated with General Petraeus’ performance at our event. He arrived fully prepared and put his powerful eloquence and intellect on full display. He made the audience think - and laugh. People went home not just better informed, but inspired. We were also very impressed with how personable General Petraeus is with whomever he interacts, and how easy and enjoyable is to work with him. He is both a great man and a great guy.

Non-Profit

“

The general was a significant hit and our inboxes are full of positive feedback and we’ve received a lot of calls as well. He’s the right speaker for so many reasons.

Open-Ticketed

“

The General delivered a masterpiece. His insights on diplomacy, security, economics and leadership

were utterly captivating. Seeing our large dinner audience remain at attention for the whole conversation and hearing many rave reviews since then tells me that mine is a consensus opinion.

Legal

“

General Petraeus comes across in the media as an impressive, candid, and intelligent scholar-warrior. An American hero. In person, in small group meetings with undergraduates, graduates, and faculty, and then in a large group event, he is even more impressive. He had many interesting insights into the events of the past dozen years, events he personally played a pivotal role in shaping. But he may have had even more interesting insights into what the next several dozen years might look like, by virtue of his new perch at KKR.

Universities and Colleges

“

The visit by General David Petraeus to Colgate University was the high light of Family Weekend for the fall of 2017. He packed the Colgate Chapel and two overflow rooms, and he gave an excellent 40 minute address on “Strategic Challenges in US Foreign Policy and National Security,” followed by a lively Q and A from the audience for another 50 minutes. The reaction from parents, students, and local citizens was enthusiastic – with high praise for his knowledge of world affairs and warm rapport with the audience. He was also very gracious at dinner and with his time afterward for drinks. I personally was very impressed with his detailed and sophisticated understanding of the world situation and with his character as a military leader and genuine human being. ‘Outstanding,’ as they say in the Army.

Universities and Colleges

“

Special thanks to General Petraeus for participating in our recent Tate Lecture Series. We were overwhelmed by the rave reviews and positive feedback we received from the sold out crowd. We particularly appreciated him sharing the challenges he faced early in his career, his experience leading the surge, and how he’d counsel the President if he were part of the administration. General Petraeus provided our subscribers with an experience to remember and reflect upon for years to come.

Universities and Colleges

“

General David Petraeus is one of the most fascinating personalities of present history which was clearly reflected in his inspiring speech delivered at the international Negotiation Conference in Zurich. General Petraeus has the unmatched ability to communicate tough truths in a positive and personal manner, allowing the audience to connect with him and follow his vision. Listeners experience 100% Petraeus leadership, tested in battle, when he talks about how to develop a big idea, how to guarantee commitment, how to oversee execution, and how to systematically refine the strategy for a continuous strive towards excellence. It has been a greatest honor to welcome the General at our conference and it would be our greatest delight to have him again.

Education Programs

“

We have heard only positive feedback from all those who felt extremely privileged to listen to the enlightening views shared by General Petraeus and the panel.

Financial Services

“

Frank...incredibly dedicated.. deeply engaged in our conversation (re note-taking)...shame he's not in the Administration...very generous with his time.

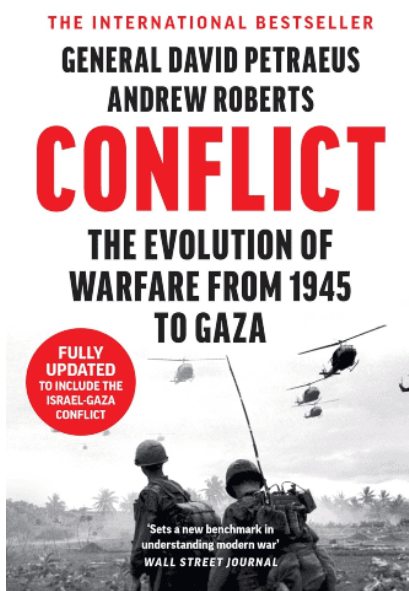
Financial Services

“

General Petraeus was gracious, eloquent and a real draw for the Houston community. His insight on the geopolitical issues of the day, understanding of the peoples and cultures involved, and ability to assess varying perspective, is truly unmatched. We had substantial attendance for our luncheon event and received superb feedback all around.

World Affair Groups

Books



Conflict: The Evolution of Warfare from 1945 to Ukraine

Two leading authorities—an acclaimed historian and the outstanding battlefield commander and strategist of our time—collaborate on a landmark examination of war since 1945. Conflict is both a sweeping history of the evolution of warfare up to Putin’s invasion of the Ukraine, and a penetrating analysis of what we must learn from the past—and anticipate in the future—in order to navigate an increasingly perilous world. In this deep and incisive study, General David Petraeus, who commanded the US-led coalitions in both Iraq, during the Surge, and Afghanistan and former CIA director, and the prize-winning historian Andrew Roberts, explore over 70 years of conflict, drawing significant lessons and insights from their fresh analysis of the past. Drawing on their different perspectives and areas of expertise, Petraeus and Roberts show how often critical mistakes have been repeated time and again, and the challenge, for statesmen and generals alike, of learning to adapt to various new weapon systems, theories and strategies. Among the conflicts examined are the Arab-Israeli wars, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, the two Gulf Wars, the Balkan wars in the former Yugoslavia, and both the Soviet and Coalition wars in Afghanistan, as well as guerilla conflicts in Africa and South America. Conflict culminates with a bracing look at Putin’s disastrous invasion of Ukraine, yet another case study in the tragic results when leaders refuse to learn from history, and an assessment of the nature of future warfare. Filled with sharp insight and the wisdom of experience, Conflict is not only a critical assessment of our recent past, but also an essential primer of modern warfare that provides crucial knowledge for waging battle today as well as for understanding what the decades ahead will bring.

[BUY THE BOOK](#)

Speaker Bureaus And Talent Agencies

David Petraeus is available to book via these agencies

✔ Recommended

EXCLUSIVE

wsb
WASHINGTON SPEAKERS BUREAU

Speaking Agency