



INSS Senior Staff Biography

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Mr. Leo Michel is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies, concentrating on transatlantic security issues. Before joining INSS in July 2002, Mr. Michel was Director for NATO Policy within the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). His office was responsible for policy support to the Secretary and other senior Defense officials in areas such as NATO defense planning and capabilities, operations, enlargement, Partnership for Peace, and NATO-European Union relations.

During more than 17 years in OSD, Mr. Michel also worked on a range of nuclear and non-nuclear issues and negotiations involving the former Soviet Union. During 1996-1999, he was appointed by the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy as the first OSD representative on the senior faculty of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy in Switzerland. During 1993-1996, he was Director for Non-Nuclear Arms Control. From 1980 until joining OSD in 1986, Mr. Michel worked in the Directorate for Intelligence. During the 1970s, he worked as a legislative aide for foreign and defense affairs in the U.S. Congress and as a reporter for French media. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Lieutenant (jg) communications officer during 1969-1972.

Mr. Michel, a career civil servant, was promoted to the Senior Executive Service in 2000. He holds a Master's degree from Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies (1975) and a Bachelor's degree with High honors from Princeton University (1969).