

Max Makovsky

Washington, DC

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EDUCATION

Pepperdine University School of Public Policy

Master of Arts in Middle East Policy Studies

Muhlenberg College

Bachelor of Arts in International Studies (ΣIP Honors)

Languages: Hebrew (B2), French (A2)

Washington, DC

August 2025 - April 2027

Allentown, PA

August 2020 - May 2024

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Velocity Government Relations

Fellow (On-Site)

Washington, DC

January-June 2026

- Attended events and Congressional hearings, and wrote concise summarized briefings for clients
- Produced written reports on policy, industry updates, and relevant technological advancements
- Responsible for section of weekly newsletter highlighting developments among adversaries

The American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

Critical Threats - Iran Intern (On-Site)

Washington, DC

September-December 2025

- Conducted research pertaining to Iranian domestic and international politics
- Monitored Iranian and international media to inform the Critical Threats Project
- Received OSINT training and attended intensive educational sessions with fellow AEI interns

NATO Communications and Information Agency *NATO Secret Clearance*

Operations Support Intern (On-Site)

Mons, Belgium

March-August 2025

- Contributed to the planning and execution of NATO Exercises, reporting directly to the (acting) branch head (OF-4) of OPEX (Operations and Exercises) based at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)
- Assisted OPEX with project management, administrative tasks, and internal communications
- Attended multinational interoperability CIS exercises, planning conferences, and training sessions
- Conducted a formal review of OPEX SOP, assisted with development and deployment of OPEX event management tool, and supported OPEX through a transitional period of internal realignment

Senator John W. Hickenlooper

Intern (On-Site)

Denver, CO

August-December 2024

- Answered phone calls from constituents and discussed policy positions
- Staffed events around the state
- Conducted and presented research to inform on policy issues

The Hudson Institute

Editorial Intern (Remote)

Washington, DC

August-December 2024

- Contributed to the Hudson Institute editorial and public affairs teams
- Edited policy reports, conducted research, and performed administrative tasks
- Tracked media reports involving institutional fellows

The Jewish Institute for National Security in America (JINSA)

Policy Intern (Remote)

Washington, DC

May-August 2024

- Conducted independent research pertaining to the ongoing conflicts in both Ukraine and the Levant
- Managed and updated the JINSA Policy Recommendation spreadsheet and the Iran Projectile Tracker
- Created a database of all drones utilized by Ukraine since 2022

U.S. Department of State *Interim Secret Clearance*

Student Internship Program (On-Site)

Washington, DC

February-April 2024

- Contributed to the Political/Political-Military team at the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Pakistan Desk
- Communicated effectively between SCA/P and elements of SCA, other U.S. Department of State bureaus, and additional government agencies
- Managed office calendars, conducted research, drafted write-ups, and attended high-level meetings
- Engaged in both formal and informal diplomatic discussions, built relationships with foreign diplomats, and contributed to furthering foreign policy objectives

Global Livingston Institute

Research Assistant Intern (Hybrid)

Entusi, Uganda

May-August 2023

- Researched on-site in Uganda for one month and completed internship remotely
- Conducted field research to determine best practices to offset carbon emissions through community-based development programs including reforestation and water filtration systems
- Engaged in qualitative research by interviewing local community and government leaders to gauge the sentiments of local residents to inform ongoing and future projects

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AND RESEARCH

- Hertog Foundation Security Studies and Humanities Fellowship (Washington, DC, 2024)
- Smithsonian Institution Leadership for Change Internship (Boulder, CO, 2023)
- Grungras Consultancy International Law Research Internship (Tel Aviv, IL, 2022)
- Curated.com Sales Representative (125k+ USD, 2021-2024)
- "Securing the Grid: Microgrids, Critical Minerals, and the Case for a Dual-Track U.S. Energy Strategy" (Pepperdine University, 2026)
- "Means without Ends: Assessing American Statecraft During Operation Earnest Will" (Pepperdine University, 2026)
- "The Houthi Conundrum: Competing U.S. Counterterrorism Priorities in the Middle East" (Pepperdine University, 2025)
- "An Examination of the Future of Nuclear Energy in the context of Climate Change" (School for International Training, 2023)
- "A Brief History of UNIFIL and an Analysis of its Efficacy" (Muhlenberg College, 2022)