

## **Wielding American Power: Agenda for Strategy and Policy Planning**

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**Andrew P. N. Erdmann** served as Director for Iran, Iraq, and Strategic Planning on the National Security Council staff from August 2003 to January 2005. His responsibilities included Iran policy; Iraqi governance issues and diplomatic strategy; and assisting Deputy National Security Advisor Robert D. Blackwill with his strategic planning duties. Prior to joining the NSC., Erdmann served in Iraq with the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance and then the Coalition Provisional Authority as the Senior Advisor to the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. In that capacity, he supervised the restoration of essential operations to the Iraqi higher education system, involving over 45,000 employees and 225,000 students. From June 2001 to February 2003, he was a member of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff, where his duties included counterterrorism, homeland security, and Central Asia policy, as well as analyses and public statements of overall U.S. foreign policy. Before joining the Department of State, Erdmann was a historian. He has published essays on the history of American national security policy in a variety of journals and edited collections, and taught at Harvard University and George Washington University. He received his doctorate at Harvard University.

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