

Fireside Chat - Geopolitical Challenges and Opportunities for Long-Term Investors

Presenter Bio

GEN (Ret.) David H. Petraeus, Chairman, KKR Global Institute

General David H. Petraeus (US Army, Ret.) is a partner at KKR and Chairman of the KKR Global Institute, a position he assumed some six years ago. He is also a member of the boards of directors of Optiv and FirstStream, a venture investor in more than a dozen startups, and engaged in a variety of academic endeavors.

Prior to joining KKR, General Petraeus served over 37 years in the U.S. military, culminating his career with six consecutive commands, five of which were in combat, including command of coalition forces in Iraq during the Surge, command of U.S. Central Command, and command of coalition forces in Afghanistan.

Following retirement from the military, he served as Director of the CIA during a period of significant achievements in the global war on terror, important digital initiatives, and strategic assessments.

During his government service, General Petraeus received numerous U.S. military, State Department, NATO, and United Nations medals, including four awards of the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, two awards of the NATO Meritorious Service Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Ranger Tab, and Master Parachutist Wings, as well as decorations from 13 foreign countries.

General Petraeus is also no stranger to the academic world. He graduated with distinction from the U.S. Military Academy and subsequently earned a Ph.D. from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He taught international relations and economics at the U.S. Military Academy in the mid-1980s, he was a Visiting Professor of Public Policy at the Honors College of the City University of New York from September 2013 through December 2016, and he has been a Judge Widney Professor at the University of Southern California since 2013. He is also a Senior Fellow at Harvard University's Belfer Center, Co-Chairman of the Global Advisory Council of the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, and Senior Vice President of the Royal United Services Institute, as well as a member of the boards of the Atlantic Council, the Institute for the Study of War, and over a dozen veterans service organizations.

Over the past decade or so, General Petraeus was named one of America's 25 Best Leaders by the U.S. News and World Report, a runner-up for Time magazine's Person of the Year, the Daily Telegraph man of the year, a Time 100 selectee, Princeton University's Madison Medalist, and one of Foreign Policy magazine's top 100 public intellectuals.
