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Robert Kagan is a senior fellow with the Project on International Order and Strategy in the Foreign Policy program at Brookings. He is a contributing columnist at the Washington Post. His most recent book is The New York Times bestseller, "The World America Made" (Knopf, 2012) His previous books include "The Return of History and the End of Dreams" (Knopf 2008), "Dangerous Nation: America's Place in the World from its Earliest Days to the Dawn of the 20th Century" (Knopf, 2006), "Of Paradise and Power" (Knopf, 2003), and "A Twilight Struggle: American Power and Nicaragua, 1977-1990" (Free Press, 1996).

Kagan serves as a member of the secretary of state's foreign affairs policy board and is co-chairman of the bipartisan working group on Egypt. He served in the State Department from 1984 to 1988 as a member of the policy planning staff, as principal speechwriter for Secretary of State George P. Shultz, and as deputy for policy in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs. He is a graduate of Yale University and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and holds a doctorate in American history from American University.