

**College of International Security Affairs**  
National Defense University

**Dr. Spencer B. Meredith III**  
**Fulbright Scholar**  
**Associate Professor**  
**Deputy Thesis Director, Joint Special Operations Master of Arts program**  
**Department of Regional and Analytical Studies**



**Education**

- Ph.D., Government and Foreign Affairs, University of Virginia
- M.A., Political Science, Villanova University
- B.A., Religion, Swarthmore College

**Research Interests**

- Democracy and Conflict Resolution
- Special Operations and Unconventional Warfare
- Russian/Eastern European and Middle Eastern Politics
- Religion and Politics

**Spencer B. Meredith III** earned his Ph.D. in Government and Foreign Affairs in 2003 from the University of Virginia. His dissertation and first book, *Nuclear Energy Safety and International Cooperation: Closing the World's Most Dangerous Reactors* (Routledge, 2014) developed out of work for the Department of State Office of the Senior Coordinator for Nuclear Safety, and dealt with more than a decade of research into democratic development and elite decision making in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

He also served as a Fulbright Scholar in the Caucasus in 2007 working on multi-track conflict resolution for internally displaced persons and governance development. He has also focused on related issues in Eastern Ukraine, and served as a subject matter expert for several Department of State public diplomacy programs in South and East Asia dealing with the role of religion and democracy in US foreign policy.

Dr. Meredith has also been working with US Special Operations Command, US Army Special Operations Command, and the US Army Special Operations Center of Excellence on several projects related to international relations in the Gray Zone, comprehensive deterrence, narrative analysis and influence operations under conditions short of violent conflict, and non-violent unconventional warfare.

His publications include research on democratic development as well as articles in scholarly journals ranging from *Communist Studies and Transition Politics*, *Peace and Conflict Studies*, to *Central European Political Science Review*. He has also published in professional journals related to countering Russian influence in Eastern Europe, unconventional warfare and governance, and the future operating environment, with articles in *InterAgency Journal*, *Special Warfare*, *Foreign Policy Journal*, and the peer-reviewed *Special Operations Journal*. He has been interviewed by the Associated Press regarding civil-military relations and Conventional-Special Operations Forces relationships. He is currently participating in a SOCOM/CENTCOM Strategic Multilayer Assessment on post-ISIS Iraq and Syria, as well as one for SOCOM/USASOC on the role of state-society contexts shaping the intellectual motivations of insurgencies.

Dr. Meredith has nearly fifteen years of distinguished teaching experience at the collegiate and graduate levels in the US and internationally. He has received multiple fellowships and awards, to include the Institute for the Study of World Politics Minority Fellowship, several Foreign Language and Area Studies Grants, and recognition by the American Political Science Association for Outstanding Teaching.