

VICTOR D. CHA

Professor Victor D. Cha is Vice Dean and D.S. Song-KF Professor of Government in the School of Foreign Service and Department of Government at Georgetown University. He is also Senior Vice President for Asia and Korea Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. He was appointed in 2021 by Biden administration to serve on the Defense Policy Board in an advisory role to the Secretary of Defense. He formerly served on the National Security Council from 2004 to 2007 where he was responsible primarily for Japan, the Korean peninsula, Australia/New Zealand and Pacific Island nation affairs. Dr. Cha was also the Deputy Head of Delegation for the United States at the Six Party Talks in Beijing, and received two Outstanding Service commendations during his tenure at the NSC.

He is the author of seven books, including the award-winning *Alignment Despite Antagonism: The United States-Korea-Japan Security Triangle* (Stanford University Press) (winner of the 2000 Ohira Book Prize), and *The Impossible State: North Korea, Past and Future* (Harper Collins Ecco, 2012 selected by *Foreign Affairs* as a “Best Book on the Asia-Pacific for 2012.” His most recent book is *Powerplay: Origins of the American Alliance System in Asia* (Princeton University Press, 2018). His next book is, *Korea: A Modern History* published by Yale University Press in April 2023 and *The Black Box and Dark Tunnel* published by Columbia University Press in late 2023.

Dr. Cha is a two-time Fulbright Scholar, former Olin Fellow at Harvard, and former Hoover, CISAC, and Koret Fellow at Stanford. He currently serves on ten editorial boards of academic journals and is co-editor of the Contemporary Asia Book Series at Columbia University Press. In 2022, he was elected to serve on the Board for the National Endowment for Democracy, and he remains a Senior Fellow in Human Freedom (non-resident) at the George W. Bush Institute in Dallas, Texas. He is also a Foreign Affairs Contributor for MSNBC and NBC News.

In 2023, he was named Distinguished University Professor, the highest honor bestowed upon a tenured faculty member at Georgetown.

Dr. Cha received his Ph.D. in political science at Columbia University, MIA from Columbia, B.A. Honors in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics from Oxford University, and A.B. in Economics from Columbia. He was born and raised on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.