



**John Kachtik**  
**Research Fellow**

John Kachtik has over two decades of experience in public policy, national security, and foreign assistance, with expertise in US-Asia geopolitics and institutional capacity building. As national security advisor to Senator John Thune, Mr. Kachtik served as speechwriter and legislative lead for the Senator's national security and foreign policy priorities, and oversaw all DOD engagement. During Mr. Kachtik's tenure, Senator Thune championed procurement of the next-generation bomber (B-21), and spearheaded the expansion of the Powder River Training Complex, the largest training airspace expansion in Air Force history. Prior to his role with Senator Thune, Mr. Kachtik served with Congressman Mike Pence on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and with Senator Lisa Murkowski, covering energy and environment. During the George W. Bush administration, Mr. Kachtik served as Special Assistant to the President's Special Envoy for North Korean human rights at the US Department of State.

Mr. Kachtik has extensive experience in international development across Asia. He has implemented US-funded foreign assistance programs in China, Myanmar, Thailand, South Korea, and Indonesia, and served as Chief of Party for a \$20 million USAID grant in the Maldives, providing strategic support to the President's Office and Parliament.

Mr. Kachtik holds a Master's in International Political Economy from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore and a BA in Political Science from LeTourneau University. He currently resides in Singapore with his wife and three sons.