

## Contact

[www.linkedin.com/in/cara-abercrombie-7b552a3](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cara-abercrombie-7b552a3) (LinkedIn)

## Top Skills

National Security  
Policy  
Defense

## Languages

Finnish (Professional Working)  
Russian (Limited Working)  
English (Native or Bilingual)

# Cara Abercrombie

Deputy Assistant to the President & Coordinator for Defense Policy and Arms Control at National Security Council, The White House  
Washington DC-Baltimore Area

## Experience

National Security Council, The White House  
2 years 8 months

Deputy Assistant to the President & Coordinator for Defense Policy and Arms Control  
June 2022 - Present (1 year 3 months)

Senior Director for Defense  
January 2021 - Present (2 years 8 months)

Defense Security Cooperation University  
President  
September 2019 - January 2021 (1 year 5 months)

Defense Security Cooperation Agency  
Principal Director for Security Cooperation Workforce Development  
November 2018 - January 2021 (2 years 3 months)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace  
Visiting Scholar  
September 2017 - September 2018 (1 year 1 month)

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
6 years 5 months

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, South & Southeast Asia  
June 2016 - July 2017 (1 year 2 months)

Principal Director, East Asia Policy  
July 2014 - June 2016 (2 years)

Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense  
May 2013 - June 2014 (1 year 2 months)

Director, South Asia  
March 2011 - May 2013 (2 years 3 months)

Self-employed

Independent Consultant

August 2009 - April 2010 (9 months)

Provide consulting services for strategic initiatives in the areas of defense policy, national security, and foreign affairs.

Office of the Secretary of Defense

4 years

Defense Institution Building

July 2008 - May 2009 (11 months)

Senior Country Director for India

June 2005 - July 2008 (3 years 2 months)

Central Command Inc.

PMF

2005 - 2005 (less than a year)

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Presidential Management Fellow

2003 - 2005 (2 years)

U.S. Department of State

Iraq Desk

2004 - 2004 (less than a year)

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs

Program Officer

1998 - 2001 (3 years)

Opened Belarus field office in 2001

Program Officer for Azerbaijan, Belarus and Turkey 1998-2000

Observed elections in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Macedonia

---

## Education

Princeton University

MPA, Public and International Affairs · (2001 - 2003)

Tampere University

International Relations · (1997 - 1998)

Dartmouth College  
BA, Government · (1993 - 1997)