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Looking Back+Moving Forward



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DR. R. DAVID EDELMAN

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R. David Edelman he holds joint appointments at MIT's Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Lab (CSAIL) and the Center for International Studies (CIS); teaches courses on technology and public policy; and leads a team of researchers examining international cybersecurity, the governance of artificial intelligence, and the globalization of technology.

Until 2017, Edelman served at the White House as Special Assistant to the President for Economic and Technology Policy at the National Economic Council (NEC) and Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP). There, he led the White House economic team's work on technology, media, and telecom policy. Over six years, he spearheaded the development of and co-authored over a dozen Executive Orders, national strategies, legislative proposals, and Presidential policy reviews.

From 2010 - 2012, he served as the first Director for International Cyber Policy at the White House National Security Council (NSC). In that role, he managed issues at the intersection of technology and foreign policy and penned the government's principal doctrine on cybersecurity and Internet issues within U.S. foreign policy. Prior to his time at the White House, Edelman served at the State Department's Office of Cyber Affairs and as the United States' lead negotiator on Internet issues at the United Nations.

His insights and analysis have appeared in print in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, WIRED, Fast Company, and Fortune, and in broadcast on CNN, CNBC, Bloomberg, MSNBC, and NPR. He has lectured on technology issues at Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Stanford, Georgetown, and Johns Hopkins/SAIS.

Dr. Edelman holds a B.A. from Yale University in History, and a Master's and Doctorate in International Relations at Oxford University, where he was a Clarendon Scholar. His forthcoming book on restraining state use of cyberattacks will be published by Oxford University Press.