



# Mr. Robert P. Helfant

**Principal Director for Strategy**  
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Mr. Robert Helfant is the Principal Director for Strategy at the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). He leads DSCA development and dissemination of security cooperation policy; strategic planning to better integrate security cooperation authorities with combatant commander requirements; strategic relations and engagements by DSCA within DoD and with key external counterparts; and execution of numerous Title 10 and 22 programs designed to advance partner nation capacity and capabilities through education and training.

Prior to that, he was Deputy Director for International Affairs at the Missile Defense Agency (MDA), reporting to the MDA Director for International Affairs. He was responsible for shaping and coordinating country engagement activities in support of the expansion of international cooperation in missile defense. Mr. Helfant was at MDA (and its predecessor organizations) for more than 20 years, including key assignments as Division Chief for Strategy and Integration and later Deputy for Regional Affairs within the International Affairs Directorate, lead for US-UK cooperative BMD programs, program analyst in the Russian American Observation Satellites (RAMOS) program office, and program element support to the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) program.

Prior to joining MDA, Mr. Helfant worked in the defense industry where he supported various U.S. Government customers in the areas of theater missile defense requirements and operations, political and military threat assessment, mission and force posture planning, and arms control.

Mr. Helfant graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Bachelor of Science degree in Science and Technology Studies. He has a Master's degree in International Affairs from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University.