

## Mark Polyak and Frederick W. Kagan Biographies

**Mr. Mark Polyak** is President, North America Analytics. In this role, he is responsible for driving strategic growth of the Ipsos analytics-based solutions and products, as well as client and thought leadership. Prior to this role, Mr. Polyak was a Chief Analytics and Data Officer for Ipsos Global Public Affairs, focusing on developing solutions and products for financial sector, big tech, and international organizations navigating risk. Mr. Polyak spent over 15 years building data analytics and visualization platforms and has three US patents focused on real time data integration of streaming multi-sensor data. He is based in Washington, DC.

**Dr. Frederick W. Kagan** is a senior fellow and the director of the Critical Threats Project (CTP) at the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). In 2009, he served in Kabul, Afghanistan, as part of General Stanley McChrystal's strategic assessment team, and he returned to Afghanistan in 2010, 2011, and 2012 to conduct research for Generals David Petraeus and John Allen. In July 2011, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen awarded him the Distinguished Public Service Award, the highest honor the Chairman can present to civilians who do not work for the Department of Defense, for his volunteer service in Afghanistan. He is coauthor of the report *Defining Success in Afghanistan* and author of the series of reports *Choosing Victory* (AEI), which recommended and monitored the US military surge in Iraq. His most recent book is *Lessons for a Long War: How America Can Win on New Battlefields*. Previously an associate professor of military history at West Point, Dr. Kagan was a contributing editor at the Weekly Standard and has written for Foreign Affairs, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, the Los Angeles Times, and other periodicals.