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Paul B. Stares is the General John W. Vessey senior fellow for conflict prevention and director of the Center for Preventive Action at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). Beside overseeing the center's series of Contingency Planning Memoranda and Council Special Reports on potential sources of instability and conflict, he is currently writing a book on how the United States can make preventive action the centerpiece of a new security strategy for the 21st century.

Prior to joining CFR, Dr. Stares was the vice president and director of the Center for Conflict Analysis and Prevention at the United States Institute of Peace. He worked as an associate director and senior research scholar at Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation from 2000 to 2002 and was a senior research fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs and then director of studies at the Japan Center for International Exchange from 1996 to 2000. From 1984 to 1996, he was a research associate and later a senior fellow in the foreign policy studies program at the Brookings Institution. He has also been a NATO fellow and a scholar-in-residence at the MacArthur Foundation's Moscow office.

Dr. Stares has participated in various high level studies, including leading the expert working group on preventive diplomacy for the Genocide Prevention Task Force co-chaired by Madeleine Albright and William Cohen as well as the expert working group on the strategic environment for the Iraq Study Group co-chaired by James Baker and Lee Hamilton.

He is the author or editor of numerous books, articles and reports, including most recently the CFR publications *Partners in Preventive Action* (Council Special Report No. 62), *Managing Instability on China's Periphery* (Asia Security Memoranda), *Enhancing U.S. Crisis Preparedness* (Policy Innovation Memorandum No. 4), *Military Escalation in Korea* (Contingency Planning Memorandum No. 10), *Enhancing U.S. Preventive Action* (Council Special Report No. 48), and *Preparing for Sudden Change in North Korea* (Council Special Report No. 42). He has a BA from North Staffordshire Polytechnic and received both his MA and PhD from Lancaster University.