

COUNCIL *on* FOREIGN RELATIONS

58 East 68th Street, New York, New York 10065
tel 212.434.9400 fax 212.434.9800 www.cfr.org

Max Boot

Max Boot is Jeane J. Kirkpatrick Senior Fellow in National Security Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. He is a military historian and foreign-policy analyst who has been called one of the “world’s leading authorities on armed conflict” by the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Boot is also a contributing editor to the *Weekly Standard* and the *Los Angeles Times*, and a regular contributor to the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Commentary*, and other publications.

Boot is the author of three widely acclaimed books: the *New York Times* bestseller *Invisible Armies: An Epic History of Guerrilla Warfare from Ancient Times to the Present*, which the *Wall Street Journal* said “is destined to be the classic account of what may be the oldest as well as the hardest form of war”; *War Made New: Technology, Warfare, and the Course of History, 1500 to Today*, which was hailed as a “magisterial survey of technology and war” by the *New York Times*; and *The Savage Wars of Peace: Small Wars and the Rise of American Power*, which won the 2003 General Wallace M. Greene Jr. Award from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation as the best nonfiction book pertaining to Marine Corps history and has been placed on Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Navy professional reading lists.

He is now writing two books for Norton/Liveright: a biography of Ronald Reagan and *The Road Not Taken: Edward Lansdale and the American Experience in Vietnam*.

Boot has served as an advisor to U.S. commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan. He was also a senior foreign policy advisor to John McCain’s presidential campaign in 2007–08, a defense policy advisor to Mitt Romney’s campaign in 2011–12, and the head of the Counter-Terrorism Working Group for Marco Rubio’s campaign in 2015-2016.

Boot is a frequent public speaker and guest on radio and television news programs, both at home and abroad. He has lectured on behalf of the U.S. State Department and at many military institutions, including the Army, Navy, and Air War Colleges, the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare School, West Point and the Naval Academy. In 2004, he was named by the World Affairs Councils of America as one of “the 500 most influential people in the United States in the field of foreign policy.” In 2007, he won the Eric Breindel Award for Excellence in Opinion Journalism, given annually to a writer who exhibits “love of country and its democratic institutions” and “bears witness to the evils of totalitarianism.”

Before joining the Council in 2002, Boot spent eight years as a writer and editor at the *Wall Street Journal*, the last five as op-ed editor. From 1992 to 1994 he was an editor and writer at the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Boot holds a bachelor’s degree in history, with high honors, from the University of California, Berkeley, and a master’s degree in history from Yale University. He was born in Russia, grew up in Los Angeles, and now lives in the New York area.