



**Ben Freeman,  
Ph.D.**

*Director of the  
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Dr. Freeman grew up working in the family business, selling sea shells by the sea shore (seriously), and was headed down that path until the events of September 11th and the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, led him to do what any aspiring sea shell seller would do: go to graduate school for six years, earn a Master's degree and Ph.D. in Political Science at Texas A&M University, and then move to D.C. to shape national security policy.

He is now the Director and founder of the Foreign Influence Transparency Initiative at the Center for International Policy, where he works to expose how foreign governments are influencing U.S. public policy and elections. This work builds upon his book, *The Foreign Policy Auction*, which was the first book to systematically analyze the foreign influence industry in the U.S.

Before launching the Foreign Influence Transparency Initiative, Dr. Freeman was the Deputy Director of the National Security program at the think tank Third Way, where he provided defense budget analysis to Members of Congress. Prior to joining Third Way, he served as the National Security Fellow at the Project on Government Oversight, where he investigated waste, fraud, and abuse at the Department of Defense and testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

His work has appeared in *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and *Foreign Policy*, and he has appeared on CNN and NPR, amongst other media outlets. Much more importantly, he is an avid Crossfitter and pitbull lover.

Follow Ben on Twitter @BenFreemanDC.