

Christopher Walker

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Christopher Walker is Vice President for Studies and Analysis at the National Endowment for Democracy. Walker oversees the multidimensional department that is responsible for NED's analytical and thought leadership efforts, which pursues its goals through several interrelated initiatives: the leading edge work of the International Forum for Democratic Studies, which uses an interdisciplinary approach to map and explore critical themes relating to democratic development; the *Journal of Democracy*, the world's leading publication on the theory and practice of democracy; the Reagan-Fascell fellowship program for international democracy activists, media professionals, and scholars; and the Center for International Media Assistance that is dedicated to improving efforts to promote media in emerging democracies and developing economies around the world. Prior to joining the NED, Walker was Vice President for Strategy and Analysis at Freedom House. Walker has testified before legislative committees in the U.S. and abroad, appears frequently in the media, and regularly conducts briefings on critical issues relating to democratic development. He has been at the forefront of thought leadership on modern authoritarian influence on open political systems, including through the exertion of sharp power, a concept he and his colleagues developed. His articles have appeared in numerous publications, including the *Financial Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, and the *Journal of Democracy*. He is co-editor of *Authoritarianism Goes Global: The Challenge to Democracy* (2016); and *Sharp Power: Rising Authoritarian Influence* (2017). He is a co-editor of the book *Defending Democracy in an Age of Sharp Power* (2023).

Mr. Walker previously testified before the Commission during a 2018 hearing on "China's Relations with U.S. Allies and Partners in Europe and the Asia Pacific."