

Peter Warren Singer

Peter Warren Singer is senior fellow and director of the 21st Century Defense Initiative at The Brookings Institution. His research focuses on the U.S. defense system and the future of technology and war.



He is the youngest scholar named senior fellow in Brookings' 90-year history. He has received mention on CNN's "New Guard" List of the next generation of newsmakers, the Smithsonian Institution's list of 100 "leading innovators in the nation," and *Foreign Policy Magazine's* Top 100 Global Thinkers list. Singer previously served as coordinator of the Obama 2008 campaign's defense policy task force, as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Defense and the FBI, and as advisor to a host of entertainment programs.

Dr. Singer is considered one of the world's leading experts on 21st century warfare. He was named by the President to Joint Forces Command's Transformation Advisory Group and is a columnist for *Armed Forces Journal*. He has written for the full range of media and journals, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and *Foreign Affairs*. He has delivered talks to the U.S. Congress and more than 60 universities around the world. Singer has provided commentary on military affairs for nearly every major television and radio outlet, including *ABC-Nightline*, *Al Jazeera*, *BBC*, *CBS-60 Minutes*, *CNN*, *FOX*, *NPR* and the *NBC Today Show*.

His first book [*Corporate Warriors: The Rise of the Privatized Military Industry*](#) (Cornell University Press, 2003) pioneered the study of the new industry of private companies providing military services for hire. It was named book of the year by the American Political Science Association, ranked in the Gelber Prize's top five international affairs books of the year, and was featured in *Businessweek's* list of "Top Ten Summer Reads."

Dr. Singer's next book, [*Children at War*](#) (Pantheon, 2005), explored the rise of another new force in modern warfare, child soldier groups. It was featured as the 2006 Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Book of the Year Award.

Dr. Singer's most recent book, [*Wired for War*](#) (Penguin, 2009), looked at the political, ethical and legal implications of robotics and other new warfare technologies. Described as "awesome" by Jon Stewart of the Daily Show, *Wired for War* made *The New York Times* nonfiction bestseller list in its first week of release and was named a nonfiction book of the year by *The Financial Times*.

Prior to his current position, Dr. Singer was the founding director of the Project on U.S. Policy Toward the Islamic World at Brookings. He has also held positions at Harvard University, the Balkans Task Force in the U.S. Department of Defense, and the International Peace Academy. Singer received his Ph.D. in Government from Harvard University and a B.A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.