

## David S. Abraham

David S. Abraham is a faculty member at Boise State University, where he focuses on critical materials and industrial policy. After serving as a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow at Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, he spent years tracing global supply lines firsthand—from rare earth mines in China and processing plants in Estonia to mineral ports in Brazil and Indonesia—developing a ground-level understanding of the materials that underpin modern technologies. That research informed the award-winning book, *The Elements of Power* (Yale University Press, 2015), widely considered a foundational work for its examination of how rare metals shape global economics, geopolitics, and the green transition. A revised edition will be released later this year. Abraham has advised governments, exploration firms, and OEMs on supply chain risk and material security. His earlier roles include managing natural resource investment risk at Lehman Brothers and RBS/Sempra Commodities, and overseeing international assistance and resource programs at the White House Office of Management and Budget. He also led a clean water nonprofit in Uganda. In addition to his policy and finance work, he founded and ran Outpost, a network of live/work spaces in Asia for remote workers and digital nomads. His writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Los Angeles Times* among others. He has provided testimony to governments in the U.S. and EU and serves on the ISO/TC 298 rare earth standards committee.