Liz Sherwood-Randall

Liz Sherwood-Randall is the White House homeland security advisor, having served in the role since the first day of the Joe Biden administration. Prior to returning to the White House, Sherwood-Randall served as a senior fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School’s Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and as a distinguished professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where she held joint appointments at the Nunn School of International Affairs and the Strategic Energy Institute. In the Barack Obama administration, she served as deputy secretary of the Department of Energy from 2014 to 2017. In her capacity as deputy secretary, Sherwood-Randall was the department’s chief operating officer, overseeing a budget of nearly $30 billion and a workforce of more than 113,000 people. She served earlier in the Obama administration as coordinator for defense policy, countering weapons of mass destruction, and arms control with responsibility for U.S. defense strategy, policy, and budget planning. Sherwood-Randall also served as special assistant to the president and senior director for European affairs at the National Security Council. In the Bill Clinton administration, she served as deputy assistant secretary of defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia from 1994 to 1996. From 1986 to 1987 Sherwood-Randall served as chief foreign affairs and defense policy advisor to then-Senator Joe Biden. She attended Harvard College and earned her doctorate at Oxford University on a Rhodes scholarship.