

Isobel Coleman is a foreign policy expert with more than 25 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. Most recently, she served on the Biden Transition Team, leading the transition team's review of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. From 2014-2017, she was U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations for Management, Reform and Special Political Affairs. During that time, she represented the United States in the UN General Assembly on budgetary matters and in the UN Security Council on Africa and peacekeeping issues. From 2018-2020, she was the Chief Operating Officer of GiveDirectly, an international non-profit organization tackling poverty by providing unconditional cash transfers to the extreme poor.

Previously, Dr. Coleman spent more than a decade as a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations where she wrote extensively about the economic development of the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa for publications such as *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Policy*, *Foreign Affairs*, and the *Washington Post*. She is the author and co-author of numerous books including *Pathways to Freedom: Political and Economic Lessons from Democratic Transitions* (Council on Foreign Relations, 2013), and *Paradise Beneath Her Feet: How Women are Transforming the Middle East* (Random House, 2010). She graduated from Princeton University and attended Oxford University on a Marshall Scholarship where she earned MPhil and DPhil degrees in International Relations. She started her career at McKinsey & Co. in New York, becoming a partner in the firm's financial institutions group.