



**MURIEL BOWSER**  
**MAYOR**

May 17, 2021

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman  
Council of the District of Columbia  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and in accordance with section 401 of the Human Rights Act of 1977, effective December 7, 2004 (D.C. Law 15-216; D.C. Official Code § 2-1404.03), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

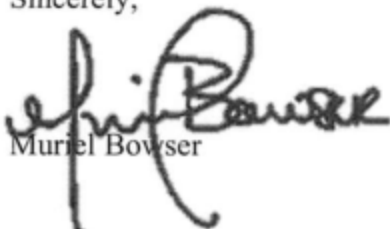
Dr. Andrew Michels  
24th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(Ward 2)


for appointment as a member of the Commission on Human Rights, replacing Ali Muhammed, for a term to end December 31, 2022.

Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Muriel Bowser

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the appointment of Dr. Andrew Michels to the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Commission on Human Rights Andrew Michels Confirmation Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

Dr. Andrew Michels  
24th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
(Ward 2)

as a member of the Commission on Human Rights, in accordance with section 401 of the Human Rights Act of 1977 (D.C. Law 15-216; D.C. Official Code § 2-1404.03), and in accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), replacing Ali Muhammad, for a term to end December 31, 2022.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

ANDREW JOSEPH MICHELS



Professional Work Experience

***Strategic Planning and Analysis, Inc.***

January 2020 – current

**Senior Compliance Monitoring Legal Advisor – Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment) – Office of Foreign Investment Review**

Serve as an expert advisor on the full range of complex policy issues related to the Office's mission by supporting senior DoD officials and management in all work related to the Office's CFIUS functions including coordination of the interagency process, analysis of transactions, policy development, and engagement with foreign partners and allies. Provide recommendations concerning options available to mitigate and monitor national security risks posed by transactions within the purview of CFIUS.

Under the supervision of Department of Defense (DOD) officials, interact with parties to the transaction and CFIUS member agency counterparts to ensure that CFIUS has the information that it needs to reach a determination and, if necessary, negotiation of agreements between the U.S. Government and the parties to mitigate any national security risks posed by transactions under review by CFIUS.

Advise DOD officials about means by which effectively and efficiently with foreign partners and allies to support investment review regimes and facilitate coordinated action with respect to trends in investments and technology developments that could pose risks to the national security of the United States and allied and partner countries.

***United States Agency for International Development, Washington, DC***

January 2010 – April 2016

**Senior Security Sector and Rule of Law Advisor**

U.S. National Security Clearance:

Top Secret (TS) with access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI)

Served as one of only two Security Sector Reform officers in the Agency, and the only who provided expert technical assistance in the rule of law. Advanced thought leadership in the rule of law (ROL) and security sector reform (SSR), with an

Andrew Joseph Michels

emphasis on security force accountability and human rights standards. Worked across the USG to advocate for USAID's equities in ROL and SSR. Worked closely with the USAID's other Security Sector Reform Officer and Rule of Law (ROL) Officers to provide timely support to USAID Missions and U.S. Embassies. Responded to inter-agency requests for information on how USAID defines and implements security sector assistance (SSA) and liaised at the most senior levels of the USG.

Represented USAID within the U.S. inter-agency to include the National Security Council, Department of Defense (DOD), the State Department and the National Defense University. Represented USAID at the National Security Council (NSC) on the Presidential Policy Directive on Security Sector Assistance (SSA-PPD/23) and the Security Governance Initiative (SGI).

Frequently served as a panelist and presenter at policy fora, including think tanks, the DOD and other inter-agency seminars on issues of peacekeeping, international human rights law, the ethics and implementation of state building, security sector governance, and the rule of law. Served on technical evaluation panels and provided recommendations on USAID's review of rule of law academic proposals.

Served as a member of the Inter-Agency Policy Committee on United Nations Peacekeeping. Lead a project to integrate human rights into security sector reform and volunteered to lead the development of USAID's first advanced rule of law course. Remained abreast of current developments in security sector reform by drafting and accessing State Department and DOD top-secret cables on matters of importance to Agency programs in countries such as Libya, Mali and Ukraine. Served on the Ukraine Task Force.

Represented USAID in international fora and on several inter-agency security sector and rule of law assessments in countries in crisis or transition that require in-depth and specialized expertise. Advised USG senior leadership in the areas of rule of law and security sector assistance on a wide range of difficult foreign policy challenges such as Afghanistan, Ghana, Guatemala, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Sudan, Tunisia, and Ukraine.

Was a member of the elite Special Interagency Assistance Team (SIAT) which was sent to Pakistan to assist the U.S. Embassy and U.S. Interagency with sensitive matters. (Classified program)

Demonstrated leadership and vision in a proposal to establish a comprehensive accountability regime (CAR) to address violations of fundamental human rights by members of the security sector. Co-author of USAID strategy paper on security sector governance and human rights principles and practices. Met with NGO's to discuss security sector actors and the human rights protections.



Andrew Joseph Michels

Served as activity manager for programs within the Governance and Rule of Law portfolios in Washington and at U.S. missions around the world.

Delivered primary paper on Comprehensive Accountability at the State Department, 'Workshop on Leveraging U.S. Security Assistance in Support of Accountability for and Prevention of Human Rights Violations,' in March, 2015, and delivered follow-up presentation in March, 2016.

Served as expert representative to – and was a regular speaker at -- the Swedish Military Academy (Folke Bernadotte) on security sector governance. Presented papers and lectures to the UNDP, Africa Center for Strategic Studies, African Union, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center, US Army Judge Advocate General School, and other organizations on the topics of rule of law, international security, security sector governance and accountability for human right violations.

Received commendations from the U.S. Departments of Defense, State and USAID.

***Joint Chiefs of Staff – Pakistan Afghanistan Coordination Cell (PACC), Washington, DC Jan 2011 – January 2013***

**Senior Civilian Advisor**

U.S. National Security Clearance:

Top Secret (TS) with access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI)

Provide advice to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and senior Defense leaders on civilian aspects of strategy, operations, plans, and policy matters related to Afghanistan and Pakistan. Maintain close liaison with the State Department, USAID, and intelligence agencies. Provide guidance on post-conflict transitional governance, rule of law, development, security sector reform, and reintegration. Support development of civilian guidance and other assistance requested by combatant commands, military services, and members of the interagency, including the National Security Council and the Intelligence Community. Author strategic documents and national level briefings on Afghanistan and Pakistan in support of the PACC. Received commendations from the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Provided principal-level guidance of vetting and selection for the newly-established Afghanistan Public Protection Force (APPF), insuring that applicable US, local, and international laws and standards would be applied to the selection, training, retention and discipline of APPF members. Advised on vetting of ANSF personnel for counter-terrorism purposes in response to attacks on U.S Forces.

Andrew Joseph Michels

***International Civilian Office (ICO) /EU Special Representative, Pristina, Kosovo***

**January 2008- January 2010**

**Head, Security Affairs Unit**

*ICO is the diplomatic international organization charged with supervising Kosovo's recently declared independence.*

Served as the Security Affairs Adviser to the International Civilian Representative, Mr. Pieter Feith.

Led a unit of international and national personnel charged with the development and oversight of the public security sector in Kosovo. Supervised the establishment of the Kosovo Intelligence Agency, the Kosovo Security Council and the Kosovo Civil Aviation Agency. Facilitated the demarcation of the Border between Macedonia and Kosovo.

Served as the ICO representative on the NATO security force vetting and selection panel for the Kosovo Security Force, applying stringent human rights vetting standards to selection of the KSF Commander and subordinate officers.

Was lead officer responsible for the vetting and selection of the first Director of the Kosovo Intelligence Agency.

Other duties included:

- Established appropriate liaison and confidence building measures with regional counterparts;
- Supervised compliance with relevant international and regional security agreements/statements, coordinating with military presence and other monitoring agencies with respect to sanctions for inappropriate conduct of the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) members;
- Monitored police-related security issues;
- Provided political-security counsel and analysis in regards to the coordination of international stakeholders working on security issues within Kosovo;
- Supervised development and adoption of comprehensive legislative package concerning the security sector; and,
- Convened and chaired the Intelligence Policy Board (IPB) and the Civil Aviation Transition Team (CATT).

Recipient of multiple commendations and awards from ICO and the Government of Kosovo.

***Interlocutor, LLC***

**December 2006 – January 2008**

**Founding Partner**

Co-founder of a consulting firm, specializing in the public security-justice-development nexus. Interlocutor provides advice to governments, nonprofit organizations, and commercial entities in relation to conflict mitigation, post-

Andrew Joseph Michels

conflict transitional administrations, peacekeeping, security sector and justice reform, and sustainable, responsible engagement practices.

***DynCorp International, Washington, DC***                      **July 2001- December 2006**  
**Director, Peacekeeping Operations and Humanitarian Affairs**

Managed extensive peacekeeping and humanitarian services portfolio, including overall management of

\$100 million+ U.S. State Department contract for '*Peacekeeping, Capacity Enhancement, and Surveillance Efforts - African Continent.*'

Served as principal adviser and subject matter expert to U.S. government and third country government principals and senior officials on peacekeeping; humanitarian response; post-conflict reconstruction and transitional administrations; security sector transformation; civil-military cooperation and civil affairs issues; Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) of former combatants; implementation of durable solutions for returning refugees and internally displaced persons; and human rights legal training of local civil servants, police, and military personnel.

Designed and implemented the most extensive recruiting and vetting program for human rights compliance ever undertaken by the U.S. State Department for security force training in Africa. (see International Crisis Group report dated 13 January 2009)

Other tasks included program and fiscal management; supervision of planning and logistics support and service to peacekeeping missions; training; management; and other tasks assigned by the U.S. State Department.

Instituted and maintained systems of internal and external controls for donor government funds, both in respect to the company and recipient states. Instructed counterpart governments in democratic accountability, openness and transparency in the operations of the security sector, ranging from contracting and procurement to personnel administration, to the conduct of 'rule of law' mechanisms.

Served as political and academic adviser to the Sudan Peace Building Initiative. Duties included: Academic Director of training programs conducted for over 200 members of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) on subjects relating to international law and diplomacy; rule of law; transitional administration; refugees and displaced persons; DDR programs for long-serving soldiers and children; and security arrangements.



Andrew Joseph Michels

Served as political advisor to the U.S. Department of State and the NDA in respect to the Sudan peace process.

***DePaul Univ. School of Law, Chicago, IL***

**July 2001-July 2002**

**Executive Director and Adjunct Professor, International Human Rights Law Institute**

Managed all programs, personnel and budgets of an internationally renowned human rights law institute. Taught courses in the College of Law.

***United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, Pristina, Kosovo***  
**President, Registration Appeals Commission (RAC) April -December 2000**

Appointed by Special Representative of the Secretary General, Dr. Bernard Kouchner. Responsibilities included: oversight of RAC, which adjudicated appeals from persons who had been denied residency status in Kosovo; and insuring RAC conducted its proceedings and rendered its decisions in accordance with UNMIK Regulations, UNMIK Administrative directions, and accepted standards of international law.

**Chief of Staff and Policy Adviser, Civil Documents and Property Claims**

**August 1999-April 2000**

**Airport Manager, Pristina Airport**

Managed budget in excess of \$10 million; created departmental policy and strategic development of regulatory framework governing civil registration, voter registration, the issuance of civil documents; raised several million dollars from member states and private organizations to fund activities mandated under Security Council Resolution number 124.

Assumed management of the civil operations of the Pristina Airport, including air carrier liaison, security, and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) liaison. Oversaw safety and security activities related to the crash of a World Food Program aircraft in Pristina; served as liaison to NATO multinational forces (KFOR).

***Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Bosnia-Herzegovina*** **September 1996 &1997**

**Election Supervisor temporary assignments)**

**AAH Consulting Pty. Ltd.**

**1995-**

**1997**

**Sydney, Australia and Los Angeles, CA**

Illustrative example of consulting projects:

- Advised a large U.S.-based multinational service firm seeking entry to the Indonesian market;
- Consultant to a large-U.S. municipal port organization seeking to improve its profile and inbound market share;



Andrew Joseph Michels

- Advised the Australian division of a U.S.-based multinational corporation regarding its divestment of certain operations within Australia;
- Advised an Australian-based, multinational firm regarding changes in its ownership arrangements and share restructuring;
- Assisted with identification and selection of new manufacturing plants in Asia and distribution points in Europe;
- Prepared regulatory advice regarding market entry in regulated markets and industries in Asia and negotiated terms of market access with government officials in several Asian countries; and

***United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Eritrea***

May-September 1993

**Protection Officer**

Responsible for protecting the legal rights of persons claiming -- or who had been granted -- refugee status under international law. Managed oversight, reporting, and other duties related to 'persons of concern' to the High Commissioner, such as internal displaced persons (IDPs); organized the voluntary repatriation of refugees from eastern Sudan to Ethiopia and Eritrea; concluded agreements between UNHCR and the governments of Sudan and Ethiopia; served as the legal advisor to the Head of the UNHCR office at Es-Showak, Sudan.

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

***Adjunct Professor, George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs***

2013-2014

Washington, DC

Taught graduate courses in 'security and development' and international peacekeeping

***Adjunct Professor, New York University Center for Global Affairs***

2003-5 and 2013

New York

Taught graduate courses in international human rights and security sector governance

***Lecturer, Oxford University Refugee Studies Program***

2000

***Visiting Professor, Loyola Marymount University, Department of Political Science***

1998

Taught the international human rights course

Andrew Joseph Michels

**Lecturer, University of Newcastle (Australia) College of Law**

1992

Taught courses in aviation Law, contract Law, and foundations of Law

**Lecturer, University of Sydney College of Law**

1990-1991

Taught courses in constitutional law, international law, and 'law, language, and ethics'

***E. Barrett Prettyman Fellow, Georgetown University Law Center***

1988-1990

Awarded Prettyman Fellowship in criminal law and procedure.

**EDUCATION**

**London School of Economics and Political Science**

London

**PhD (candidate)**, International Relations

The Harm Machine: Broken Promises, Politics, Problems and Processes of Armed Humanitarian Interventions:

**New York University and London School of Economics, HEC**

New York, London, Paris

**MBA**, 2005, Concentration in International Commerce

**University of Southern California Law School**

Los Angeles

**JD**, 1988

*Recipient*, American Jurisprudence Award in Property Law

*Chairperson*, USC Student Senate Judicial Council

**Loyola Marymount University**

Los Angeles

**BA**, 1985, Major in Political Science

**University of Newcastle School of Medicine**

Newcastle, Australia

Andrew Joseph Michels  
Medicine, 1992-1993  
Successfully completed the first year of medical school

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

***Nationally Registered Paramedic***, (also licensed in California, Florida, and Virginia)

***Rescue Paramedic [volunteer]***, Calvert Advanced Life Support

***Licensed Pilot***, U.S. Federal Aviation Administration

*Ditchley Park Participant (2012, 2013, and 2017)*

*Fellow, Truman National Security Project*

*Member, Academic Council of the United Nations*

*Member, International Institute of Strategic Studies*

*Fellow, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Trust of the United Kingdom*





Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments  
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

### Andrew Michels



Andrew Michels is the Senior Compliance Monitoring Legal Advisor at the Office of Foreign Investment Review, specifically the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment). Prior to this role, Mr. Michels served as Senior Security Sector and Rule of Law Advisor at United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Prior to taking up his current position, Mr. Michels was Senior Civilian Advisor for the Pakistan Afghanistan Coordination Cell (JPACC) on the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Department of Defense. Prior to joining JPACC, Mr. Michels was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Jamaica, where he led the USAID Democracy and Governance team, overseeing implementation of a multidimensional security sector reform program.

In 2010, Mr. Michels served on the Strategic Interagency Assistance Team (SIAT) in Islamabad, Pakistan. In 2008 and 2009, Mr. Michels was seconded to the International Civilian Office (ICO) in Priština, Kosovo where he served as Head of the Security Affairs Unit. The ICO is a joint US/EU organization charged with supervising Kosovo's declared independence. Mr. Michels supervised the creation of the Kosovo Intelligence Agency, the Kosovo Security Council, and the Kosovo Civilian Aviation Authority. Mr. Michels is an Adjunct Professor at the Center for Global Affairs at New York University and the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. He is a member of the International Institute of Strategic Studies, the Truman National Security Project, the Intelligence and National Security Alliance and the Academic Council of the United Nations.

Mr. Michels is being appointed to the Commission on Human Rights because his experience with international human rights and law would be a great asset to the Commission.

A Ward 2 resident, Mr. Michels holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Loyola Marymount University, a Juris Doctorate from the University of Southern California, a Master of Business Administration in International Commerce from the New York University and London School of Economics and is currently a candidate to receive his PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

**To:** Ronan Gulstone, Steve Walker  
**From:** Betsy Cavendish  
**Date:** May 7, 2021  
**Subject:** Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Andrew Michels, Anika Simpson, Maria Burnett and Lauren Lowery to the Commission on Human Rights

---

**This is to Certify** that this office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'.

---

Elizabeth Cavendish