



S. Frederick Starr, Ph.D., Chairman, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute and Silk Road Studies Program, Johns Hopkins University SAIS

S. Frederick Starr is the founding chairman of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute. He began work in the Turkic world as an archaeologist in Turkey, and went on to found the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies. Dr. Starr served as vice president of Tulane University and president of Oberlin College and the Aspen Institute. He has advised three U.S. presidents on Russian/Eurasian affairs and co-authored the first comprehensive strategic assessment of Central Asia, the Caucasus and Afghanistan for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. His recent work has focused on reopening transcontinental corridors of trade and transport (“the New Silk Road”).

Dr. Starr’s recent publications include *Putin’s Grand Strategy: The Eurasian Union and Its Discontents*, (2014), *Looking Forward: Kazakhstan and the United States* (2014), and *Lost Enlightenment: Central Asia’s Golden Age from the Arab Conquest to Tamerlane* (2013). *Lost Enlightenment* is currently being translated into nine languages. Dr. Starr also edited *Xinjiang: China’s Muslim Borderland* (2004).

Dr. Starr founded the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the largest non-governmental aid donor group following Hurricane Katrina, and leads the Louisiana Repertory Jazz Ensemble of New Orleans, which has toured in Eurasia.

He earned his Ph.D. in History at Princeton, MA at King’s College, Cambridge, and his BA at Yale, and holds four honorary degrees.