

**John Pomfret**  
**Author & former Beijing Bureau Chief, Washington Post**



John Pomfret is an award-winning journalist and writer who has divided his time among the United States, China, Europe, Africa and the Middle East since the 1980s. He was one of the first Americans to study in China following the establishment of diplomatic relations, and was a correspondent in China for the Associated Press and *The Washington Post* for a total of seven years, first in the late 1980s and then again in the early 2000s. Mr. Pomfret wrote the first narrative history of America's relationship with China from the 18th century to the present: *The Beautiful Country and the Middle Kingdom: America and China, 1776 to the Present*. He is also the author of *Chinese Lessons: Five Classmates and the Story of the New China* (2007).

Mr. Pomfret is a contributing writer to the Post's Global Opinions sections and works as a consultant based in California. He frequently speaks about Chinese domestic politics and foreign policy, Chinese culture, marketing to the Chinese, and China's environmental, demographic, and political challenges.

Mr. Pomfret has won awards for his reporting on Asia, including the Osborne Elliot Prize. Pomfret was one of the first American students to go to China after relations were normalized and was expelled from China after the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989. Some of his recent popular pieces, such as "[Why the United States Doesn't Need to Return to a Gentler China Policy](#)" and "[It's Not All on Trump: China Favors Confrontation with the U.S.](#)" (both 2019) analyze U.S.-China strategic competition.

*Mr. Pomfret has not previously testified before the Commission.*