



## Katherine Blakeley

Research Fellow

### SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

As a Research Fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, Ms. Blakeley directs the budget program and works to educate and inform policy makers, senior leaders, and the general public about the defense budget and issues pertaining to resourcing national security. Ms. Blakeley has authored publications on trends in the defense budget, defense acquisitions, military personnel, nuclear weapons, and other issues. She frequently contributes to print and broadcast media, and her writing has appeared in *Politico*, *The Hill*, *Newsweek*, and other publications.

### CURRENT POSITION

Ms. Blakeley is a research fellow at CSBA, an independent policy research institute established to promote innovative thinking about defense planning and investment strategies for the 21st century.

### PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ms. Blakeley began her policy career at the Congressional Research Service (CRS). A legislative agency, CRS works exclusively for Congress, providing authoritative, confidential, objective, and non-partisan policy analysis for Members and Committees of Congress. As a defense policy analyst in the Defense Manpower and Budget section, she worked on a range of defense policy issues, including military manpower and health, acquisitions, and defense energy use. However, she specialized in analysis of the defense budget and defense appropriations, expanding CRS's use of quantitative tools for budget analysis. Her responsibilities included research and drafting of research notes, memoranda, and reports for individual offices and Congress, as well as briefing staff and Members.

After leaving CRS in 2013, Ms. Blakeley became a defense policy analyst at the Center for American Progress (CAP), a non-partisan think tank. At CAP, Ms. Blakeley covered a range of defense issues, including military compensation, veterans, nuclear weapons, and alliance relationships, but continued her primary focus on the defense budget. While at CAP, Ms. Blakeley was the primary author of several reports about the defense budget. She also expanded the national security team's use of innovative publication formats, including infographics and interactives. At CAP, Ms. Blakeley also directed the national security team's internship program.

### EDUCATION

*B.A. in Politics of Language*

Vassar College

*M.A. Political Science*

University of California, Santa Cruz

*Pursuing Ph.D. in Political Science*

University of California, Santa Cruz

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Defense Budgets

Defense Resourcing