

Norman Ornstein

Resident Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and Election Analyst for BBC News

It's Even Worse Than It Looks: Political Polarization in Washington. Nonpartisan congressional scholar Norm Ornstein discusses the hyperpartisanship that has seeped into every part of our political process. His understanding of our political trends led him to write a piece in the Atlantic in August 2015, called "Why This Time Might be Different," predicting Trump's rise. With Congress deadlocked and our two main political parties abandoning the idea of compromise, our political system is at a standstill. Ornstein identifies the two overriding problems in our institutions – the parliamentary shape our system has taken and the vehemently adversarial parties that have become ideologically extreme. With nothing happening simply for the good of the country, both sides would rather block bills they once supported than let the other Party have a "win." Where will this lead? Ornstein can analyze both our politics and the policy direction ahead.

The US Elections. 2016 may be the most unusual—and most pivotal—election in modern times. Norm Ornstein was one of the first to see that Donald Trump could win the Republican nomination, and early on saw the corrosive impact of our partisan, polarized, tribal atmosphere. No one is better able to look at where we are, how we got here, what can happen and what it means.

American Politics and Health Policy. Starting with his book *Intensive Care: How Congress Shapes Health Policy*, Ornstein has closely followed the changes in health policy wrought by Washington's political actors, including via the Affordable Care Act. Where do we go from here? His knowledge of policy, politics and politicians leaves him uniquely suited to address those questions.