

Maura Burns

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Nuclear Energy and Security: Power, Proliferation, and Global Risk. With decades of expertise in nuclear issues, Burns examines the strategic role of nuclear power in meeting global energy demands while managing security and proliferation risks. She offers clear insight into the benefits of small modular reactors, the vulnerabilities across the nuclear fuel cycle, and how adversaries seek to exploit them. Audiences gain a grounded understanding of how policy, technology, and security must align to ensure resilience in the nuclear domain.

Space and Counter-Space: Competing in the Final Frontier. Burns addresses why space has become a critical domain for national security, economic stability, and technological leadership. She explains how adversaries are rapidly advancing their space and counter-space capabilities, creating new risks for governments and commercial operators alike. This session equips audiences with a strategic framework for understanding space as an increasingly contested environment that demands sustained focus and coordinated leadership.

Leadership at Scale: Influencing Change Inside Complex Organizations. Drawing on her experience as a senior executive at the CIA, Maura Burns shares practical lessons on leading at the scale and complexity of a Fortune 200–level enterprise. She explores how to translate a leader's strategic vision into executable plans, managing teams, and drive outcomes through influence rather than directives.