

PETER SALISBURY

Journalist, Researcher, Analyst

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BIO

Veteran researcher and reporter with 15+ years of experience. Meticulous reporter of politics, economics, finance, conflict and diplomacy. Sharp analytical writer for print, online and broadcast outlets and for major research institutions. Comfortable leading teams to the highest professional and ethical standards. British national based in Brooklyn with G-4 visa and full U.S. work authorization.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Research

- Project lead and author of a series of major studies for leading research institutions including International Crisis Group, Chatham House, and the World Bank.
- Often cited as one of the foremost political economy analysts working on Yemen. Noted for ability to distill highly complex political dynamics into readable yet comprehensive narratives.
- Highly regarded for work on other complex geopolitical topics, e.g. the United Arab Emirates' foreign policy.

Journalism

- Broke big business news stories, produced in-depth political reporting from across the Middle East, and reported from the frontlines of a coup and civil war in print, online, and for television/radio news outlets.
- In-depth investigations for Foreign Policy, Vice News, and Businessweek.
- Field/Executive/Producer of award-winning documentaries for VICE on HBO and VICELAND.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Columbia School of International and Public Affairs – Adjunct Professor (Spring 2023)

- Designed and will teach intensive six-week course on policy formation through the lens of Yemen's recent history.

World Bank – Consultant (August 2022-present)

- Political economy lead / co-lead author, Yemen Country Economic Memorandum 2023.
- Political economy consultant, MENA Fragile Conflict and Violence-affected countries Economic Monitor.

International Crisis Group – Senior Analyst, Consultant, Yemen (2018-present)

- Produced a wide range of highly detailed written products ranging from short commentaries and op-eds to carefully sourced longform reports, researched, fact-checked and written to academic/PhD standards, based on extensive field / desk research.
- Led Crisis Group's first advocacy campaign, to prevent a battle for the Red Sea port city of Hodeida, coordinating with analysts across multiple time zones to produce regular, high-quality research and analysis that helped shift the public narrative around the Hodeida issue.

Chatham House – Consultant, Associate Fellow, Senior Fellow (2011–2019)

- Led and co-authored a series of major studies on Yemen, the Gulf, Iraq and the wider Middle East, with a particular focus on illicit trade and military networks, between 2016 and 2019.
- Managed projects on Gulf and Yemen with a combined \$1m budget per annum.

Center for Advanced Defense Studies (C4ADS) – Consultant researcher (2017–2018)

- Helped C4ADS team develop its first research project in Yemen (an investigation of arms smuggling and other illicit networks). Lead researcher/author for several reports on this topic.
- This work prompted a UN Panel of Experts to investigate and publish findings based on early C4ADS work on key arms smugglers, illicit trade deals and financial networks.

Journalist – Freelance Journalist Stringer (Economist, Financial Times) (2010–2019)

- Consistently dug deep, produced stories under tight deadlines and provided clear, vibrant copy for Al Jazeera, the Economist, the Financial Times, Foreign Policy, The Guardian, Reuters and VICE News among others.
- Main Economist and Financial Times stringer in Yemen in 2013 and 2014, covering the September 2014 coup in Sanaa for both publications.
- First journalist in Yemen to provide definitive proof Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh played a key role in the coup. Delved into high-level corruption in Yemen including the disappearance of hundreds of millions of dollars of foreign aid. Reporting for VICE News on the use of cluster munitions and other Western-produced arms in Saudi-led airstrikes in Yemen used as evidence in a High Court case against the UK government.
- Banned from Kuwait for investigative reporting on its government's efforts to buy economic citizenships for its unwanted, stateless population of "bedoun", and temporarily barred from entering Oman for reporting on its prosecution of peaceful protestors in 2012

Vice on HBO / VICELAND – Field/Executive/Producer (2014–2018)

- Field produced "Enemy of my Enemy", first film shot in the northern Yemeni province of Saada in a decade, in 2014; "Return to Yemen," first film to document the human cost of Saudi Arabia-led bombing campaign in Yemen in detail, in 2015. Producer, "A Living Hell in Yemen", shot on the frontlines of the battle for the Red Sea port of Hodeida, 2018.
- Executive producer, VICELAND television series TERROR. Wrote script for first episode, "Al Qaeda in Yemen," led production in Yemen, and acted as a fact checker and script adviser on additional episodes. "Al Qaeda in Yemen" won a Canadian Screen Award in 2018.

Consultant (2012–2018)

- Worked on a series of political economy analysis projects for the World Bank between 2013 and 2016. Produced a first-of-its-kind conflict map of the Yemen civil war for the United Nations in early 2015.

Financial / Economic Journalist (2007–2011)

- Energy Correspondent; Energy Editor, Deputy News Editor, Middle East Economic Digest, Dubai, 2008—2011; Markets Reporter, Markets Editor, ICIS Pricing, London 2007—2008.

EDUCATION

- MSc, International Politics, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, 2011
- Diploma in Journalism, London School of Journalism, 2007
- MA (Hons) English & Scottish Literature, University of Edinburgh, 2005

LANGUAGES, SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Fluent Spanish, basic/conversational Arabic and German. Enough French to get a VICE film crew and their equipment through customs at Djibouti International Airport.
- Excellent public speaker and facilitator/chair. Regular appearances as a commentator on major radio and television outlets.
- Keen photographer. Pictures published in a number of international publications.