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Ms. Schulman most recently served as the Senior Advisor to National Security Advisor Susan Rice. Before returning to the White House in 2013, she was Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, advising on security policy issues related to Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Russia. She served as Director for Defense Policy on the National Security Council staff from 2011–2012, contributing to the 2012 Defense Strategic Guidance, overseeing development of the U.S. Security

Sector Assistance Policy, and coordinating U.S.-Libya policy at the outset of military intervention. Prior to that, she worked as a special assistant to Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, first supporting the Obama administration's transition in the Department of Defense and later advising on the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review, defense reform issues, and major interagency initiatives.

Ms. Schulman is also an affiliate of Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation. She began her career in government as a Presidential Management Fellow. Raised in Texas, she received her Bachelor of Arts in political science and international studies from Trinity University and her Master in Public Policy from the University of Minnesota as a Distinguished Fellow for International Peace and Conflict Studies.