Fareed Zakaria

Host of Fareed Zakaria GPS for CNN Worldwide

World’s #1 speaker on global affairs

Biography

Fareed Zakaria hosts Fareed Zakaria GPS for CNN Worldwide. He is a columnist for The Washington Post and a bestselling author.

Fareed Zakaria GPS is a weekly international and domestic affairs program that airs around the world on CNN. Since its debut in 2008, it has featured interviews with Barack Obama, Emmanuel Macron, Narendra Modi, Vladimir Putin, Benjamin Netanyahu, Condoleezza Rice, Bill Gates, Elon Musk, Greta Thunberg, and the Dalai Lama, among others.

Topics & Books

Geopolitics
International Affairs
Zakaria regularly hosts primetime specials for CNN. They include documentaries on U.S. history and foreign leaders, as well as profiles of extraordinary creators such as Billy Joel and Francis Ford Coppola.

He has been nominated for several Emmys for his television work and has won one. His weekly show has won the prestigious Peabody Award.

Fareed’s Global Briefing, a daily digital newsletter, is one of the most widely read of CNN’s newsletters around the world. His column for The Washington Post remains one of the longest-running for that newspaper.

Zakaria is the author of five highly-regarded New York Times bestselling books. His most recent release, Age of Revolutions: Progress and Backlash from 1600 to the Present, debuted at #2 on the New York Times bestseller list and was called “the indispensable book for understanding the world today” by Walter Isaacson. The book offers insight into how societies have historically embraced and resisted change to help readers better comprehend the four major revolutions in economics, technology, identity, and geopolitics that are shaping our unstable and polarized world today.

Previous titles include: Ten Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World, on how the pandemic reshaped society; The Post-American World, a discussion of the rise of non-Western powers; The Future of Freedom (2003), a study of “illiberal democracy” in various countries; and In Defense of a Liberal Education (2015), a commentary on the importance of a well-rounded education. Three of these were international bestsellers, translated into more than 20 languages.

Zakaria was named a “Top 10 Global Thinker of the Last 10 Years” by Foreign Policy magazine in 2019, and Esquire called him “the most influential foreign policy adviser of his generation.” He has received a National Magazine Award, the Arthur Ross Media Award from the American Academy of Diplomacy, and the Deadline Club Award. In 2010, the Government of India awarded him the Padma Bhushan, one of its highest civilian honors, and in 2022, Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelensky awarded him the Order of Merit.

Prior to his tenure at CNN, Zakaria was editor of Newsweek International, managing editor of Foreign Affairs, a columnist for Time, an analyst for ABC News, and the host of Foreign Exchange with Fareed Zakaria on PBS.

Zakaria earned a bachelor’s degree from Yale University, a doctorate in political science from Harvard University, and has received numerous honorary degrees.