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Peace Through Entrepreneurship: Investing in a Startup Culture for Security and Development

Steven R. Koltai

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Peace through Entrepreneurship

Investing in a Startup Culture
for Security and Development

Steven R. Koltai

with Matthew Muspratt



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Steven R. Koltai : Peace Through Entrepreneurship: Investing in a Startup Culture for Security and Development before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Peace Through Entrepreneurship: Investing in a Startup Culture for Security and Development:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A good mix of stories and policy recommendationsBy Donald A. GoodingA good mix of stories and policy recommendations, this book represents a major contribution and innovation

in foreign policy. In an era where unemployed young males constitute the primary source of terrorist threats, promotion entrepreneurship as a jobs creator makes total sense. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Greg Patterson Important work. Ideas can also apply to inner cities of this country. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Promote jobs peace, not war and conflict. By Roberta Baskin Steven Koltai's book is a fascinating and provocative treatise on reconfiguring our foreign policy to invest in entrepreneurship over Hellfire missiles. It should be required reading for public servants and elected officials to create a more peaceful world.

Joblessness is the root cause of the global unrest threatening American security. Fostering entrepreneurship is the remedy. The combined weight of American diplomacy and military power cannot end unrest and extremism in the Middle East and other troubled regions of the world, Steven Koltai argues. Koltai says an alternative approach would work: investing in entrepreneurship and reaping the benefits of the jobs created through entrepreneurial startups. From 9/11 and the Arab Spring to the self-proclaimed Islamic caliphate, instability and terror breed where young people cannot find jobs. Koltai marshals evidence to show that joblessness—not religious or cultural conflict—is the root cause of the unrest that vexes American foreign policy and threatens international security. Drawing on Koltai's stint as senior adviser for Entrepreneurship in Secretary Hillary Clinton's State Department, and his thirty-year career as a successful entrepreneur and business executive, *Peace through Entrepreneurship* argues for the significant elevation of entrepreneurship in the service of foreign policy; not rural microfinance or mercantile trading but the scalable stuff of Silicon Valley and Sam Walton, generating the vast majority of new jobs in economies large and small. *Peace through Entrepreneurship* offers a nonmilitary, long-term solution at a time of disillusionment with Washington's "big development" approach to unstable and underdeveloped parts of the world—and when the new normal is fear of terrorist attacks against Western targets, beheadings in Syria, and jihad. Extremism will not be resolved by a war on terror. The answer, Koltai shows, is stimulating entrepreneurial economic opportunities for the virtually limitless supply of desperate, unemployed young men and women leading lives of endless economic frustration.

"We are turning the screw of economic development with a rubber screwdriver." That's Steve Koltai's lively take on what is wrong with much official U.S. foreign assistance. Happily, he has a deeply American solution: harnessing the creativity and energy of people around the world in "doing entrepreneurship." He's both a visionary and a pragmatist; his ideas should occupy a much larger place in U.S. foreign policy.—Anne-Marie Slaughter, President and CEO, New America, and former Director of Policy Planning, U.S. State Department Steven Koltai makes the critical point that joblessness in volatile states is a major national security concern that must be addressed by innovative means. America's traditional strength in entrepreneurship represents a promising and much needed tool in the fight against joblessness and the hopelessness, anger, and desperation it creates. Koltai has identified and persuasively argued for an important new element in American foreign policy that must be added to our toolkit.—Admiral (Ret.) James G. Stavridis, Dean, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, and former Supreme Allied Commander, NATO Innovation and the commercialization of innovation through entrepreneurship are hallmarks of the current world economy. The United States has a natural advantage here, which, as Steven Koltai points out, we are nowhere near using to full potential. This is an important book about an important idea that must have a more prominent place in America's future international economic relations.—Robert D. Hormats, former Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs An imaginative, innovative, and inspiring book about the power of entrepreneurs to change lives.—Tara D. Sonenshine, former Undersecretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs *Peace through Entrepreneurship* is an important book. It discusses the considerable work that must be undertaken to deliver a truly powerful solution for a global economy.—Leonard A. Schlesinger, Baker Foundation Professor, Harvard Business School, and President Emeritus, Babson College A must-read for anyone interested in growing economies and creating inclusive prosperity, detailing the many reasons why entrepreneurship matters. One of them is the extraordinary opportunity entrepreneurship provides for women at all levels—from micro to small and medium-size enterprises—to gain economic independence. This is not just the right thing to do but also the smart and strategic thing to do if we want to alleviate poverty, raise the standard of living, enhance development, promote innovation, and drive economic growth.—Melanne Verveer, Executive Director, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security, Georgetown University, and former U.S. Ambassador for Global Women's Issues