



AMBASSADOR IRA SHAPIRO

During a Washington career spanning more than 40 years, Ambassador Ira Shapiro has had a powerful impact in both the fields of American politics and government, and international trade. At a time of unprecedented uncertainty and danger in the United States, and potential turmoil in global trade, Mr. Shapiro's experience, wisdom and insights---delivered with the "honesty and humor" once described as "his stock in trade"--will be meaningful to many audiences.

Mr. Shapiro is currently best known for his new book, *"Broken: Can the Senate Save Itself and the Country?"*, described by former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, as "an unflinching account which describes how dysfunction in the Senate helped open the door to Donald Trump." *Publisher's Weekly* said: "Written to inform and exhort, Shapiro's work is a fast-paced narrative that moderates will appreciate...It takes the impassioned tone of an anguished parent watching his beloved children fail to live up to their potential." Mr. Shapiro's initial speech about the book, delivered at the Brookings Institution, was entitled "The Other Threat to our Democracy: Mitch McConnell's Senate." In its first weeks, *Broken* has received immediate media and public attention. Mr. Shapiro has appeared on "Hardball with Chris Matthews," and C=SPAN Book TV, in "After Words with Ira Shapiro," a one-hour interview by former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle.

Broken is a sequel to Shapiro's first book, *The Last Great Senate: Courage and Statesmanship in Times of Crisis* (2012), a critically-acclaimed narrative history of the Senate of the late 1970s. Reviewers called it "a tour de force" (*Washington Post*); "Profiles in Courage for this generation of leaders (*Philadelphia Inquirer*) and "a historically and politically artistic work of great brilliance" (Richard A. Baker, Senate Historian Emeritus.)

Shapiro's love of politics and passion about government reflects his long Senate career serving some of the most distinguished senators of the era, including Gaylord Nelson, Abraham Ribicoff, Thomas Eagleton and Robert Byrd, before completing his Senate time as Jay Rockefeller's first chief of staff. A veteran of several presidential campaigns, Shapiro served as Deputy Issues Coordinator when Walter Mondale sought the presidency, and later helped Bill Clinton and Al Gore select their vice -presidential running mates. In 2001-2002, he sought the Democratic nomination for Congress in what proved to be the most visible House contest in the country. Although ultimately falling short, Shapiro was praised in the local press for running a "great campaign" and providing "the antidote to cynicism" that he promised to deliver.

His international trade credentials are equally compelling. During the Clinton administration, Shapiro was one of the premier U.S. trade negotiators during what is generally regarded as the most productive period of American trade policy and negotiation. Serving as General Counsel to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), he helped complete the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Uruguay Round, the global trade agreement that created the World Trade Organization and established today's global trade rules. Nominated by President Clinton for ambassadorial rank, and confirmed unanimously by the Senate, Shapiro went on to negotiate solutions to some of the most contentious bilateral trade disputes, including autos and auto parts, semiconductors, and insurance with Japan, and softwood lumber with China. After his departure from government, he played a key role in the successful negotiation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, the first global health treaty done under the auspices of the World Health Organization (WHO). From 2012-2017, Shapiro was chairman Mr. of the National Association of Japan-America Societies (NAJAS).



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Mr. Shapiro's articles have appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post, Bloomberg Review, cnn.com, The Hill, Washington Monthly, Brandeis Magazine, Harvard Journal on Legislation, and several local newspapers. He has spoken all around the United States, including at four presidential libraries (Kennedy, Ford, Carter, and Clinton), as well in Tokyo, Geneva, and Beijing.