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Richard Anderson is Professor of Political Science at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He holds the PhD in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley (1989), the Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton University (1973), and the A.B. (German) from Davidson College (1971). He began his research career as a specialist on Soviet foreign policy but, with the dismemberment of the Soviet Union, shifted to the study of democratization in Russia. In order to place the Russian experience in global context, he has since moved on to the study of the transformation of dictatorship into democracy worldwide. His approach to these issues takes off from the study of political discourse, for which he has not only further improved his initial training in political science but has also developed competence in relevant specialties within the discipline of linguistics. He is now completing a book entitled *Discourse before Democracy*, a prequel to his 2014 book *Discourse, Dictators and Democrats: Russia's Place in a Global Process* (Ashgate).



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