

Heidi Beirich, Ph.D.

Co-Founder // Chief Strategy Officer

Global Project Against Hate and Extremism

Heidi Beirich is an expert on American and European extremist movements, including white supremacy, nativism, antisemitism and antigovernment movements. She earned a doctorate in the political science from Purdue University in 1998 that specialized in European fascism and far-right movements. She also holds M.A. degrees in political science and economics. She is author of numerous academic publications on extremism and co-edited *Neo-Confederacy: A Critical Introduction*, published by the University of Texas Press in 2008.

Beirich is an oft-sought speaker at conferences devoted to battling hate and extremism. She has been interviewed by hundreds of publications including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Boston Globe*, *Los Angeles Times*, and others. She has appeared repeatedly on major television networks and in documentaries and radio programs exploring extremism. She has also testified in Congress on issues related to white supremacy.

For nearly a decade, Beirich led the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project, the premier organization tracking hate and antigovernment movements in the United States. While there, she oversaw the SPLC's yearly count of the nation's hate and hardline, antigovernment groups and contributed to the SPLC's investigative reports. She crafted the SPLC's policy positions on hate crimes and domestic terrorism and spearheaded its many campaigns to reduce the power of hate-driven organizations in American society.