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Prior to joining the NSC, from 2009-2017, Hill was a Senior Fellow and Director of the Center on the United States and Europe at The Brookings Institution, having previously been a Senior Fellow in the Foreign Policy Program at Brookings from 2000-2006. From 2006 to 2009, Hill served as National Intelligence Officer for Russia and Eurasia at The National Intelligence Council. Prior to joining Brookings, Hill was director of strategic planning at The Eurasia Foundation in Washington, D.C., and held a number of positions, from 1991 to 1999, directing technical assistance and research projects at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. During this period, she was Associate Director of the Strengthening Democratic Institutions Project, Director of the Project on Ethnic Conflict in the Former Soviet Union, and Coordinator of the Trilateral Study on Japanese-Russian-U.S. Relations.

Hill has published extensively on issues related to Russia, the Caucasus, Central Asia, regional conflicts, energy, and strategic issues. She is co-author of two editions of *Mr. Putin: Operative in the Kremlin* (Brookings Institution Press, 2013, 2015) with Brookings Senior Fellow Clifford Gaddy, as well as *The Siberian Curse: How Communist Planners Left Russia Out in the Cold* (Brookings Institution Press, 2003). Her monograph, "Energy Empire: Oil, Gas and Russia's Revival," was published by the London Foreign Policy Centre in 2004.

Hill holds a master's in Soviet studies and a doctorate in history from Harvard University where she was a Frank Knox Fellow. She also holds a master's in Russian and modern history from St. Andrews University in Scotland, and has pursued studies at Moscow's Maurice Thorez Institute of Foreign Languages. Hill is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.