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Dr. Yuri Podpaly studied Physics and Nuclear Science and Engineering, focusing on plasma physics and fusion energy, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for both his undergraduate and graduate education. After receiving his Ph.D. in 2012, he came to the National Institute of Standards and Technology on a National Research Council postdoctoral fellowship as an experimentalist working on precision atomic spectroscopy. Yuri's research has included work on rotation and transport in plasmas, conceptual fusion reactor design, X-ray and EUV precision spectroscopy, and atomic physics. His curiosity about next generation energy sources, power distribution, and efficient use of scientific resources drew him to the science policy field. He is currently an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow at the National Science Foundation in the Division of Electrical, Communications, and Cyber Systems (ECCS). His personal interests include history and international relations.