



**Thomas R. Pickering**  
*Board Chairman*

Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering is Vice Chairman of Hills and Company. Tom served as the US ambassador and representative to the United Nations in New York under President George H. W. Bush. He was also the US under secretary of state for Political Affairs under President Bill Clinton.

Tom holds the personal rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the US Foreign Service. In a diplomatic career spanning five decades, he was US ambassador to the Russian Federation, India, Israel, El Salvador, Nigeria, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. In Washington, DC, Tom was assistant secretary of State for the Bureau of Oceans, Environmental and Scientific Affairs; executive secretary of the Department of State, and special assistant to Secretaries of State William P. Rogers and Henry A. Kissinger. In 2012, Tom chaired the Benghazi Accountability Review Board at the State Department.

Tom has a bachelor's degree, *cum laude*, with high honors in history, from Bowdoin College. Tom received a master's degree from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to the University of Melbourne in Australia, and received a second master's degree there. Tom received an honorary doctor-in-laws degree from Bowdoin College, and has received similar honors from 14 other universities. He received the Distinguished Presidential Award and the Department of State's highest award, the Distinguished Service Award.



**James T. L. Dandridge, II,**  
*Board Vice Chairman*

Jim is a retired career senior Foreign Service officer with the rank of minister counselor. His diplomatic assignments included director of the USIA Office of Policy Guidance, USIA and senior advisor for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs at the US Department of State. His assignments abroad included India, Brazil, Bolivia, and Chile. He was designated *chargé d'affaires a.i.* during his assignments at Embassy La Paz and Embassy Santiago.

Jim spent an additional 20 years in the Office of the Inspector General at the State Department as senior inspector, team leader and deputy inspection team leader, and inspection compliance officer for 53 inspections in over 20 countries and seven State Department bureaus. Prior to the Foreign Service, he retired earlier in 1979 as a pioneer US Army Special Operations officer with final assignment as a Special Operations Branch Chief in the Joint Chiefs of Staff (Colonel). His military decorations include the Superior Defense Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, and Vietnam Meritorious Achievement Medal. He was awarded the Joint Chiefs of Staff Badge and earned parachute badges from the US Army, Royal Canadian Armed Forces, and Dominican Republic Armed Forces.

Jim is the 2008 recipient of the US Department of State's Director General's Cup for the Foreign Service for his promotion of the Foreign Service both as a US diplomat and in retirement. He was the recipient of several State Department Meritorious Honor Awards during his career Foreign Service assignments and received the Marks Foundation Award for Creativity in Communication while assigned earlier to USIA.



# Diplomacy Center Foundation

SUPPORTING AMERICAN DIPLOMACY



## Nina N. Ansary

Dr. Nina Ansary is an internationally recognized award-winning author and women's rights advocate. As a UN Women Global Champion for Innovation and Visiting Fellow at The London School of Economics Centre for Women, Peace & Security, she regularly presents her work on women's rights and the impact of institutionalized gender discrimination at major universities and conferences in the US and UK, including Columbia, Oxford, Cambridge, and Harvard, as well as the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington DC, the US Senate Human Rights Caucus, and the World Affairs Councils of America.

Dr. Ansary is the author of *Anonymous Is a Woman: A Global Chronicle of Gender Inequality* (Revela Press, 2020) and *Jewels of Allah: The Untold Story of Women in Iran* (Revela Press, 2015). Dr. Ansary is the recipient of the 2019 Ellis Island Medal of Honor, the 2019 Iranian American Women Foundation (IAWF) Women of Influence Award, and the 2018 Trailblazer Award from Barnard College, Columbia University. She serves on the International Advisory Board of The Cambridge Middle East and North Africa Forum (University of Cambridge), the Board of Trustees at Barnard College, Columbia University, the Iranian American Women Foundation (IAWF), and Persia Educational Foundation.



## Stuart A. Bernstein

A native Washingtonian, Stuart A. Bernstein has led a six-decade career marked by commitment to family, faith, community, and country. While the capstone of a lifetime of service was his appointment in 2001 as U.S. Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark by President George W. Bush, since the early 1960s he has been a leader and innovator in business, philanthropy, international trade policy, and educational and cultural affairs.

A 1960 graduate of American University, Ambassador Bernstein was a member of its Board of Trustees for nearly 20 years and served as Vice Chairman from 1989 to 1997. President George H. W. Bush recognized Ambassador Bernstein's public-spirited commitment to service with appointments first in 1991 to the International Cultural and Trade Center Commission, and then in 1992 to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Currently, Ambassador Bernstein serves on the Board of Trustees of the Council of American Ambassadors and on the Board of the Diplomacy Center Foundation. He is a member of the Council of the Woodrow Wilson Center, a Trustee of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and a Society of Fellows member of the Aspen Institute.



## Ruth A. Davis

During Ambassador Ruth Davis's 40-year career in the Foreign Service, she served as chief of staff in the Africa Bureau (2005-2009), distinguished advisor for international affairs at Howard University (2003-2005), director general of the Foreign Service and director of human resources (2001-2003), director of the Foreign Service Institute (1997-2001), principal deputy assistant secretary for consular affairs (1995-1997), ambassador to the Republic of Benin (1992-1995), consul general in Barcelona (1987-1991), and a consular officer in nations around the globe.

Davis serves on the Senior Seminar Alumni Association and the Advisory Council of the Foreign Service Youth Foundation. She is vice president of the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs, president of the International Mission of Mercy, USA, and chair of the International Women's Entrepreneurial Challenge. She is also a senior adviser to the Thursday Luncheon Group and the International Career Advancement Program (ICAP) at the University of Denver.

Davis received the State Department's Superior Honor Award, the Arnold L. Raphel Memorial Award, the Equal Employment Opportunity Award, the Secretary of State's Achievement Award, the Director General's Foreign Service Cup, two Presidential Distinguished Service Awards; and an Honorary Doctorates of Law from Middlebury and Spelman Colleges. She was named to *The Economist's* 2015 Global Diversity List as one of the Top 50 Diversity Figures in Public Life. she is recipient of The Foreign Service Association's Lifetime Contributions to American Diplomacy Award.



# Diplomacy Center Foundation

SUPPORTING AMERICAN DIPLOMACY



## Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel

Dr. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel was the first director of cultural affairs in New York City, is the author of 24 books on culture, arts, urban, and preservation issues, and has curated eight international traveling museum exhibitions. She was the producer and interviewer for seven television series for the Arts & Entertainment Network and many other national networks.

Dr. Diamonstein-Spielvogel was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum Board and chaired the sub-committee that commissioned their Art for the Public Spaces. In 1996, she was appointed by President William J. Clinton to the US Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) and became the CFA's first woman vice chair in 2002. In 2001, she was the first woman elected an honorary member of PEN-Slovakia. In 2009, President Barack Obama appointed her to the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC). She chaired the ABMC New Memorials Committee and was appointed to the American Battle Monuments Foundation in 2018.

Dr. Diamonstein-Spielvogel was appointed to the New York State Council for the Arts in 2007, serving as vice chair (2013-2016) and chair and CEO (2016-2018). She was the longest-serving member of the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission (1972-1987), later serving as chair of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Foundation (1987-1995). She has been the chair of The Historic Landmarks Preservation Center since 1995 and is also the founder and chair of the NYC Landmarks50+ Alliance.



## Charles Hagel

Chuck Hagel was the 24th Secretary of Defense, serving from February 2013 to February 2015. He is the only Vietnam veteran and the first enlisted combat veteran to serve as secretary of defense. Hagel served two terms in the United States Senate (1997-2009) representing the state of Nebraska. Hagel was a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and Intelligence Committees. He chaired the Foreign Relations International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion Subcommittee; and the Banking Committee's International Trade and Finance, and Securities Subcommittees. Hagel also served as the chairman of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China and the Senate Climate Change Observer Group.

Hagel's current commitments include service on the Board of Trustees of RAND; Advisory Board of Corsair Capital; senior advisor to GALLUP and to the McCarthy Group; centennial scholar, Georgetown Walsh School of Foreign Service; distinguished scholar, University of Nebraska at Omaha; distinguished statesman at the Atlantic Council; Board of Directors of Public Broadcasting Service (PBS); director and founding member of the American Security Project; and Advisory Board chairman of the HillVets Veterans Organization. He is the author of the book, *America: Our Next Chapter* and is the subject of a 2018 book by General Daniel Bolger entitled, *Our Year of War*, and a 2006 book by Charlyne Berens entitled, *Chuck Hagel: Moving Forward* (2006) by Charlyne Berens.



## William C. Harrop

During his 39-year as a Foreign Service officer, William (Bill) Harrop served as the US ambassador to Guinea, Kenya, Seychelles, Zaire, and Israel. He was inspector general of the State Department and Foreign Service, deputy assistant secretary of state for Africa, a member of the State Department's Policy Planning and Coordination staff, and deputy chief of mission to Australia. He also served also in Italy and Belgium.

Harrop is now associated with the Nelson B Delavan Foundation and is the former chair for the Diplomacy Center Foundation Board of Directors. He is a director of the American Academy of Diplomacy, the Senior Living Foundation of the American Foreign Service, American Diplomacy Publishers, and the Humane Rescue Alliance of Washington DC. He is also a member of the Foreign Affairs Council. He received the State Department Distinguished Honor Award, the Presidential Distinguished Service Award, the Foreign Service Cup in 2001, and the AFSA Award for Lifetime Contributions to American Diplomacy in 2015.



## Brenda LaGrange Johnson

### Secretary

Brenda LaGrange Johnson was sworn in November 3, 2005, as the US ambassador to Jamaica. In 2002, President George W. Bush appointed her to the President's Advisory Council to the Arts (PACA) for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, and, in 2004, she was appointed to the Board of Trustees of The Kennedy Center. From 2005 to 2019 Ambassador Johnson was on the Duke University Advisory Board of the Nasher Art Museum. She was a founding member, president, and chairman of the Women's Board of the Madison Square Boys and Girls Club. She was a partner from 1977 to 2005 with BrenMer Industries.

Ambassador Johnson is a member of the National Finance Advisor Council for the George and Barbara Bush Endowment at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. She is also on the Board of Directors of the Rose Town Foundation in Jamaica. Ambassador Johnson served on the USA Board of the Prince of Wales Foundation. Ambassador Johnson is Past President of the Board of The American Friends of Jamaica and on the Board of the St. George's Society. Ambassador Johnson serves on Former First Lady Laura Bush's Women's Initiative Council at The George W. Bush Presidential Library. Ambassador Johnson is a proud Founding Board member of the Council of American Ambassadors. Brenda also serves as a new Trustee of the Presidential Library of George Herbert Walker Bush.



## Michele A. Manatt

Michele Manatt is a seasoned advisor and consultant to a variety of nonprofits. In that work, she brings to bear years of experience at senior levels in the US government, in both the Executive and Legislative branches, and extensive volunteer work with non-governmental organizations and national and state-level political campaigns.

From 2012 to 2016, Ms. Manatt was the chair and founding member of the Council on Women's Leadership at Meridian International Center. She also served on its governing Board of Trustees. Ms. Manatt served over seven years in senior positions in the Clinton/Gore administration. From 1999 to 2001, she was the director of legislative affairs for the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), led by retired four-star Army General Barry R. McCaffrey. From 1993 to 1999, she served as senior policy advisor to three assistant secretaries of state for Western Hemisphere affairs, top State Department officials, and numerous US ambassadors. She was a lead organizer of the Vital Voices of the Americas Conference held in Montevideo, Uruguay, co-hosted by the Inter American Development Bank. Ms. Manatt has a strong commitment to community engagement and voluntarism. In 2019, she was elected to the Community Council of WAMU 88.5 FM, the flagship public radio station of the National Public Radio system.

Ms. Manatt holds a bachelor's degree in political economy from the University of California at Berkeley. She did extensive graduate work in business, finance, and international economics at the George Washington University. She grew up in Los Angeles, California. Ms. Manatt is fully fluent in Spanish and is proud that her children are as well.



## James Patrick Moran, Jr.

James Patrick Moran, Jr. (born May 16, 1945) is a former US representative for Virginia's 8th congressional district in Northern Virginia, including the cities of Falls Church and Alexandria, all of Arlington County, and a portion of Fairfax County. Moran served from 1991 to 2015, and is a member of the Democratic Party. Moran was the mayor of Alexandria, Virginia, from 1985 to 1990, where he resigned to run for Congress. Moran announced on January 15, 2014, that he would retire from Congress at the end of his term. Moran is currently a professor of practice in the School of Public and International Affairs in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech.



# Diplomacy Center Foundation

SUPPORTING AMERICAN DIPLOMACY



## Roman Popadiuk

### *Foundation President*

Roman Popadiuk joined the US Foreign Service in 1981. From 1982 to 1984, he served as a diplomat in Mexico City, Mexico, and, from 1984 to 1986, he worked in the US Department of State and National Security Council. From 1986 to 1989 under President Ronald Reagan, Ambassador Popadiuk served as the assistant press secretary, followed by special assistant to the president and deputy press secretary for foreign affairs and deputy assistant. He continued in these roles under President George H. W. Bush until 1992 when he was appointed to serve as the first US ambassador to Ukraine.

Following his service as US ambassador to Ukraine, Ambassador Popadiuk taught at the Foreign Service Institute and served as the international affairs advisor on the staff of the Office of the Commandant at the former Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Fort McNair in Washington, DC. For 13 years, he was also the executive director of the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation at Texas A&M University. He also serves as chairman of the Board of Directors for the US-Ukraine Foundation and the National Board of Directors of the World Affairs Councils of America—the largest nonpartisan, nonprofit network in the United States dedicated to educating the public on global issues. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



## Eric Rubin

Ambassador Eric Rubin is the current president of the American Foreign Service Association, following his most recent posting as US ambassador to Bulgaria (2016-2019). His previous positions include deputy chief of mission in Moscow, deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian affairs, consul general in Chiang Mai, executive assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, assistant White House press secretary and NSC director for public affairs, and Rusk Fellow at Georgetown University's Institute for the Study of Diplomacy. Ambassador Rubin joined the Foreign Service in 1985 and is a Career Minister in the Senior Foreign Service. In 1994, he was a recipient of a group William R. Rivkin Award for Constructive Dissent by Mid-Level

Officers for his work on the Bosnia crisis.



## Francis X. Taylor

Francis (Frank) X. Taylor was nominated by President George W. Bush to be coordinator for counterterrorism and served in this role from July 13, 2001 until November 15, 2002. In this capacity, he was responsible for implementing U.S. counterterrorism policy overseas and coordinating the US government response to international terrorist activities. President Bush then nominated Taylor to be assistant secretary of state for Diplomatic Security and director of the Office of Foreign Missions, with a rank of Ambassador. Taylor held this office from November 18, 2002 until February 19, 2005. In 2006, President Bush appointed Taylor to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board. From 2014 to 2017 Taylor served as the under secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis for

the Department of Homeland Security.

Taylor has received numerous civilian awards and decorations, including the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal and the State Department Distinguished Honor Award. On August 17, 2017, Taylor was named an executive fellow of the Global Policy Initiative in the new Keough School of Global Affairs at the University of Notre Dame.