

# Ann Barrows McConnell

[ann.barrows.mcconnell@gmail.com](mailto:ann.barrows.mcconnell@gmail.com)

(202) 766-9988

*Contribute to the advancement of U.S. foreign policy by advising and advocating in the fields of public diplomacy, international education and cross-cultural communication.*



Ann McConnell completed 28 years with the United States Foreign Service achieving the senior rank of Counselor. Ann's diplomatic career involved public diplomacy, economic, and consular assignments with seven overseas postings in four different geographic regions and seven years at the Department of State headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Ann McConnell served as Counselor for Public Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Oslo, Norway from 2017-2019, with extended periods filling in as Acting Deputy Chief of Mission. She was Counselor for Public Affairs and American Center Director at the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 2014-2017. She was previously Director of American Centers in Tokyo, Japan (2011-2014) and Beijing, China (2006-2009), and served as an Economic Officer and Ambassador's Executive Staff Assistant at the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (1995-1998). Headquarters' assignments included Country Coordinator in the Office of Public Diplomacy (2004-2005) for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Financial Economist covering Investment Policy in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs (2001-2004); and Political-Economic Officer in the Office of Chinese and Mongolian Affairs (1999-2001). Previous overseas assignments included consular work at the U.S. Embassies in China (1993-1995) and in South Korea (1982).

Ann is a strong advocate for promoting international education. She served as a Board Member of the U.S.-Norway Fulbright Foundation (2017-2019); developed the U.S.-Japan TOMODACHI Exchange Program (2011-2014); managed the in-country U.S.-China Fulbright Program and negotiated two ministerial-level U.S.-China Memoranda of Understanding expanding educational cooperation (2006-2009). Prior to joining the diplomatic corps, Ann worked as a Marketing Specialist for the Armed Forces Recreation Center in Garmisch, Germany, and as a Credit Analyst at the North Carolina National Bank in Charlotte, North Carolina. She taught English in Japan, Taiwan, and Malaysia.

Ann has a Master of Arts degree in International Management and Business Administration from the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Phoenix, Arizona, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations with a minor in Economics from the University of California, Davis.