

Anne Woods Patterson: Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs



Anne Patterson is a Career Ambassador in the Foreign Service. She was Ambassador to Egypt from 2011-2013, Ambassador to Pakistan, 2007-2010, Ambassador to Colombia, 2000-2003, and Ambassador to El Salvador, 1997-2000. She has also served as Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, Deputy Permanent Representative at the US Mission to the United Nations, and the Deputy Inspector General of the Department.

A forty-year veteran of the Foreign Service, Mrs. Patterson has served in a variety of economic and political positions in the Department of State and abroad. She is a two-time recipient of the Secretary's Distinguished Service Award and was named one of Foreign Policy's Top 100 Global Thinkers in 2011. A native of Fort Smith Arkansas, Mrs. Patterson graduated from Wellesley College and is married to retired Foreign Service Officer David Patterson. They have four children.