

Sarah Sewall



Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights

Term of Appointment: 02/20/2014 to present

Sarah Sewall was sworn in as Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights on February 20, 2014. Prior to this position, Under Secretary Sewall served as a Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In 2012, Dr. Sewall was Minerva Chair at the Naval War College and from 2006 to 2009 she served as the Director of Harvard's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy. She joined the Kennedy School in 2000 as Director of the National Security and Human Rights Program, founding the Mass Atrocity Response Operations Project and the Project on the Means of Intervention.

Previously, Under Secretary Sewall was Associate Director for the Committee on International Security Studies at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences from 1998 to 1999. In 1997, she was a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow at Harvard's Program on Negotiations. Dr. Sewall served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Assistance at the Department of Defense from 1993 to 1996. From 1987 to 1996, she served as the Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to U.S. Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell. Dr. Sewall received an A.B. from Harvard College and a D.Phil. from Oxford University.

Under Secretary Sewall serves concurrently as [Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues](#).