

Clifford Sobel, Vice Chair

Clifford Sobel is presently Managing Partner of Valor Capital Group, a growth equity and venture capital investment firm focused on United States and Brazil cross-border opportunities. He is also a partner in Related Brazil, a mixed-use developer with projects in Brazil. Ambassador Sobel served as United States Ambassador to the Netherlands from 2001 until 2005 and Ambassador to Brazil from 2006 until 2009. He received recognition for contributions to bilateral relations from Brazil's Minister of Defense as well as the State Governments of Minas Gerais, Pernambuco, and Sergipe. He was also named Man of the Year by the Brazil-American Chamber. Ambassador Sobel presently serves on the President's Intelligence Advisory Board (PIAB), the Secretary of State's Foreign Affairs Policy Board (FAPB), the Advisory Board for SOUTHCOM. He also serves on the Board of the Council of the Americas, Council of American Ambassadors, Christie's Advisory Board for the Americas, the Advisory Board of The Belfer Center for Sciences and International Affairs at Harvard, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. He is a Member of the Council of Foreign Relations (CFR), and Co-Chairs the Big Barn Dialogues Conference at Yellowstone, Montana, which focuses on the evolving relations between China and the United States. Ambassador Sobel previously served on the Board of the Wenzhou Kean University based in Zhejiang Province, China and the Advisory Board of the American Military Commander of Europe and NATO. By Presidential Appointment he previously served on the US Holocaust Memorial Council, as well as The Naval Post Graduate School Board in Monterey, California. He also served as a Board Member of Diamond Offshore Drilling (NYSE-DO) and the Millennium Promise Board of Directors, and a Board Member of Aegon (NYSE – AEG) and Alpinvest, a fund of funds group based in Amsterdam, NL. He was Chairman of Net2Phone (NASDAQ-NTOP), a pioneer internet telephony company that went public in 1999 and was acquired by AT&T in 2000