

Biography: Ambassador James Franklin Jeffrey

Ambassador Jeffrey is currently the Solanz Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Affairs. A career Foreign Service Officer, Jeffrey retired in 2012 after 35 years service with the rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the Service. He was recalled to duty in 2018 and served until November 2020. During his career he has served as Ambassador to Albania, Iraq and Turkey, Chief of Mission Syria, Deputy National Security Advisor to President George W. Bush, Special Envoy to the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, and Special Envoy for Iraq. Other postings have included Bulgaria, Germany, Tunisia, Kuwait, three prior tours in Turkey, and one prior tour in Iraq.

Jeffrey's wife Gudrun and he have two children, Jahn and Julia. He served as an infantry officer in the United States Army from 1969-1976 in Germany and Vietnam.