



With a career that has spanned five continents, Christina Sharkey champions increasing American prosperity through promotion of U.S. exports, encouraging foreign investment into the United States, and protection of U.S. business interests through trade policy. A former Foreign Commercial Service Officer, she last served as the Executive Director of the Office of the Western Hemisphere, a division within the Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. In this role she managed Commercial Service Offices from Canada to Argentina.

She also held the position of Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of Global Talent Management where she provided policy advice, career counseling, and drove strategic staffing for the Commercial Service Officer Corps.

From 2018 to 2022, she served as the Counselor for Commercial Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Prague, Czech Republic. In this role, she led Embassy efforts in promoting American technologies in the Defense, Energy, Healthcare and IT industries while promoting the U.S. as a prime investment destination for Czech companies and protecting U.S. business interests in Europe.

Christina also held the position of Principal Commercial Officer in Munich, Germany where she led a robust SelectUSA investment promotion program alongside a dynamic trade promotion staff focusing on aerospace, construction and engineering, IT and software, among other goods. She also served as the Deputy Senior Commercial Officer the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, also covering Beirut, Lebanon. During her time there, she led the efforts to establish a partnership post with the U.S. Embassy in Libya, and organized the first USA Pavilion at the Tripoli International Fair. Furthermore, she launched her diplomatic career at the bustling Commercial Offices within the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, China.

She spent three glorious years in San Francisco, California at the U.S. Export Assistance Center where she focused on the Biotechnology industry, leading the first-ever biotech trade mission to China in 2010. It was in the Bay Area that Christina developed a love for entrepreneurship and has since eagerly worked with startups on both sides of the Atlantic to increase business opportunities for creative risk-takers. She started her career in trade working as an operations specialist for Commerce offices in South Asia and later North Africa and the Levant.

Christina holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs and Russian from James Madison University and a Master of Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. She speaks Czech, German, French and Hungarian, while having also studied Mandarin Chinese, Russian and Slovak.