

Christopher W. Smith

Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

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Christopher W. Smith is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nordic, Baltic, Arctic Security, and East Central European Affairs in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs. He served previously as Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine from 2022-2023. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Chris has served overseas in Georgia, Turkey, Afghanistan (with ISAF), Cyprus, Ukraine, and Armenia as Deputy Chief of Mission.

In addition to leadership positions at the State Department in Washington, Chris served as the Director for Eastern Europe and the Caucasus at the National Security Council from 2021-2022. He is a distinguished graduate of the United States Naval War College, where he earned a master's degree in national security and strategic studies. In 2018, Chris received the Warren Christopher Award for Outstanding Achievement in Civilian Security as a result of his work on anti-corruption, justice sector, and law enforcement reform in Ukraine. In 2023, Chris received the James A. Baker Award for Outstanding Deputy Chief of Mission for his leadership as DCM in wartime Kyiv. Chris speaks Russian and Turkish. He is married with three children.