

Elisa Catalano Ewers

For over a decade, Elisa Catalano Ewers served in senior foreign policy and national security positions in the U.S. Government under both Democratic and Republican administrations. Her last position was as a Director for the Middle East and North Africa on the National Security Council staff. She acted as senior policy advisor to the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and before that to the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. She advised each on foreign and national security policy, focusing on the Middle East and counter-terrorism. Her portfolios covered the range of security and political issues, including U.S. policy towards Iran, U.S. policies in response to the "Arab Spring," transition in Iraq, and relations with the Gulf Arab states.



Her other positions at the Department of State included Senior Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of State for Near East Affairs, Chief of Staff to the Secretary's Senior Advisor for the Gulf and Southwest Asia, as well as Chief of Staff to the Secretary's Coordinator for Iraq, and Legislative advisor. She also served at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

Prior to her government service, she had a private sector career at Booz Allen Hamilton and Wellington Management Company.

Ms. Ewers is currently an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security, and a Faculty Lecturer at the Johns Hopkins University Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. She publishes analysis on U.S.-Middle East policy and provides strategic advice to U.S. firms operating in the region.