

Planning for the Future: Transatlantic Cooperation in SMRs Workshop

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Michael Lally, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs in Europe, is based at the U.S. Mission to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium since 2019. He leads a team of two hundred business development professionals located in twenty-four countries focused on direct sales, policy and market development and project advocacy in the member states of the European Union.

Previously, Mr. Lally was Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs in Eurasia from 2017-2019. He led business development teams in Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine to support American private sector efforts in Eurasian markets. In Moscow, Russia, where he worked closely with resident American firms on risk assessment, sanctions compliance, partner due diligence and business development in non-sanctioned sectors. From 2014-2017, Mr. Lally was Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA) in Washington D.C. His area of responsibility included forty-two offices with over four hundred staff located in the EMEA region, where he focused on trade policy, project advocacy and business facilitation for U.S. firms.

Mr. Lally, a Senior Foreign Service Officer, was previously Commercial Counselor at the U.S. Embassy's Commercial Service in Ankara, Turkey and Mexico City, Mexico, and Director of the U.S. Export Assistance Center in Philadelphia. Mr. Lally also served as Senior Commercial Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Baku, Azerbaijan and Almaty, Kazakhstan, where he worked on energy and transportation transactions. Mr. Lally began his Foreign Service career in the U.S. Embassy, Kiev, Ukraine.

In addition to his Foreign Service experience, Mr. Lally was Vice President for Business Development with AES, an independent power producer (Moscow, Russia) and an Energy Analyst with the Science Applications International Corporation (McLean, Virginia).

Mr. Lally holds a Master's Degree from Indiana University and Bachelor Degrees with Honors from The American University in Washington D.C. He is a graduate of the Wharton Management Program of the University of Pennsylvania. He speaks Russian, Spanish and Turkish. He holds Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals for superior federal service in support of U.S. business development in Turkey, Eurasia and Afghanistan. He is a recipient of the Presidential Meritorious Service Award for his performance in Moscow during heightened U.S.-Russian tensions.

Mr. Lally's writings have been published in the *Christian Science Monitor*, *the Foreign Service Journal*, *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, and *Inside a U.S. Embassy*. He has studied trade policy (2011) and international security (2015 and 2021) at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and international credit and trade finance at the Thunderbird School of Global Management.