Access to Experts

Susan Schwab , Ambassador , Former United States Trade Representative

Susan C. Schwab is a professor at the University of Maryland, and a strategic advisor to the law firm of Mayer Brown, LLP. Ambassador Schwab served as United States Trade Representative (2006-09), and as Deputy USTR from 2005-06. Her career has spanned the public, private and non-profit sectors, with an emphasis on international trade and competitiveness.

At USTR, she concluded multiple bilateral free trade agreements, launched the initial Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations and tried to conclude the WTO Doha Round. She initiated and was able to settle a variety of trade disputes with China and others. Previously, Ambassador Schwab served as dean of the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, and president of the University System of Maryland Foundation. In the private sector, she was director of corporate business development for Motorola, Inc., negotiating joint venture agreements in China and developing Asia strategy. Earlier in government, Ambassador Schwab was assistant secretary of commerce and director-general of the US & Foreign Commercial Service, chief economist and legislative director for Senator John C. Danforth (R-MO), a trade policy officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, and an agricultural trade negotiator.

Ambassador Schwab serves on the boards of Caterpillar, FedEx and Boeing. She is a member of the Aspen Strategy Group. She holds a B.A. from Williams College, a master's from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. from The George Washington University.

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