

Panel 1: Applying Foresight in Organisations

Speaker: Rosemarie Forsythe

Former Director, International Political Strategy, Exxon Mobil Corporation



Rosemarie Forsythe has worked as a scholar, diplomat, U.S. policymaker and business executive in the former Soviet Union, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia for over 35 years. Until her retirement in April 2013, Rosemarie was Director, International Political Strategy at the Exxon Mobil Corporation, the world's largest publicly traded oil and gas company. For 16 years, Rosemarie created, implemented and directed international political strategy towards over 70 countries across the globe. In addition to her global responsibilities, she also took on special assignments, including Vice President, Exxon Mobil Russia from 2005 to 2006 as well as other special projects in the Middle East, Asia and Eurasia. Prior to her oil and gas career, Ms. Forsythe was a U.S. diplomat and policymaker for over 15 years, serving in the White House, State Department, and in various U.S. diplomatic postings abroad. As Director for Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian Affairs in the National Security Council of the White House from 1993 to 1995, she helped negotiate the 1994 Nagorno-Karabakh ceasefire between Armenia and Azerbaijan and de-nuclearize Kazakhstan, Belarus and Ukraine. In addition, she established the first formal U.S. policy toward Caspian oil and gas. Ms. Forsythe had diplomatic postings in Europe, East Asia, and the Soviet Union during its final two years. She helped establish many of the new U.S. Embassies in the post-Soviet states. Ms. Forsythe also worked at the Rand Corporation and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Ms. Forsythe holds academic degrees from Indiana University, Columbia University, and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She currently serves on several advisory boards and steering committees, including those for the Center for Non-Proliferation Studies at the Middlebury Institute for International Studies, the School of International Futures in the UK, the Transnational Threats Steering Committee at CSIS, the Eurasia Initiative at CSIS, and the National Museum for Women in the Arts, among others. Ms. Forsythe is also a professional artist and jeweller with her paintings and jewellery in several private collections around the world.