



Center for a  
New American  
Security

**Participant Bios  
Dallas Texas  
November 4-6, 2019**



**Kirsti Kauppi**  
**Ambassador of Finland to the United States**

Ambassador Kirsti Kauppi became Ambassador of Finland to the United States in September 2015. Before that (2012-2015) she was Director General for Political Affairs at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Helsinki. In 2009-2012 Ambassador Kauppi served as Director General for Africa and the Middle East. In 2005 she was appointed Ambassador of Finland to Austria and Permanent Representative to the UN-related international organizations located in Vienna. During her term in Vienna, Ambassador Kauppi also served for three years as the Finnish Governor in the IAEA Board of Governors, including vice-chair of the Board. In addition to Vienna, Ambassador Kirsti Kauppi has served in the Finnish Embassies in Berlin (2003-2005) as Deputy Chief of Mission, Washington (1997-2000), and Bangkok (1989-92). Ambassador Kauppi's solid knowledge of European Union affairs builds on her four-year service (1993-1997) in the Finnish Permanent Mission to the EU in Brussels. From 2001-2003 she was head of EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy coordination in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Helsinki. This was after serving two years as advisor to the State Secretary. In the beginning of her career in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1983, Amb. Kauppi worked primarily with development cooperation issues, including a two-year period (1985-86) in the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva. Ambassador Kirsti Kauppi was born in 1957 in Oulu, Northern Finland. She studied in the Helsinki School of Economics and Business Administration and received her Master's degree in Economics in 1981. She first joined the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland in 1983. Ambassador Kirsti Kauppi is, in addition to her native Finnish, fluent in English, Swedish, German and French. She is an avid reader of history and enjoys walking and bicycle riding in her free time.