

Ambassador Robin Raphel

Ambassador Robin Raphel is an expert in political, security, and economic development issues in South Asia and the Middle East. She served nearly 40 years in U.S. foreign affairs agencies, including the Department of State, DoD, USAID and CIA. She was the first Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, Ambassador to Tunisia, and Vice President of the National Defense University, and Deputy Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. She managed the sharp increase in development assistance to Pakistan under the late Ambassador Holbrooke, and deployed to Iraq with the first civilian contingent after the 2003 invasion to help restore the critical food ration system throughout the country. Earlier in her career she served in Pakistan, India, South Africa, and the UK, and taught history at a women's college in Iran.

Ambassador Raphel holds a BA in History and Economics from the University of Washington, and Master's degrees in Economics from the University of Maryland and in History from Cambridge University in the UK.