

College of International Security Affairs
National Defense University

Ambassador Mary Jo Wills
Visiting Professor
Department of State



Education

- Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies and Ph.D. Candidate, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech
- M.S., National Security Strategy, National War College
- M.B.A., Business Administration, Virginia Tech
- B.A., History, Chatham University

Research Interests

- Foreign Policy Analysis
- National Security Strategy
- International Diplomacy
- Public Affairs and Policy
- Africa Studies and Economic Development

Ambassador Mary Jo Wills, former Ambassador to Mauritius and the Seychelles is a career diplomat with over thirty years of experience in international affairs. AMB Wills was confirmed by the Senate as Ambassador to the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Seychelles on December 24, 2009. Before that, she served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Southern African Affairs and Public Diplomacy, and Public Affairs in the Department of State, Bureau of African Affairs. She previously served as Director of the Office of Southern African Affairs, as well as Director of the Bureau's Economic Policy Staff.

In the course of her career, AMB Wills served as Deputy Principal Officer at the U.S. Consulate in Milan, Italy. She has also served in the Economic Bureau of the Department of State as Chief of the Special Trade Activities Division, and Deputy Chief of the Textile Trade Policy Division. In addition to her work in the

Economic Bureau, AMB Wills served as an International Economist in the European Bureau's Office of Economic and Regional Affairs. Earlier in her career AMB Wills was Desk Officer for Nigeria, Sierra Leone and the Gambia. She has also served at other posts abroad in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East.

AMB Wills is the recipient of the Department of State's Superior Honor Award and has been twice awarded the Department of State's Meritorious Honor Award as well as other awards for exceptional performance. In 2013 she received the Distinguished Alumna Award from Chatham University.