



# Laura J. Gross (SES)

Director, Global Threat Reduction



Laura J. Gross, a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES), is the Director of the Global Threat Reduction Directorate for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. In her role as Director, Global Threat Reduction, she implements the Cooperative Threat Reduction program and two international security cooperation authorities, operating across five geographic combatant command areas of responsibility. Ms. Gross is also responsible for DTRA implementation of the Proliferation Security Initiative and U.S. arms control activities.

Ms. Gross joined DTRA in June 2024 as the SES Director of the On-Site Inspection and Building Capacity Directorate. Ms. Gross was promoted to SES in September 2016 at the Department of State where she was the Director for Chemical and Biological Weapons Affairs in the Bureau of Arms Control, Deterrence, and Stability, and also served as the Executive Director of the U.S. National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Prior to taking on her SES role at the Department of State, Ms. Gross worked for 18 years at the Department of Defense. She served in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy as the Principal Director for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia; the Principal Director for Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction; and as the U.S. Steering Committee co-chair for the Committee on Proliferation (Defense) at NATO. Ms. Gross also worked at the Missile Defense Agency and as an arms control analyst and missile defense team leader at SAIC.

Ms. Gross has over 29 years of experience developing and implementing foreign and defense policy related to regional affairs, arms control, countering weapons of mass destruction, non-proliferation, and missile defense. She has received the Secretary of Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Award, three DoD Exceptional Civilian Service Awards, four Under Secretary of Defense Group Achievement awards, and four Superior Honor and one Meritorious Honor Group Award from the Department of State.

Ms. Gross earned a Master of Science in Defense and Strategic Studies from Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, and a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. She was awarded the H.B. Earhart Fellowship in International Security while at Southwest Missouri State University.