

BELGIUM—U.S. RELATIONS



WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH
NOON
238 HRCB



His Excellency

Jan Matthysen

BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

His Excellency Jan Matthysen was appointed Belgian ambassador to the U.S. in 2009, having previously served as ambassador in Bangkok to Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Burma, and in Ankara to Turkey, Azerbaijan, and Turkmenistan (2000–09). His previous diplomatic career included service as the acting head of the General Directorate for Political-Military Affairs and a senior advisor on Kosovo to the UN Secretary General's Special Representative for the Balkans (1999–2000), head of the NATO desk at

the headquarters of the Foreign Ministry in Brussels (1997–99), chargé d'affaires and later ambassador in Belgrade (1994–1997). Having joined the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1984, he became first secretary at the Belgian Embassy in Bonn, then counselor at the embassy in East Berlin, a position which he held through the German reunification in 1990. Matthysen received a degree in contemporary political history from Ghent University in 1973. He and his wife, Agnes Aerts, are the parents of five children.