



Global Awareness Lecture
Winter 2008

Hungary and Her Ally the United States

His Excellency

Ferenc Somogyi

Hungarian ambassador to the U.S.

Wednesday, 20 February

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His Excellency Ferenc Somogyi became ambassador in August 2007, having previously served as Hungary's minister of foreign affairs (2004–06) and more recently, as director for international affairs of Magyar Telekom, a Hungarian telecommunications company (2006–07). Somogyi's also held various other positions in the private sector, including chief executive officer of Stonebridge Communications in Macedonia (2001–04), director of Euro-Atlantic integration for Matáv Hungarian Telecommunications (1998–2001), faculty director for the College of Foreign Trade in Budapest (1992–94), and chairman of Exportguarantie Ltd. (1992–94). In addition, he has served numerous postings in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including state secretary for Euro-Atlantic integration (1996–98), during which time he was chief negotiator for several treaty talks, as well as professional state secretary (1994–96; 1990–91), state secretary (1989–90), head of the Department for Multilateral and Global Issues (1984–89), and senior desk officer (1973–80). His postings abroad include deputy permanent representative to the UN in New York (1980–84), second secretary at the Hungarian Embassy in Nigeria (1971–73), and attaché at the embassy in Burma (1969–71). Somogyi received degrees in international relations from the University of Economics and the College for Political Sciences in Budapest, as well as a doctoral degree in world economics from the University of Economics. He and his wife, Andrea, are the parents of two children.