

Maryum Saifee

Maryum Saifee is a U.S. diplomat with the U.S. Department of State. She is currently a senior advisor in the Secretary's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Saifee started her foreign service career in Cairo at the start of the Arab uprisings in 2011. She later served in Baghdad during the U.S. military withdrawal from Iraq and was spokesperson for the U.S. consulate in Lahore. In Washington, she was a policy advisor in the Bureau of International Organization Affairs, the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, and the Secretary's Office of Religion and Global Affairs. Prior to joining the State Department, she was a Peace Corps volunteer in Jordan and an AmeriCorps volunteer in Seattle. She also consulted for the United Nations Development Program, Acumen Fund, and the Ford Foundation. In 2018, Maryum took a sabbatical from the State Department to pursue a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship where she worked with the Human Rights Foundation. In her personal capacity, she also led a 30-person task force on State Department reform as a senior visiting fellow at the Truman Center for National Policy. She is a 2019 Presidential Leadership Scholar and a 2021 Women inPower Fellow. Saifee is a graduate of Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs with a focus on human rights issues in the Middle East.