

**John Ritchie**  
**Senior Foreign Service Officer (Retired)**

A former academic specializing in American Foreign Policy and Latin American Politics, Dr. Ritchie (B.S. and M.S., University of Wisconsin; and Ph.D., Southern Illinois University) served more than 30 years as a career diplomat, rising to the level of Senior Foreign Service Officer. Twenty-two of those years were spent at posts abroad (Peru, Poland, Brazil, Spain, Uruguay, and Mexico). In Washington, he served as a Policy Planning Officer for the Western Hemisphere and in the Office of Cuban Affairs. For the past 12 years, he has focused on U.S.-Mexico relations, first as Counselor of Embassy for Labor Affairs, then as Consul General in Monterrey, and later as Coordinator for U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs. Dr. Ritchie was a guest speaker at the White House, National War College, Foreign Service Institute, CIA, other federal agencies, and a number of U.S. and foreign universities. He received special awards from the U.S. Departments of State, Labor, and Commerce. Since 2007, he has been a Liaison Officer for the Department of State to the U.S. Congress and then to the State of Texas (immigration and travel issues). He has spoken to more than a dozen foreign relations committees throughout the United States.