



**LiveAtState** | November 20<sup>th</sup> | Global Entrepreneurship

Please join the U.S. Department of State on **Tuesday, November 20, 2012 at 14:00 GMT (09:00 EDT)** for an online press conference with **Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Jose Fernandez**.

Strengthening innovation and entrepreneurship is a key component of the United States Government's economic statecraft agenda and an important pillar of our Global Engagement diplomacy strategy. Assistant Secretary Fernandez will preview the upcoming [Global Entrepreneurship Summit](#) in Dubai and highlight U.S. efforts to create strong economic and business environments in the Middle East and North Africa. He will respond to questions from participating foreign journalists.

**DETAILS:**

**Speaker:** Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs  
Jose Fernandez

**Topic:** Global Entrepreneurship Summit and Economic Development  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 20, 2012  
**Time:** 9:00 EDT | 14:00 GMT  
**Language:** English

**Ground rules:** ON THE RECORD

**Link:** <https://liveatstate.connectsolutions.com/entrepreneurship/>

**Email address:** During the webchat, if participants need to send questions via email instead of the webchat interface above, they should send them to [Live@state.gov](mailto:Live@state.gov) and we will add them to the queue.

**Dial-in Info:** Participants can also call this listen-only phone line to hear Assistant Secretary Fernandez.

USA (Domestic): (877) 336-1829  
International: (636) 651-0002  
Access Code: 5806095

**RSVP:** To [Live@state.gov](mailto:Live@state.gov) with names and affiliations of journalists by 15:00 EDT November 19, 2012

## **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:**



### **Jose W. Fernandez**

Assistant Secretary

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Term of Appointment: 12/01/2009 to present

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Mr. Fernandez serves as the Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs. He leads the Bureau that is responsible for overseeing work on international trade and investment policy; international finance, development, and debt policy; economic sanctions and combating terrorist financing; international telecommunications and transportation policies; and support for U.S. businesses and the private sector overseas.

Nominated by President Obama on August 6, 2009, Mr. Fernandez was sworn in as Assistant Secretary on December 1, 2009. Mr. Fernandez came to the State Department after having served as a partner in the New York office of Latham & Watkins, and Global Chair of the firm's Latin America practice. For nearly three decades, his practice has focused on Latin America, Europe and Africa, advising clients on international mergers and acquisitions, financings, trade and other matters as the economies of these regions have evolved.

Mr. Fernandez was named one of the "World's Leading Lawyers" by Chambers Global for his M&A and corporate expertise, an "Expert" in International Financial Law Review's "Guide to the World's Leading Project Finance Lawyers", and one of the "World's Leading Privatization Lawyers" by Euromoney Publications. He is recognized as a leading Corporate Finance attorney in the Latin American market in the Chambers Global 2008 legal guide and a leading Latin America attorney in the Chambers U.S. 2008 legal guide. He was featured by Hispanic Business Magazine in its "100 Influentials List" for 2006 and 2007.

A lifelong supporter of education, the arts and commercial engagement, prior to his appointment at the State Department Mr. Fernandez served on the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College and on the Board of Directors of Accion International and the Council of the Americas. He has been chair both of the American Bar Association's Inter-American Law Committee and the Committee on Inter-American Affairs of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, and co-chair of the Cross Border M&A and Joint Ventures Committee of the New York State Bar Association. He recently headed the Latin American and Caribbean division of the ABA's Rule of Law Initiative. He has also served on the boards of NPR-station WBGO-FM, Ballet Hispanico of New York and the Middle East Institute. He was a co-founder of TeatroStageFest, a 2-week Latino theater festival in New York City, and was appointed a Commissioner of New York's Latin Media and Entertainment Commission. Mr. Fernandez is a member of the Council of Foreign Relations.

Mr. Fernandez graduated magna cum laude with high honors from Dartmouth College earning a bachelors degree in history, and also received an honorary degree from the college. He earned a J.D. from the Columbia University School of Law, where he received the Charles Evans Hughes Prize and a Parker School Certificate of International Law with Honors.

### **LiveAtState**

LiveAtState is the U.S. Department of State's interactive on-line video platform for engaging with international media on the top foreign policy issues of the day. Invited journalists from around the world will be able to submit questions and receive live video answers from U.S. policymakers through this on-the-record "virtual press briefing" format. By harnessing cutting edge webchat technology, we are able to cross borders and time zones more than ever before, offering international media new opportunities for engaging in meaningful discussion with U.S. policymakers.

### **How to Log in to LiveAtState**

To log into the LiveAtState event, participants should click or paste this link into their browser:

<https://liveatstate.connectsolutions.com/entrepreneurship/>

Journalists should log in by selecting "Guest" on the form. They should enter their name, media outlet and country in the "Name" box.

### **How to Ask Questions in LiveAtState**

During the LiveAtState event, participants can enter questions into the Q&A box at the bottom of the screen in the "Press Questions" window or they may email questions to [Live@state.gov](mailto:Live@state.gov). Questions may also be submitted in advance to the same email address.