

CURRICULUM VITAE

MARGARET TWOMEY



Margaret Twomey was born in the rural Victorian town of Shepparton on 21 February 1963 where she received both her primary and secondary education. In 1981, she undertook a combined honours degree in Russian and French (language and literature) at the University of Melbourne.

Graduating in April 1985, Ms Twomey joined the Department of Defence (Melbourne) as a graduate trainee, where she worked as a strategic analyst for three years.

In January 1988 Ms Twomey joined the foreign service training program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, where she worked for the next two years in the East Europe Branch.

In December 1989 Ms Twomey took up her first diplomatic posting, as Third Secretary (political and economic) at the Australian Embassy in Belgrade – where she also had diplomatic accreditation to Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.

Upon her return to Canberra in May 1992, Ms Twomey was seconded to the Office of National Assessments where she worked for two years as the organisation's East Europe analyst, specialising in Balkans affairs. In 1994 she returned to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade where she worked for two years in the Strategic Assessments Branch.

In December 1995 Ms Twomey became First Secretary (later Counsellor) at the Australian High Commission in London.

On completion of her London posting in February 2000, Ms Twomey went on to Suva, Fiji, where she assumed the role of Counsellor and Deputy High Commissioner. She was also accredited to the Pacific island states of Nauru and Tuvalu.

Upon promotion to the Senior Executive Service in March 2002, Ms Twomey returned to Canberra where she took up the role of Branch Head for Northern, Southern and Eastern Europe Branch which included responsibility for Russia and countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

In August 2004 Ms Twomey became Australia's third Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of East Timor, completing her term in January 2008.

In June 2008 Ms Twomey became Australia's sixth resident Ambassador to the Russian Federation, with non-resident accreditations to Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Ms Twomey returned to Canberra in January 2013 where she was Assistant Secretary Policy Planning Branch until November 2014.

Ms Twomey returned to Fiji for her second posting, this time as Australian High Commissioner, in November 2014.

On return to Canberra, Ms Twomey moved to the Office of National Intelligence (on secondment) to take up a role as Assistant Director-General.

In July 2020, Ms Twomey commenced her posting as Ambassador of Australia in Rome. She was accompanied to Rome by her cat, Alphonsia (known as Fonsie).