



EASTERN EUROPE

Small Modular and Advanced Reactor Planning Workshop IV

MAY 24-25, 2022 | BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

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Mr. Friedman assumed his duties as Senior Advisor for Commercial Competitiveness in Nuclear Energy in the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation (ISN) at the Department of State in September 2021. As Senior Advisor, he is responsible for developing and implementing whole-of-government strategies to support civil nuclear power projects which adhere to the highest international standards of security, nonproliferation, and safety while advancing clean energy transitions globally.

Previously, Mr. Friedman served as Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the U.S. Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria (2018-2021) and as Political Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey (2014-17). Other overseas assignments include DCM at the U.S. Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei (2006-8), and positions in Croatia (2003-6), Canada (1997-9) and Ukraine (1995-7).

In Washington, Mr. Friedman served as the Director of the State Department's Office of Caucasus Affairs and Regional Conflicts (2011-13) and as Director of the Office of Export Control Cooperation in ISN (2009-11). His other Washington assignments were as Special Assistant for Caspian Basin Energy Diplomacy (2001-2) and on the Russia Desk (1999-2001). Mr. Friedman has been awarded two State Department Superior Honors and five Meritorious Honor Awards.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Mr. Friedman was Vice President of International Technology Consultants, a Washington, DC-based telecommunications market consulting firm. Mr. Friedman was a distinguished graduate of the National War College, where he received an M.S. in National Security Strategy. He also holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley and an M.A. in International Affairs from Columbia University. He speaks Bulgarian, Turkish, Russian, Croatian and French.