

Eduardo Aguirre U.S. Ambassador to Spain and Andorra (Retired) Chairman and CEO Atlantic Partners Group, L.L.C.

Eduardo Aguirre is former U.S. ambassador to Spain and Andorra. His 45-year professional career spans government service, banking and business consulting.

As ambassador to Spain and Andorra, he oversaw a multitude of bilateral issues, including national security; foreign investment; intelligence development, sharing, analysis and cooperation; defense cooperation; and commercial, trade and economic interests. After President Rodriguez Zapatero withdrew Spanish troops from Iraq in 2004, Ambassador Aguirre was charged by President Bush and Secretary Rice, to reducing tensions and normalizing U.S. relations with the Spanish government.

Ambassador Aguirre also served in other positions in President George W. Bush's administration, including first director of the newly created U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), an under-secretary ranked position in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. There, he led a team of 15,000 to enhance national security, re-engineer processes, and establish a brand identity for USCIS. He was also the acting Chairman and CEO of the U.S. Export-Import Bank, where he was responsible for leading the financing of complex transactions in transportation, technology and energy projects, among others. While chairman he guided the bank through the congressional re-authorization process, and made significant improvements to the bank's productivity, risk management structure, and service model to U.S. exporters.

Prior to entering public service, Ambassador Aguirre held multiple global executive roles with Bank of America for more than 24 years; retiring as president of its International Private Bank. His expertise spans international trade, foreign exchange risk management, regulatory compliance and investment management. His extensive community service includes having served as Chairman of the Board of Regents of the University of Houston System. Currently, he serves on the boards of the Greater Houston Partnership, Texas Children Hospital, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, and the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A & M University.

Ambassador Aguirre is chairman and CEO of Atlantic Partners Group L.L.C., a consulting group offering strategic, geopolitical and business advice to clients seeking to maximize their domestic and transatlantic business opportunities. He also serves on several corporate boards, including the U.S. subsidiaries of Spanish multinationals BBVA, a global financial services group, and Iberdrola Renewables, a leader in optimized renewable energy solutions. As part of his board duties, he chairs various committees including Audit and Compliance. Aguirre is also Senior Advisor to the law firm of Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Ambassador Aguirre was granted the Order of Isabella the Catholic-Grand Cross, a prestigious Spanish civil order in recognition of his distinguished diplomatic services. He was also awarded the highest civilian decorations by The Holy See, Andorra, the Royal House of Rwanda, Pakistan, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic. He is a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor; and the Americanism Award by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Ambassador Aguirre earned a Bachelor of Science from Louisiana State University. He is a Certified Commercial Lender, and has received honorary doctorates from the University of Connecticut, the University of Houston, and the Universidad Tecnologica de Santiago, Dominican Republic.