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## John Byerly

*Former Deputy Assistant Secretary  
US State Department*

John Byerly advises clients from the United States and abroad on the full range of international aviation issues, including negotiations, economic and environmental regulation, aviation safety and security, government relations, and strategic planning. He draws on over three decades of service in the U.S. Government; extensive contacts in the private sector, international organizations, and governments around the globe; and a record of successfully establishing Open Skies as the global template for air transportation.



John Byerly graduated with highest honors from the University of North Carolina, studied European and German law on a Fulbright Scholarship at the Free University of Berlin, and received his Juris Doctor degree from Yale in 1979. Upon graduation, he joined the Department of State, serving thirty-one years in positions covering a wide range of duties in American foreign policy, national security, and international economic relations, including in the Office of the Legal Adviser, Bureau of African Affairs, and Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs.

From 2001 until his retirement in October 2010, John Byerly was Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Transportation Affairs. He oversaw the negotiation of market-opening air transport agreements with over 70 countries and personally led the U.S. delegation in talks that secured Open Skies with, among other nations, Germany, France, the European Union and its Member States, and Japan (2009). He participated actively in the formulation and implementation of U.S. policy on aviation and maritime security in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Byerly worked closely with the Federal Aviation Administration, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the European Commission, the International Air Transport Association, and other governmental and private organizations on a broad spectrum of aviation safety, environmental, and commercial issues. He also testified before the U.S. Senate to secure advice and consent to ratification of the 1999 Montreal Convention on airline accident liability.

Byerly was selected in 2012 for the L. Welch Pogue Award for lifetime achievement in aviation. He has also received Aviation Week's "Laureate Award" for Commercial Aviation, the Williams Trophy from the Washington Airports Task Force, and the Rockwell Schnabel Award for contributions to U.S.-EU relations. He is a frequent speaker on aviation issues, including at the International Aviation Club, Chatham House, various ICAO conferences, the Japan International Transport Institute, and the European Aviation Club.