



Charlene Barshefsky

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Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky, Senior International Partner at WilmerHale in Washington, D.C., advises multinationals and private equity firms on their global market access, investment and acquisition strategies across the globe. She joined WilmerHale after serving in President Clinton's Cabinet as the U.S. Trade Representative from 1997 to 2001 and previously acting and deputy U.S.T.R.

As the U.S.T.R., Barshefsky formulated U.S. trade policy and negotiated hundreds of complex trade and investment agreements that opened markets, removed regulatory barriers and cemented protections for U.S. investment worldwide.

Among her historic agreements, Barshefsky was the architect and negotiator of China's WTO agreement, opening China's economy as a worldwide market. She negotiated landmark global market opening agreements in financial services, telecommunications, technology products, and cyberspace. Agreements with strong foreign policy elements included her trade agreement with Vietnam, which paved the way for normalization of relations, and Free Trade Agreement with Jordan, the first ever with an Arab state.

Ambassador Barshefsky serves on the Boards of Directors of the American Express Company, the Estee Lauder Companies, Intel Corporation, and Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide. She is a Trustee of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.