U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION

Richard "Rich" Cooper

Vice President, Emerging Issues & Research
U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Richard "Rich" Cooper is vice president of emerging issues & research for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. He leads the Foundation's Emerging Issues program in examining matters that will impact the United States and its private sector over the next 2 to 10 years. In addition, he directs a team of scholars, fellows, researchers, and managers who present programming, publications, and events to better inform and best prepare the Chamber's leaders, members, and stakeholders for the future. Cooper also serves as the editor-in-chief of the Foundation's award-winning publication, the Business *Horizon Quarterly* (*BHQ*).

Furthermore, Cooper is a principal with Catalyst Partners, LLC, a government and public affairs practice in Washington, D.C., focusing on homeland and national security matters. He is the past chairman of the Homeland Security Division of the National Defense Industrial Association; a senior fellow with The George Washington University's Homeland Security Policy Institute; and an adviser to NYU's International Center for Enterprise Preparedness. Cooper posts regular commentaries on Security Debrief and Defense Media Network.

From 2003 to 2006, Cooper served as business liaison director for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS's) Private Sector Office, where he helped form department policies and programs for private sector preparedness and continuity. At DHS, he worked closely with Hurricanes Katrina and Rita relief efforts, the 9/11 Commission, the Ready-Business campaigns, and others.

Before joining DHS, Cooper was a senior policy adviser at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), working as special assistant to the NASA administrator and chief of staff/White House liaison. Other positions included program architect for NASA's Educator Astronaut Program and strategic communications for the Space Shuttle Columbia accident.

Previously, Cooper served as president of Global Initiatives, Inc., a Virginia-based small business that provides consulting services to the private and public sectors in the high-tech and aerospace communities.

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Cooper holds a B.A. in political science and religion from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and is working toward a Master of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech. He also holds a Certificate from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, National Preparedness Leadership Initiative, as well as a Certificate in Counter-Terrorism Studies from the University of Southern California's National Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events.

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