

Dr Ernest J. Moniz Co-chair and CEO, Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI)

Biography

Former U.S. Secretary of Energy, Dr Ernest J. Moniz, is the Co-chair and Chief Executive Officer of the Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI), a nonprofit organization that has advanced innovative solutions for securing nuclear materials, building international cooperation for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, preventing the spread of disease, and reducing radiological threats. He also is the Founder and CEO of the EFI Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating the public on issues relating to harnessing the power of technology and policy innovation to accelerate the clean energy transition.

Dr Moniz served as the thirteenth United States Secretary of Energy from 2013 to January 2017. In that role, he advanced energy technology innovation, nuclear security and strategic stability, cutting-edge capabilities for the American scientific research community, and environmental stewardship. He also strengthened the Department of Energy's (DOE) strategic partnerships with its seventeen national laboratories to produce science-based policy proposals that attracted strong bipartisan support. A key architect of the Paris Agreement on climate change and Mission Innovation at COP 21, Professor Moniz championed international initiatives that placed energy, science, and technological innovation at the center of the global response to the climate crisis. He also negotiated the historic Iran nuclear agreement alongside Secretary of State John Kerry. Professor Moniz was the Founding Director of the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI) and Director of the Laboratory for Energy and the Environment.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree summa cum laude in physics from Boston College, a doctorate in theoretical physics from Stanford University, and has received multiple honorary doctorates.