

Opening Statement of Erin Browne
Nominee to Serve as Under Secretary for International Affairs at the U.S. Department of
the Treasury
U.S. Senate Committee on Finance
July 16, 2026

Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Wyden, and distinguished Members of this Committee:

I am deeply grateful to President Trump for his confidence in me and for his leadership in restoring an America First economic agenda that puts American workers, American industry, and American strength at the center of international economic policy. I am also grateful to Secretary Bessent for his trust and leadership.

Before I begin, I would like to introduce my family. Seated behind me are my parents, my husband, Chris, and our five-year-old son, Declan, who was especially excited to come to the Senate today. Our younger son is only three years old, and while he is with us in spirit, we thought it best to spare the Committee from an endless stream of “why” questions this morning.

For Chris and me, today is particularly meaningful. We actually met as students at Georgetown University just a few miles from here. After years of navigating the global markets in New York and Newport Beach, the opportunity to return to Washington in service to our country is deeply humbling.

I come before you after more than two decades in global financial markets, most recently serving as Managing Director and Head of Asset Allocation at PIMCO. My work focused on assessing geopolitical and macroeconomic risk, navigating periods of financial stress, and helping safeguard the retirement savings of millions of Americans during times of extraordinary uncertainty.

Those experiences reinforced a lesson that is central to this role: economic policy and national security are increasingly inseparable. For too long, however, the United States tolerated an international economic system that rewarded unfair trade practices, weakened American manufacturing, hollowed out critical supply chains, and advantaged strategic competitors at the expense of American workers.

President Trump has changed that trajectory.

Under his leadership, the United States is no longer accepting economic decline as inevitable. We are rebuilding American industrial capacity, reasserting economic sovereignty, and using our economic leverage to advance the interests of the American people.

If confirmed, I will advance that mission with a focus on three priorities.

First, I will work to ensure fairness and reciprocity in the global trading system. The United States must no longer allow non-market economies to exploit open markets while shielding their own industries through subsidies, currency practices, forced technology transfer, and state-

directed economic policies. If confirmed, I will focus on strengthening American supply chains and promoting American economic statecraft that puts the interests of American workers and manufacturers first.

Second, I believe maintaining the predominance of the U.S. dollar is central to American economic and geopolitical leadership. The dollar remains the world's reserve currency because investors trust the stability of American institutions, the rule of law, and the depth of our capital markets. Preserving dollar predominance is not simply an economic priority—it is a strategic national advantage that strengthens American influence, reinforces our sanctions regime, lowers borrowing costs, and underpins global confidence in the United States. To sustain that leadership in the digital age, the United States must lead responsibly in financial innovation while ensuring transparency, accountability, and national security protections. I support efforts to ensure that the future of digital finance is anchored firmly in the United States and governed by American rules and values.

Third, economic security is national security. Treasury plays a critical role in protecting the United States from illicit finance, safeguarding sensitive technologies and capital flows, and ensuring that American capital does not strengthen the military and strategic capabilities of our adversaries. If confirmed, I will work aggressively to strengthen our economic defenses and preserve America's financial and technological advantages.

I also believe the United States must lead international economic institutions with clarity and purpose. Institutions such as the IMF and World Bank should serve the cause of stability, transparency, and market reform—not subsidize unsustainable lending practices or increase dependence on strategic competitors.

The American people deserve an international economic policy that prioritizes their prosperity, their security, and their future. That is what the America First agenda is about.

I have spent my career managing global risk and navigating uncertainty. If confirmed, I will bring that experience to this role with discipline, urgency, and an unwavering commitment to advancing the interests of the United States.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you. I'm grateful for your consideration, and I look forward to your questions.