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Cindy Baraban is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Prior to her current role, Cindy served as the Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs, advising on economic regulatory actions, implementation of policies in support of a competitive airline industry, access to air service for small and rural communities, and international aviation issues.

She was previously the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for the Office of Operations in the Office of the General Counsel at DOT, overseeing a team of attorneys across a wide range of practice areas, including aviation, transportation security and emergency response, and information management and disclosure. She advised on matters pertaining to the economic regulation of airlines and airports, including competitive access issues, slot management, air service to small communities, and issues arising under the Airline Deregulation Act. Before joining DOT, Cindy was a Counsel at WilmerHale in Washington, D.C. and advised airline and airport clients on regulatory and transactional matters. Cindy clerked for the Honorable S. Arthur Spiegel in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

She is a graduate of DePauw University, where she majored in Russian Studies and Political Science, and studied Russian at Kuban University in Krasnodar, Russia. After college, and before earning her J.D. at the Indiana School of Law – Bloomington, she was a newspaper journalist in Indiana, and she taught English at Tallinn Technical University in Estonia. She was also a visiting scholar at the Lauterpacht Research Centre for International Law in Cambridge, England.