

**Robin J. Lerner, J.D., President and CEO
Texas International Education Consortium**

Robin Lerner assumed the role of President and CEO of the Texas International Education Consortium (TIEC) on September 5, 2017. Prior to this position, Ms. Lerner served as acting director of the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues at the U.S. Department of State. In this position, she oversaw the management, personnel, and operations of this high-level office devoted to advancing the rights of women and girls in foreign policy. During the Obama administration, Ms. Lerner served as a senior advisor and counselor to the ambassador-at-large for global women's issues, focusing primarily on adolescent girls' education and empowerment globally, economic empowerment, and gender-based violence. Prior to that, Ms. Lerner served as a deputy assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. In this capacity, she oversaw the J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program, a public-private partnership mechanism that annually brings some 300,000 foreign citizens – mostly youth – to the United States to study, build skills, and teach through sponsored programs. She gained recognition and bipartisan support for advancing significant reforms to these programs. Prior to joining the administration, Ms. Lerner served as a senior counsel on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee where she led the Committee's policy and budget positions regarding gender equity, human rights, refugees, migration, trafficking in persons, international education, and public diplomacy. While on the Committee, she was a leading voice on public and privately-funded educational exchange programs and mechanisms, as well as virtual and digital educational and cultural exchange. She was the lead drafter of a number of human rights bills and resolutions on women and girls, trafficking in persons, and freedom of the press, among others. Prior to the Committee, she spent nearly seven years in a career capacity at the U.S. Department of State, including in the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, the Bureau of Legislative Affairs, and U.S. Embassies Cairo and Baghdad. Ms. Lerner, a lawyer by training, began her career as a Legal and Human Rights Advisor for Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Missions in Croatia and Kosovo, where she handled violence against women, human trafficking, and minority and property rights.