

[The Congressional Study Group on Europe](#), a bipartisan organization committed to promoting frank and candid dialogue between American lawmakers and their peers in European capitals and the European Parliament, has named [Rep. Peter Welch](#) as the Democratic Co-Chair of The Congressional Study Group on Europe.

“As a Chief Deputy Whip, Member of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, and the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Congressman Welch brings a wealth of leadership and relevant policy experience, as well as a demonstrated commitment to civil discourse and thoughtful bipartisanship, to this vital platform for transatlantic dialogue,” said Ambassador Connie Morella (R-MD, 87-03), President of the [U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress \(FMC\)](#). Her organization administers The Congressional Study Group on Europe, along with its sibling programs, The Congressional Study Groups on Germany, Turkey, and Japan.

In 2006, Rep. Welch was elected to Vermont’s sole seat in the United States House of Representatives. The 2006 campaign gained nationwide attention for being the only contested congressional race in the country where both candidates agreed not to run negative ads. In a climate of gridlock and partisanship, he has worked across the aisle in Congress on numerous domestic and foreign policy issues.

He joins [Rep. Charlie Dent](#) (R-PA) in guiding the newest of the four Congressional Study Groups, which was founded in late 2011. In its inaugural year, 45 Members of Congress participated in the Congressional Study Group on Europe.

For thirty years, The Congressional Study Groups have provided substantive, issue-based opportunities for Members of Congress to engage with their counterparts abroad. The Study Groups are the flagship international program of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC), a bipartisan organization that works to promote public service, strengthen representative democracy, and keep both current and former Members of Congress educated, engaged, and empowered to serve their country.