

## 1: AllGov - Departments

*Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.*

Foreign Service Diplomatic Courier Dept. Who May Apply Must be a U. Potential applicants should read the entire announcement to ensure that they meet all of the requirements and understand a Foreign Service career. Applicants may not reapply for one year after the previous application for the same position. They work on the business of diplomacy and high priority issues that impact the safety, security, and prosperity of our world â€” human rights, environment, energy, food security, public health, and technology â€” all while experiencing a unique career. Our talented workforce reflects and champions all of our strengths and diversity â€” personal, professional, and educational. We offer a workplace that values and rewards leadership, collaboration and innovation, and personal and professional development. Foreign Service Diplomatic Couriers assist in worldwide security programs that provide secure transportation services for Department of State classified diplomatic pouches. Diplomatic Couriers safeguard and escort diplomatic pouches containing classified and sensitive material between U. The Department carries out this mission at more than embassies and consulates around the world, offices in the metropolitan Washington, D. Diplomatic Couriers spend most of their career in a constant state of travel. Couriers are assigned to regional offices and travel from these postings to constituent embassies and consulates in the region. Duties Diplomatic Couriers spend a substantial portion of their careers living and working overseas in a nearly constant travel status using conveyances to include passenger and cargo aircraft, trucks, trains, and ships. Diplomatic Courier duties can vary according to the requirements of each mission. Diplomatic Couriers are required to safeguard and escort diplomatic pouches containing classified and sensitive material between U. Diplomatic Couriers are entrusted with ensuring the inviolability of diplomatic pouches and their safe and secure delivery throughout the world. They operate under international agreements and treaties as governed by the Vienna Convention. They are responsible for complying with Department of State policies, regulations, and implementing the strict security procedures that define the control and movement of U. Diplomatic Courier duties may include the supervision of subordinate staff and the actual performance of some, or all, of the following functions: Serve as a Diplomatic Courier for the Department of State and other USG agencies that may need to transmit official government classified or sensitive materials across international boundaries. Identify needed logistical support; provision for the storage or staging of pouches; detect and bring to resolution the cause and impact of delays or other logistical problems; adjust plans and schedules for all related actions to accommodate timely and secure movement of pouches. Travel frequently as a full time job, on missions lasting one day to two weeks or more. Diplomatic Couriers travel by commercial, cargo, chartered, and military aircraft, overland by bus and commercial trucks, by rail and by sea. Develop, plan, and implement pouch escort programs and schedules; assess the efficiency and effectiveness of operations and provide practical solutions when problems arise; ensure the proper allocation and expenditure of appropriated funds; provide timely and appropriate pouch delivery and dispatch services to posts worldwide. Other responsibilities include maintaining internal management controls in order to prevent waste, fraud, and mismanagement. Assist in labor intensive duties, including warehouse duties, sorting and moving heavy pouches, using packing materials, escorting missions, and working with the cargo crew to move heavy pouches on airport tarmacs. Manage, regulate, coordinate, or otherwise exercise control over the pouch material. This includes initial planning, provisioning and determining handling and accountability, and oversight of physical accountability maintenance and management of inventory records, conduct of periodic inventories, and releases from accountability. Plan, coordinate and implement travel and pouch transportation support needs domestically and at posts serviced worldwide, including motor vehicle operations and needs, issuance of travel orders, and ticketing for commercial and military air and surface transportation. Evaluate, negotiate, and participate in awarding contracts with commercial organizations and other government agencies involved in provision of, or support of, travel and transportation. Enforce

## STATE DEPARTMENT MISMANAGEMENT OF OVERSEAS EMBASSIES pdf

Department of State pouch regulations required to ensure the inviolability of diplomatic pouches from the point of origin to international destinations as governed by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Assess risks to movement of diplomatic pouches and sealed official diplomatic cargo; detect and report attempts to damage or subvert the principle of inviolability of the diplomatic pouches and cargo. Conduct, administer, and implement diplomatic pouch security training and training assistance programs for U. For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

## 2: Where The Federal Jobs Are - Department of State - The Resume Place

*The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO) directs the worldwide overseas building program for the Department of State and the U.S. Government community serving abroad under the authority of the chiefs of mission. In concert with other State Department bureaus, foreign affairs agencies, and Congress, OBO sets worldwide priorities for the.*

Shape and sustain a peaceful, prosperous, just, and democratic world and foster conditions for stability and progress for the benefit of the American people and people everywhere. This mission is shared with the USAID, ensuring we have a common path forward in partnership as we invest in the shared security and prosperity that will ultimately better prepare us for the challenges of tomorrow. The Department of State and U. Total number of State Department employees is over 73, Of those, approximately 11, are Civil Service employees. Approximately 14, are Foreign Service employees and close to 48, locally employed LE staff foreign nationals and other locally resident citizens at the embassies and consulates worldwide. State Department Organization Structure: The State Department is the diplomatic wing of the federal government, responsible for promoting foreign policy. Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Carries out diplomatic relations with 31 foreign governments addressing issues including security, counter-terrorism and free trade. Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs. The largest geographic bureau in the Department, the Bureau is responsible for implementing U. Conducts diplomatic affairs with more than 50 foreign governments. Issues include NATO enlargement, energy, and terrorism. Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs. Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs. Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs. Staffs and operates embassies and consulates throughout the Western Hemisphere in more than 40 countries and dependencies , implementing U. Develops and implements U. Its engagement spans the full range of important global issues, including peace and security, nuclear nonproliferation, human rights, economic development, climate change, global health, and much more. The Bureau has missions to international organizations in Geneva, Vienna, Rome, Paris, Montreal and Nairobi where major international organizations are headquartered. Reports directly to the Secretary of State. Includes the Office of the U. Permanent Representative Ambassador to the UN. Mission assists the President and the Secretary of State in conducting U. Jobs include political affairs officers, policy officers, economic affairs officers, agricultural, fishery and animal production officers, climate change officers, quality managers, program managers, financial officers, and IT specialists. In addition to the United Nations, the U. For a comprehensive list of international organizations, see [http:](http://) Eligible federal employees and Foreign Service Officers may be detailed or transferred to certain international organizations. Most International Organizations follow the U. To learn more about careers with international organizations, see [http:](http://) Embassies, Consulates, and Diplomatic Missions see [http:](http://) Government agency working to end global poverty and enabling democratic societies to realize their potential. Bureau of Arms Control, Verification and Compliance. Ensures that appropriate verification requirements and capabilities are considered and integrated into the development, negotiation, and implementation of new arms control, nonproliferation, and disarmament treaties, agreements, and commitments. Serves as the main liaison to the U. Intelligence Community and other key policymakers for verification and compliance issues. Bureau of Budget and Planning. Bureau of Comptroller and Global Financial Services. Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations. Bureau of Consular Affairs. Provides consular services to protect U. Formulates and implements policy relating to immigration and consular services and ensures efficient overseas consular services. Issues passports for American citizens intending to reside, conduct business, study or travel abroad. Provides services to citizens of other countries seeking visas to visit or reside legally in the United States. Serves as a liaison between the State Department and overseas embassies and consulates on visa matters. Develops and coordinates policies and programs relating to international child abduction; coordinates policy and provides information on international adoptions. Government efforts to improve counterterrorism cooperation with foreign governments. Develops, coordinates, an implements counterterrorism policy. The primary mission of the Bureau is to forge partnerships with non-state actors, multilateral organizations, and foreign governments to

advance the counterterrorism objectives and national security of the United States. Takes a leading role in developing coordinated strategies to defeat terrorists abroad and in securing the cooperation of international partners. Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. Prepares annual country reports on human rights practices around the globe and have the reputation of being among the most trusted and comprehensive sources of information. The Bureau also administers a multi-million dollar grant portfolio, including the Human Rights and Democracy Fund, financing a wide range of human rights and democracy programs worldwide. Bureau of Diplomatic Security. The Bureau is part law enforcement agency and part intelligence operation. As one of the largest components of the State Department, it is responsible for protecting the personnel, information and property associated with U. Provides protection in the U. Ambassador to the United Nations and specified foreign dignitaries who visit the United States. Employs approximately 34, staff foreign and civil service, including Foreign Service special agents serving in more than countries. Has field, satellite and resident offices throughout the U. Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs. Serves as a leading voice for promoting US economic interests across the globe. Implements policies involving international trade, investment and finance, economic development and sanctions, intellectual property, debt policy, terrorist financing, energy security, telecommunications and transportation. Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Brings together students and professionals from the U. The Bureau funds and sponsors many programs for international education exchanges to promote their objective of cultural learning and mutual understanding. Bureau of Energy Resources. Has 3 core objectives: A member of the U. Utilizing all-source intelligence, the Bureau provides independent analysis of events to U. State Department policymakers; and ensures that intelligence activities support foreign policy and national security purposes. Serves as the focal point in the State Department for ensuring policy review of sensitive counterintelligence and law enforcement activities around the world. Bureau of International Information Programs. Main information arm; produces and distributes information about the United States to an international audience. Approximately staff are associated with providing public diplomacy materials. Although anti-drug operations are its dominant mission, jurisdiction includes serious cross-border crimes, such human trafficking, and modernization of foreign criminal justice systems. Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation. Manages a broad range of U. Bureau of Legislative Affairs. Coordinates legislative activity for the Department of State and advises on legislative strategy. Bureau of Medical Services. Provides healthcare to U. Embassies and Consulates worldwide. Advises Embassy and State Department officials about health issues throughout the world. Has over health professionals working in over countries. Responsible for the integration of matters relating to the environment, science, and technology into United States foreign policy. Works closely with the White House, Congress, US government agencies, universities, non-governmental organizations, and private citizens, as well as other State Department bureaus. Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations. Utilizes domestic contractors to building of new embassies. Bureau of Political-Military Affairs. Provides policy direction in the areas of international security, security assistance, military operations, defense strategy and plans, and defense. Builds security partnerships to advance U. Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. Responsible for helping refugees around the world through assistance to international and non-governmental organizations and by admitting refugees to the United States. Administers and monitors U. Oversees admissions of refugees to the U. Bureau of Public Affairs. The State Department issues certificates of authenticity for a variety of documents to individuals, institutions and government agencies. Many documents for use abroad may require authentication such as powers of attorney, treaties, extraditions, or bylaws.

**3: State Department's Management of U. S. Embassies Overseas**

*1Widespread Management Weaknesses at Overseas Embassies (GAO/T-NSIAD , July 13, ) and State Department Mismanagement of Overseas Embassies: Corrective Actions Long Overdue, House Committee on Government Operations, November 22,*

Toggle display of website navigation Shadow Government: March 13, , 5: Second, his catastrophic mismanagement of the State Department bureaucracy. By the nature of the job, the secretary of state has to be able to speak credibly for the president of the United States and be their chief representative abroad. And the reality is that no one in the Trump administration speaks credibly for President Trump. Even President Trump does not always speak for himself, making commitments that he almost immediately walks back from or upending U. But in the case of Tillerson this difference was particularly pronounced. When last summer, Tillerson jumped into shuttle diplomacy to try to mediate a crisis between Qatar and its neighbors, Trump undercut him by tweeting out his support for the blockade imposed by Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, and Egypt. While Tillerson was trying to conduct delicate diplomacy with North Korea, Trump publicly criticized him for this approach only to turn around months later and agree to a meeting. So when Tillerson offers reassurances to allies and commitments from the United States, those words ring hollow. They need to hear it from Trump himself. Of course, Tillerson did not help his cause by disagreeing with the president so directly and being out there so publicly in disagreement with the president. He may have been able to be more low-key in contradicting the president, as Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis has been. But fundamentally, this was always going to be an impossible situation for Tillerson. This despite the fact that the State Department has been chronically underfunded for a generation. With that one move he almost immediately lost much of the rank and file of the department. Tillerson followed this decision up with an ill-conceived plan to redesign the department. He started by freezing all new hiring and even froze the movement of people in their current position for months making it impossible for the department to pursue usual rotations of personnel. He took highly talented mid-career officials and put them on clerical duty to clear out Freedom of Information Act requests. This meant that spouses who accompany foreign service officers to their foreign posts could not get jobs at their new embassies. This was a problem for the embassies, who often fill many jobs this way that locals are not capable of doing. But it was also devastating for a whole cadre of officers, whose spouses found themselves unemployed and whose families were cut off from a second income. This eventually got fixed, but only after months. Tillerson also failed to fill key positions at the assistant secretary and undersecretary level. These senior officials act as the connective tissue between State Department experts at the working level and the secretary. They are the ones who drive most of the implementation in the department. Without them, Tillerson counted on a small cadre of experts on the Policy Planning Staff to inform his decision-making. This left Policy Planning overwhelmed and the rest of the department disconnected. The end result was predictable: Meanwhile intake of new foreign service officers went from to From top to bottom the department experienced a hemorrhaging of talent. These people are not coming back and the impact will be felt on the department for years to come. Eventually, it was scaled down to improving the State Department email and technology systems an improvement that is desperately needed , but not the grand reform Tillerson first envisioned. And indeed Tillerson will be gone before it is even implemented. But just because Tillerson was a disaster does not necessarily mean that Pompeo will be any better. Pompeo certainly has a better relationship with the president and he has been an able manager of the CIA. So, one would hope that he can more effectively speak for the president and raise morale at the State Department. But there are also reasons for concern. Pompeo is more ideological and hard-line and could provoke more irresponsible decisions from Trump. Trump has threatened to walk away from the deal if those concerns are not met by mid-May. Will Pompeo support the ongoing process or will he take a harder, unrealistic line that ultimately ends up killing the deal? On the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Pompeo was reported to support the embassy move to Jerusalem whereas Tillerson was more cautious. Will we see an even more extreme policy on the Israeli-Palestinian issue from the administration moving forward that gives Israel a green light to take steps that could result in the

annexation of territory in the West Bank? And on North Korea, the transition comes at a particularly delicate moment. Trump has agreed to meet with Kim Jong Un by May. Who will now take the lead in the preparations that will be required – Tillerson, a lame duck secretary of state on his way out, or Pompeo, who may not be confirmed for a number of weeks?

## 4: Job: Foreign Service Diplomatic Courier (Dept. of State) | CREEES Professional Resources Forum

*The U.S. Department of State is committed to ensuring that any personal information received by our overseas U.S. embassies and consulates via the STEP process, whether in person or otherwise, is safeguarded against unauthorized disclosure.*

The US Department of State functions as the diplomatic wing of the federal government, handling matters of foreign affairs with other nations and international bodies. This task involves a multitude of issues ranging from trade and commerce to cultural interests to security measures. Employing diplomats and career Foreign Service personnel, the State Department interfaces with representatives of foreign governments, corporations, non-governmental organizations and private individuals. Dozens of large offices and programs handle the vast responsibilities of the State Department, including geographically-based and subject-oriented bureaus that function as the frontline of the US diplomatic corps. Among the leading components of the State Department are:

- Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs:** A key diplomatic office within the State Department, the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs is responsible for implementing American foreign policy in Europe and Eurasia. The bureau promotes US political and economic interests in the region on issues ranging from NATO enlargement to energy supplies to the war on terrorism.
- Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs:** BWH staff implement US foreign policy by negotiating with representatives of foreign governments, meeting with foreign economic and political leaders in and out of government, coordinating various types of US foreign aid, and preparing groundwork for visits between higher US officials and foreign representatives.
- Bureau of African Affairs:** The bureau seeks solutions in three key areas: Despite pledges by the administration of George W. Bush to help stem the spread of the disease, funding requests for AIDS programs in Africa went down in consecutive years. Also, an attempt to reinvent foreign aid through the Millennium Challenge Corporation has not succeeded as planned by the administration.
- Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs:** Security, counter-terrorism and free trade are some of the major policy issues that EAP addresses with public and private officials from this part of the world. The head of the bureau has been both praised and criticized for his work on the Korean nuclear accord and other aspects of his diplomatic work.
- Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs:** Regional policy issues that NEA handles include the war in Iraq, Middle East peace, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, and political and economic reform.
- Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs:** Two of the most critical policy areas that the bureau oversees are Afghanistan, which is still trying to recover from the rule of the Taliban in the s and the US-led coalition that invaded the country in , and Indian-Pakistan relationsâ€”a longstanding source of tension and conflict between two nuclear powers. The leadership of the bureau has come under criticism during the George W. Bush administration for its lack of knowledge about Pakistani politics and its deference to the office of Vice President Dick Cheney, who reportedly calls the shots on US foreign policy towards Pakistan.
- IBWC:** IBWC is a bilateral government body charged with maintaining border and water agreements along the international border between the United States and Mexico. Some experts have argued that the commission is long overdue for change, and recently the US side of the IBWC was engulfed in controversy stemming from the leadership of its top official, an appointee of President George W.
- The East-West Center:** The East-West Center was created by Congress in to serve as a catalyst to strengthen relations and understanding between the United States and Asian and Pacific nations. The East-West Center coordinates research, educational classes and cultural interactions.
- American Institute in Taiwan:** The AIT is a private, nonprofit corporation that received federal money and serves as a de facto embassy. The foundation is privately run, and its offices throughout the region are known to have a relatively high level of autonomy.
- Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction:** SIGIR continually assesses all projects and programs in Iraq in order to ensure that all money is accounted for and is used effectively and efficiently by officials of the US and Iraqi governments as well as American contractors. However, SIGIR has noticeably failed to control corruption and cronyism in the awarding of contracts and the use of funds once they arrive in Iraq. Through three strategic program areas prevention, care and treatment , the initiative was intended to prevent 7 million new infections, treat 2 million people living with AID-related illnesses, and provide care and support for 10 million persons affected by AIDS. Generally,

the US is accused of flagrantly ignoring scientific and statistical evidence and instead imposing an ideological agenda on countries, organizations and individuals in need. The US has also been criticized for pushing expensive brand-name pharmaceuticals in the programs instead of affordable generics, thereby greatly decreasing the number of individuals who receive treatment. The bureau conducts much of its work using domestic contractors who handle the building of new embassies. Since the bombings of American embassies in east Africa, the federal government has conducted the largest construction effort in US diplomatic history to upgrade diplomatic posts and secure them against terrorist attacks. Problems have arisen, however, in the course of several high-profile embassy projects, including the sprawling new complex in Baghdad, Iraq.

**Bureau of Diplomatic Security:** DS employs almost special agents in more than countries, along with hundreds of private security guards through contracts with companies such as Blackwater USA. The use of private contractors created a huge controversy for DS in the fall of when Blackwater guards killed numerous civilians in Baghdad, Iraq, as a result of an attack on a convoy carrying American diplomats.

**Office of the Chief of Protocol:** The Office of the Chief of Protocol primarily advises and assists the president, vice president and secretary of state on matters of diplomatic protocol, or etiquette. The office arranges detailed itineraries for foreign dignitaries visiting the United States and accompanies the president on official travels abroad.

**Office of Foreign Missions:** OFM claims three basic missions: OFM is authorized to impose restrictions of services on a foreign government and its diplomats if that government imposes them on the US. OFM is also authorized to enter into negotiations with that country to remove those restrictions once secure, fair treatment is given American officials in the other country.

**Bureau of Consular Affairs:** The Bureau of Consular Affairs CA is in charge of issuing passports for American citizens intending to reside, conduct business, study or travel abroad. In addition, the bureau provides services to citizens of other countries seeking visas to visit or reside legally in the United States and conducts research to determine who qualifies for a visa and which applicants may be attempting to get into the country to engage in harmful activities. The bureau also serves as a liaison between the State Department and overseas embassies and consulates on visa matters. In March , the Bureau of Consular Affairs was the focus of media scrutiny when it was revealed that the passport files of presidential candidates Hillary Clinton, John McCain, and Barack Obama had been breached. Located within the Office of the Under Secretary for Political Affairs for the State Department, the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs INL is charged with combating the worldwide drug trade and other major crimes through programs involving other federal agencies and national governments. Despite its name, INL is not a true law enforcement agency, operating instead as a source of funding to assist law enforcement personnel, either in the US or other countries. No longer is it strictly an anti-narcotics office, working on other serious cross-border crimes, such human trafficking. However, anti-drug operations are still the dominant mission of the bureau. These operations, as well as its efforts to help stabilize Iraq, have resulted in the INL becoming a focal point of controversy in recent years. The program seeks to eradicate coca and induce local farmers to plant alternative crops. But for all the money that has been spent towards stemming the flow of illegal drugs into the United States from South America, little progress has been made in reaching this goal. The Rewards for Justice program RFJ authorizes the Secretary of State to offer money for credible information that can be used to capture or kill international terrorists. The program may also provide protection and relocation services for the informant and his or her family. Despite captures and killings reportedly undertaken as a result of intelligence tips, Rewards for Justice has detractors. Some say the program promotes reckless bounty hunting. A few have also voiced concerns about the credibility of received tips, while others wonder if any amount of money can overcome deep-seated ethnic loyalties in places like Afghanistan. Still others question the recent US preference for killing militant-Islamic suspects using precision-guided bombs, pointing out that bombings might hurt counter-insurgency efforts, which are based on gaining trust and cooperation, in Muslim countries. Indeed, critics frequently assail ads and other promotional materials for lacking cultural sensitivity. On the other hand, coaxing people with money to turn in their peers has been a tactic used since antiquity. Many see this particular program as a way of fighting terrorism with capitalism and an enthusiastic fundraising effort developed around it for a time.

**Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons:** The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs was established

to bring together students and professionals from the United States and across the world in hopes of building stronger relationships between countries. The bureau funds and sponsors many programs for international education exchanges to promote their objective of cultural learning and mutual understanding.

**National Endowment for Democracy:** NED provides grants to media outlets, human-rights groups and other organizations for the stated purpose of fostering democracy in foreign countries.

**Bureau of International Information Programs:** The Bureau of International Information Programs is the main propaganda arm of the US government towards the rest of the world. Responsible for producing and distributing information about the United States to an international audience, the bureau attempts to foster understanding and good will towards the US with an eye towards creating an environment receptive to US security and economic interests. The bureau was created in out of the remnants of the US Information Agency when it was merged with the State Department, and it has attempted to brand itself as a more high-tech and modern office. In addition to news reports and publications about the United States, the bureau recently unveiled a new website , designed to reach a younger audience with multimedia presentations, videos and podcasts. It is the only component of the US government that provides grant support to heritage preservation in developing countries. Projects are chosen from those proposed by US Ambassadors in countries that the State Department deems eligible. AFCP grants are awarded in areas ranging from providing technical support for the restoration of buildings that are hundreds of years old to aiding in documentation to saving threatened traditional crafts. Controversy surrounds some of the actions of Maria P. Art in Embassies Program: These exhibitions are collections of art loaned from galleries, museums, individual artists, and corporate and private collections.

**Other Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration:** PRM is responsible for helping refugees around the world either through assistance to international and non-governmental organizations or by admitting refugees to the United States. PRM administers and monitors American contributions to international and non-governmental organizations to assist and protect refugees abroad. It oversees admissions of refugees to the US for permanent resettlement in coordination with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services. PRM has been criticized for not helping more Iraqis enter the US during the ongoing violence in Iraq, and its onetime leader was accused of being unqualified to run the bureau.

**Bureau of Economic, Energy and Business Affairs:** EEB implements policies involving international trade, investment and finance, economic development and sanctions, debt policy, terrorist financing, energy security, telecommunications and transportation. It also actively promotes opportunities for American businesses. This includes promoting US sanctions against Iran, which has continued to do business with numerous American corporationsâ€™ including those with close ties to the Bush administration.

**OES** is responsible for the integration of matters relating to the environment, science, and technology into United States foreign policy. It works closely with the White House, Congress, US government agencies, universities, non-governmental organizations, and private citizens, as well as other State Department bureaus. Among the specific areas OES addresses when representing the US in making agreements with other nations: Bio-terrorism, climate change, conservation, fisheries, forests, international health issues, oceans, the use of outer space, and wildlife.

## 5: State Dept opens Benghazi consulate attack probe

*State Department Organization Structure: The State Department is the diplomatic wing of the federal government, responsible for promoting foreign policy. The Secretary of State is supported by 2 Deputy Secretaries, the Executive Secretariat, Counselor, Chief of Staff, 6 Under Secretaries, and many functional and management Bureaus and Offices.*

An independent panel appointed by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is opening its inquiry into the attack on the U. An Associated Press examination of two reports that are easily accessible to the public — those created after the devastating Aug. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya. That attack by what is now believed to be al-Qaida-linked militants has become fraught with election-year politics as Republicans accuse administration officials of dissembling in the early aftermath on what they knew about the perpetrators and for lax security at the diplomatic mission in a lawless part of post-revolution Libya. A five-member accountability review board appointed by Clinton will begin this week looking at whether security at the consulate was adequate and whether proper procedures were followed before, during and immediately after the attack. Previous inquiries into attacks on diplomatic missions have taken months to complete, and two of them found fault with both the executive and legislative branches going back years and spanning both political parties. However, only the findings of the Kenya and Tanzania bombing investigations are easily accessible to public. Crowe — were not set up by then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright until November — three months after the attacks. And they did not issue their final reports until January Clinton stressed Wednesday that such an investigation "will take time" as Republicans have expressed impatience for full details of any possible negligence before the Nov. Mike Mullen, should not be rushed to judgment. In addition, like the board created for Benghazi at the height of a hotly contested presidential election campaign, the Nairobi and Dar es Salaam panels were convened at a moment of bitter partisan divide in Washington. In the fall of , then-President Bill Clinton was dealing with the threat of impeachment over the Monica Lewinsky scandal. While drawing direct comparisons between the investigations is difficult due to the clearly different circumstances and times, several broad themes are consistent, namely questions over unanswered or rejected requests for enhanced security and concerns about whether threat information was ignored or dismissed inappropriately. The East Africa boards sifted through but ultimately rejected allegations that any specific government employee — civilian or military — had been negligent in addressing the threats or security of the embassies. Instead, they were blistering in their criticism of government in general for failing to prioritize and invest money in improving security at U. Embassy and Marine barracks in Beirut. Several Republican lawmakers have alleged that Stevens and his staff made repeated requests for security improvements at the Benghazi consulate that the State Department denied. Clinton told Congress she was waiting for the results of the investigation before answering those claims directly. In , there were widespread reports that Prudence Bushnell, the U. The boards found those claims to be factually correct, but stressed that resource constraints made many improvements low priorities given more serious security deficiencies at other embassies. Republican lawmakers also have claimed that Washington disregarded, played down or shrugged off an increasingly serious stream of threats to U. The same complaints were made in relation to the Nairobi and Dar es Salaam bombings. Crowe and his fellow board members found in their reports that the threats that U. In presenting his reports 13 years ago, Crowe offered what may well end up being the general conclusion of the Benghazi inquiry. He rejected criticism by media commentators and lawmakers who were "quick to lay the blame totally on the State Department, and to have found a villain, and go after it pretty heavy.

## 6: Office of the Inspector General of the Department of State - Wikipedia

*The mission of the United States Embassy is to advance the interests of the United States, and to serve and protect U.S. citizens.*

## 7: A Requiem for Rex's™s Redesign — Foreign Policy

*Mr. Chairman, Members of the Subcommittee: I am pleased to be here today to discuss our review of the Department of State's management of its overseas embassies.*

## 8: Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)

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## 9: U.S. Department of State | Home Page

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