

# Press Releases: Deputy Secretary Sullivan to host the 2018 Annual International Women of Courage Awards Ceremony, with Remarks by First Lady Melania Trump

Press Statement  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
March 18, 2018

---

Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan will present the 2018 Secretary of State's International Women of Courage (IWOC) Award, with remarks to be provided by First Lady Melania Trump, in honor of 10 extraordinary women during an official ceremony from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 21, at the U.S. Department of State.

First established in March 2007, this annual award honors women around the world who have demonstrated exceptional courage, strength, and leadership in acting to bring positive change to their societies, often at great personal risk and sacrifice. To date, under the IWOC program, the U.S. Department of State has recognized over 120 women from more than 65 countries who have worked to advocate for and promote human rights, the advancement of the status of women, peace, and government transparency around the world.

The names and bios of the recipients of the 2018 award will be announced on Monday, March 19.

The ceremony will be open to the press and streamed live on [www.state.gov](http://www.state.gov). Follow @StateDept during the event for updates and live tweets.

*For the ceremony, pre-set time for cameras is 6:30 a.m. from the C Street entrance. Final access time for writers and stills is 8:30 a.m. from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Street entrance.*

*Media representatives may attend the ceremony upon presentation of one of the*

*following: (1) A U.S. Government-issued identification card (Department of State, White House, Congress, Department of Defense or Foreign Press Center), (2) a media-issued photo identification card, or (3) a letter from their employer on letterhead verifying their employment as a journalist, accompanied by an official photo identification card (driver's license, passport).*

For further information on this event, please contact the Office of Press Relations at [PAPressDuty@state.gov](mailto:PAPressDuty@state.gov) and [202-647-2492](tel:202-647-2492) or [SGWI\\_PA@state.gov](mailto:SGWI_PA@state.gov).

*The Office of Website Management, Bureau of Public Affairs, manages this site as a portal for information from the U.S. State Department. External links to other Internet sites should not be construed as an endorsement of the views or privacy policies contained therein.*