

# President Trump's Nominations Face Needless Obstruction

Senate Democrats have decided to obstruct President Donald J. Trump's Administration, and the American people, by refusing to confirm qualified nominations. In an effort to prevent the President from following through on the policies for which the American people voted, Senate Democrats are putting his nominations through time-consuming parliamentary procedures not seen by the previous Administration.

Unprecedented obstruction by Senate Democrats:

<https://t.co/lYbExDNa0x> <pic.twitter.com/Uhbvw8lUhb>

– The White House (@WhiteHouse) [July 10, 2017](#)

In a pursuit to obstruct the will of the American people and the President's agenda, Senate Democrats have delayed crucial appointments made by President Trump. The blatant obstruction of President Trump's nominations threatens key aspects of the Government, including national security, by leaving positions vacant.

Less than a month away from the August recess, the Senate has confirmed only 23% of @POTUS' 216 nominations:

<https://t.co/3iMl6nQDsB> <pic.twitter.com/1Y16q9UAjS>

– The White House (@WhiteHouse) [July 10, 2017](#)

Senate Democrats have shown they are willing to break irresponsibly with tradition that allows a President to choose his own appointees in a timely fashion. President Trump has nominated qualified individuals to key positions, but their confirmations have been delayed by obstructionism in the Senate.

.@POTUS' Nominations Face Needless Obstruction:

<https://t.co/yODsyYuDzs> <pic.twitter.com/Mfyu13gNVl>

– The White House (@WhiteHouse) [July 10, 2017](#)

This attempt by Senate Democrats to hamstring President Trump's agenda is

most negatively affecting the American people. It is time to shift the focus back to the public, and allow the President's vision for a better America to stand without hindrance from obstructionists.

"Democrats aren't using cloture to raise the level of debate... They are using it...to sabotage a Presidency." <https://t.co/UhHCKT9k3Z>  
[pic.twitter.com/G0k512HTfJ](https://t.co/G0k512HTfJ)

– The White House (@WhiteHouse) [July 11, 2017](#)

Senate Dems have delayed crucial appts made by @POTUS in an attempt to obstruct the will of the American people:  
<https://t.co/0t6MtZWqwC> [pic.twitter.com/Ksyw6i6tGn](https://t.co/Ksyw6i6tGn)

– The White House (@WhiteHouse) [July 11, 2017](#)

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## [Press Releases: Sentencing of Nabeel Rajab](#)

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
July 10, 2017

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We are disappointed by the verdict sentencing prominent human rights activist Nabeel Rajab to two years in prison today in Bahrain. We reaffirm our previous calls for his release.

We believe no one anywhere should be prosecuted or imprisoned for exercising their human rights or fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression or peaceful assembly.

We believe societies are strengthened, not threatened, by expressions of opinion and dissent, and that opposition voices can play a vital role helping societies become more tolerant and inclusive.

We have repeatedly expressed our concern about Nabeel Rajab's case, and we continue to strongly urge the Government of Bahrain to abide by its international obligations and commitments to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of expression.

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## **Press Releases: Secretary of State Tillerson Travel to Kuwait, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia**

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
July 10, 2017

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At the invitation of the Emir of Kuwait, the Secretary will travel to Kuwait July 10 where he will meet with senior Kuwaiti officials to discuss ongoing efforts to resolve the Gulf dispute. The Secretary plans to travel to Doha, Qatar July 11 and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia July 12 to meet with senior officials.

Follow Secretary Tillerson's travel via @StateDept on Twitter and visit the State Department's Flickr account for the latest trip photos. Stay connected at <https://blogs.state.gov/engage> and keep track of all of the Secretary's travels at <https://www.state.gov/secretary/2017travel>.

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## **Press Releases: TechGirls From the Middle East and North Africa Invest in STEM Futures**

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
July 10, 2017

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Teenage girls from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, and Tunisia will participate in the U.S. Department of State's [TechGirls](#) exchange program from July 12–August 3. During their three weeks in the United States, participants will strengthen and develop technical skills, form invaluable networks, and establish relationships with mentors that will influence their future tech careers. The TechGirls initiative empowers girls around the world to become leaders in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

The 28 TechGirls will attend leadership clinics and project management workshops at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA and in Washington, D.C. While at Virginia Tech, the teens will also participate in an eight day, interactive technology and coding camp conducted by the Department of Computer Science Training, participate in a day of job shadowing with top tech companies in the Washington, D.C.-area, and engage in community service activities. Top leaders in the tech industry from the United States and the Middle East and North Africa will mentor the girls throughout the program.

The State Department and program partner Legacy International have teamed up with both public and private sector partners for this year's TechGirls program, including: AT&T, Byte Back, Echo & Co, FCC, i Strategies Lab, Islamic Relief, Nokia, NPR, Relief International, Synoptos, TechChange, Vox Media, and 18F.

TechGirls exchange alumnae, now totaling 130, have utilized the program's lessons to train more than 2,300 peers in their home countries. The achievements of these alumnae and the talent of the incoming class contribute to the U.S. global commitment to advance the rights of women and girls around the world, as well as STEM education.

Join the conversation on Facebook or Twitter using hashtag #TechGirls. For media inquiries, please contact the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at [eca-press@state.gov](mailto:eca-press@state.gov).

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## **Press Releases: Bahamian Independence Day**

Press Statement  
Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
July 10, 2017

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On behalf of the Government of the United States, congratulations to the people of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas on 44 years of independence.

As the United States embarks on the U.S.-Caribbean Engagement Strategy, we reiterate our commitment to partnering with The Bahamas to build a safer and more prosperous Caribbean region. Already our partnership has reduced violent crime, helped stem the flow of illegal migrants, and reduced the trafficking of narcotics. We look forward to working with you to build upon these successes in the coming years.

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