

# Press Releases: On the Opening of Negotiations To Modernize the Columbia River Treaty Regime

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
May 30, 2018

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The United States and Canada began negotiations to modernize the Columbia River Treaty regime in Washington, DC on May 29-30. Acting Assistant Secretary Francisco Palmieri welcomed U.S. and Canadian negotiating teams and opened the first session of talks. He thanked our Canadian allies for more than 50 years of excellent transboundary collaboration in the Columbia River Basin. During two days of talks, the U.S. and Canadian negotiators discussed objectives, outlined the scope of the negotiations, and reaffirmed the spirit of cooperation that has made the Treaty an international model for transboundary water agreements. The U.S. negotiating team underscored that U.S. objectives in this negotiation include continued, careful management of flood risk; ensuring a reliable and economical power supply; and better addressing ecosystem concerns.

Jill Smail, U.S. Chief Negotiator for the Columbia River Treaty, leads the U.S. negotiating team. The U.S. negotiating team also includes representatives from the Bonneville Power Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwestern Division (which together form the "U.S. Entity" that has responsibility for Treaty implementation in the United States); the Department of the Interior; and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The U.S. and Canadian teams plan to hold the next round of discussions August 15-16, 2018, in British Columbia.

To receive regular updates regarding the Columbia River Treaty, please contact [ColumbiaRiverTreaty@state.gov](mailto:ColumbiaRiverTreaty@state.gov). For press inquiries, please contact [WHAPress@state.gov](mailto:WHAPress@state.gov).

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## **Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's Call With Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov**

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
May 30, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

Secretary Pompeo and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov spoke by phone today, their first conversation since the Secretary's swearing in and the Foreign Minister's reappointment. The two discussed issues and concerns related to the bilateral relationship, Ukraine, and Syria. Secretary Pompeo reiterated that though the United States seeks an improved relationship with Russia, achieving that will require Russia to demonstrate that it is prepared to take concrete actions to address our concerns, including interfering in U.S. domestic matters.

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# [Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's Call With France's Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian](#)

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
May 30, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

Secretary Pompeo spoke with French FM Le Drian today. They discussed next steps in countering the Iranian regime's destabilizing activities in the region. They also discussed how the international community can best work together to support stability in Libya.

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# [Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo Travels to New York To Meet With North Korean Vice-Chairman Kim Yong Chol](#)

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
May 30, 2018

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Secretary Pompeo will travel to New York City, May 30-31, to meet with DPRK Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee Kim Yong Chol. The Secretary and Vice-Chairman Kim will discuss preparations for President Trump's expected summit with Chairman Kim Jong Un in Singapore. □

Follow Secretary Pompeo's travel via @StateDept on Twitter and go to the 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/travel/2018/index.htm>.

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## **[Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's Meeting With Hungarian Foreign Minister Szijjarto](#)**

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
May 30, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:

Secretary Michael Pompeo met with Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto in Washington on Wednesday. The two discussed areas of mutual interest and opportunities for our countries to increase cooperation. The Secretary underscored the importance of maintaining a vibrant civil society. The Secretary also emphasized the urgent need to help Ukraine in the face of Russian aggression, including the importance of facilitating and supporting Ukraine's engagement with NATO, and the need to counter Russian malign influence in Central Europe. Both sides agreed that Europe should diversify its sources of energy and discussed increasing U.S. investment in Hungary. The Secretary and Foreign Minister committed to concluding a Defense Cooperation Agreement in the days ahead.

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