

Press Releases: Fiji's National Day

Press Statement
Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
October 10, 2017

On behalf of the people of the United States, I send my best wishes to the people of Fiji as you celebrate the 47th anniversary of your nation's independence this October 10.

This has been a remarkable year for Fiji, and I offer my congratulations for taking on a global leadership role as President of the United Nations General Assembly, host of the UN Oceans Conference, and President of this year's 23rd Convention of Parties. The United States also values Fiji's leadership and commitment to global peace and stability through UN peacekeeping operations.

The United States and Fiji have enjoyed a close friendship, and our partnership on regional and global issues grows stronger, as demonstrated during our first bilateral strategic dialogue earlier this year. We take great satisfaction in the rich ties between our peoples, including our cooperation through the U.S. Peace Corps, which next year will celebrate its 50th anniversary in Fiji. We also appreciate the Fijian communities who share their culture and warm spirit in the United States.

The United States celebrates with you on this special day. Once again, congratulations on your independence day.

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Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, in Washington, DC from 12 to 14 October 2017

Mr. Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD, will be in Washington, DC from 12 to 14 October 2017 to attend the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (FM&CBG) and the 2017 International Monetary Fund / World Bank Annual Meetings.

At the FM&CBG Meeting, the Secretary-General will deliver remarks at Session I on the Global Economy and Framework for Growth and Session V on International Taxation.

Mr. Angel Gurría will also participate in the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) plenary session and present written statements to both the IMFC and Development Committee.

While in Washington, the Secretary-General will also hold several bilateral meetings with high level US and international officials.

Press Releases: President's New Immigration Priorities

Press Statement
Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
October 8, 2017

The President's new immigration priorities are focused on keeping Americans safe, ensuring our sovereignty through strong borders, and preserving our country as a nation of laws. The first duty of the federal government is to

provide for the national security of the American people, and President Trump's measures will end vulnerabilities in our immigration system that hinder our ability to protect our homeland.

The State Department will do its part by, among other measures, continuing to crack down on passport fraud, making sure all visa applicants are thoroughly screened, and putting pressure on countries to curb illegal immigration at the source. Working together with other federal agencies, we will continue to implement measures that strengthen vetting of those referred for refugee resettlement. Even as we take new steps to protect Americans, we will make sure the United States remains a beacon of liberty for people the world over.

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Press Releases: Uganda National Day

Press Statement
Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
October 9, 2017

On behalf of the people of the United States, our best wishes to all Ugandans as you celebrate the 55th anniversary of your independence.

The United States values its relationship with Uganda, a key partner with shared interests in promoting regional security and economic growth. After decades of cooperation, the bonds between our governments and our peoples are strong. I have no doubt that our relationship will continue to grow and mature as we work together toward our mutual goals of peace and prosperity.

Congratulations on 55 years of independence and best wishes for another year of progress.

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Press Releases: 11th Anniversary of the Murder of Anna Politkovskaya

Press Statement
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC
October 6, 2017

Eleven years ago renowned journalist Anna Politkovskaya was shot and killed in her Moscow apartment building. We continue to urge Russian authorities to identify and prosecute the person or persons who ordered, planned, and funded this terrible crime.

Ms. Politkovskaya's reporting brought to light the violation of human rights in Russia and the suffering of victims of the war in the North Caucasus region. Recent reports of abuses against LGBTI persons and extrajudicial killings in Chechnya leave us deeply concerned that human rights violations are still regularly committed with impunity in this region.

The unsolved murders of Ms. Politkovskaya – a dual U.S.-Russian citizen – and other journalists in Russia, as well as threats against journalists exposing more recent abuses in Chechnya, have only worsened an atmosphere of intimidation for the independent press.

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