

# [Press Releases: On the Occasion of National Day in Luxembourg](#)

Press Statement  
Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
June 22, 2017

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On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, congratulations to the people of Luxembourg as you celebrate your National Day on June 23.

For more than half a century the United States and Luxembourg have shared a strong friendship and staunch alliance. Our shared history, common values, and economic ties will ensure we remain close partners as we work together to strengthen NATO, defeat ISIS, and foster greater prosperity for both sides of the Atlantic.

America is committed to the friendship between our countries, and I look forward to strengthening our longstanding partnership.

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## [President Trump Visits Kirkwood Community College](#)

Yesterday, President Donald J. Trump visited Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa to address his efforts to foster agriculture innovation. He spoke about the value of farming to the Nation's economy and ensured the

Administration would continuously embrace the challenge to rebuild rural America.

“We have to make sure American farmers and their families, wherever they may be, wherever they may go, have the infrastructure projects that they need to compete and grow. And I mean grow against world competition, because that’s who you’re up against now.”

President Trump

For the past two weeks, the Administration has been working extensively on vocational education, infrastructure, and technology. The President declared he would push for increased rural internet access in his proposed infrastructure plan.

“American farmers and ranchers are the best – absolute best at what they do. And they can compete anywhere if they are given a level playing field.”

President Trump

Watch President Trump’s remarks:

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## [Secretary Price Hosts Listening Session with Obamacare Victims](#)

On Wednesday, Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, M.D., hosted a listening session at the White House with Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Seema Verma to hear from individuals who are facing a lack of choice in healthcare plans due to insurers pulling out of Obamacare marketplaces.



Citizens from Ohio, Iowa, and Missouri shared real-life stories of how Obamacare has negatively impacted themselves, their families, their businesses, and their communities. These real-life examples show the extremely limited options of healthcare plans that are available, and the consequences of such high premiums and deductibles.



A small business owner from Missouri spoke of his inability to keep employees

because of the advantage Obamacare gives to large corporations. An insurance agent from Missouri spoke of her guilt as she was unable to help her friends and neighbors, and was forced to deny them insurance due to the high costs. A doctor from Iowa spoke of his children, both diagnosed with a terminal disease, and his struggle as he was forced to choose between his practice and his children's medical care.



These examples, among countless others, demonstrate the tolls Obamacare has taken on the American people. The American people are frustrated with Obamacare, and they are looking for change.

“This is about real folks; this is about real people's lives. And the stories that we've heard at this table and around the country have been remarkably moving.”

Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price

Secretary Price reaffirmed the Administration's commitment to reduce Obamacare's burdens by providing the American people with the highest quality healthcare system.

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## **[Press Releases: Acting Assistant Secretary Simon Henshaw To Travel to Uganda for Refugee Summit](#)**

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
June 21, 2017

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Acting Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees, and Migration Simon Henshaw will travel to Uganda from June 21-23 as part of the United States delegation to the Uganda Solidarity Summit on Refugees, led by U.S. Ambassador to Uganda Deborah Malac. The Summit, hosted by Ugandan President Museveni and UN Secretary General Guterres, is being held in light of Uganda

now hosting nearly 1.3 million refugees, including those entering in large numbers from South Sudan – currently the world’s fastest-growing refugee crisis.

Assistant Secretary Henshaw’s visit reinforces the U.S. commitment to the 2016 New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which demonstrated the unity of the international community in humanitarian efforts to save lives, protect rights, and share responsibility on a global scale.

For more information on the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, visit <http://www.state.gov/j/prm> and follow @StatePRM on Twitter.

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## **Press Releases: United States Strategy for Engagement in the Caribbean**

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
June 21, 2017

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The U.S. Department of State, in coordination with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), submitted a multi-year Caribbean strategy to Congress on June 19 that establishes a framework for enhancing the security and prosperity of the United States and its Caribbean partners. Considered the “third border” of the United States, the Caribbean is a vital part of our efforts to counter organized crime and illicit trafficking, support democracy throughout the Western hemisphere, strengthen energy security, and create jobs through increased trade and investment.

A secure and stable Caribbean contributes to a safer and more prosperous United States by securing the U.S. border, protecting U.S. citizens abroad,

and increasing opportunities for U.S. exports. The United States will continue to work with the Caribbean region to support commitments in the multi-year strategy; encourage private sector-led growth and job creation; reduce energy costs through diversification, regulatory reform, and public-private partnerships; and maximize partnerships in health and education for more sustainable growth and development in the Western Hemisphere.

Congress mandated this Caribbean strategy through the United States-Caribbean Strategic Engagement Act of 2016 (H.R. 4939), which underscores U.S. interest in enhanced relations with the governments of the Caribbean, the Caribbean diaspora, the private sector, and civil society.

To view the Caribbean strategy, visit our webpage at <https://www.state.gov/p/wha/rt/caribbeanstrategy/index.htm>

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