

Press Releases: Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Alice Wells Travel to Geneva and Brussels

Media Note
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC
November 26, 2018

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of South and Central Asia Affairs Alice Wells will travel to Geneva, Switzerland, and Brussels, Belgium November 26-30, 2018. In Geneva, Ambassador Wells will join Under Secretary for Political Affairs David Hale who will lead the U.S. delegation at the Geneva Ministerial Conference on Afghanistan to review Afghanistan's progress in the common effort to attain lasting peace and prosperity for the people of Afghanistan. Under Secretary Hale, Ambassador Wells, and U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan John Bass will meet with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and Chief Executive Abdullah on the margins of the conference to discuss a wide range of bilateral issues. She will also meet with a range of leading donor nations and partners in our military effort, as well as with members of Afghanistan's civil society.

In Brussels, Ambassador Wells will meet with European Union counterparts to discuss the Indo-Pacific strategy as well as mutual efforts in Afghanistan and South Asia. She will also meet with media representatives at the Brussels Regional Media Hub to discuss the Geneva Conference, and its key outcomes

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.

Press Releases: In Remembrance of the Mumbai Attacks

Press Statement
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
November 25, 2018

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America and all Americans, I express my solidarity with the people of India and the city of Mumbai on the 10th anniversary of the Mumbai terrorist attack. We stand with the families and friends of the victims, whose loved ones were lost in this act of barbarism, including six American citizens. The barbarity of 26/11 shocked the entire world.

It is an affront to the families of the victims that, after ten years, those who planned the Mumbai attack have still not been convicted for their involvement. We call upon all countries, particularly Pakistan, to uphold their UN Security Council obligations to implement sanctions against the terrorists responsible for this atrocity, including Lashkar-e-Tayyiba and its affiliates.

The United States is committed to seeing that those responsible for this attack face justice. The Department of State Rewards for Justice (RFJ) Program is offering a new reward for up to \$5 million for information leading to the arrest or conviction of any individual who was involved in planning or facilitating the 2008 Mumbai attack.

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.

Press Releases: Rewards for Justice – Reward Offer for Information on the 2008 Mumbai Attack

Media Note
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC
November 25, 2018

The U.S. Department of State's Rewards for Justice (RFJ) Program is offering a reward of up to \$5 million for information leading to the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual who committed, conspired to commit, or aided or abetted in the execution of the 2008 Mumbai attack.

From November 26 to 29, 2008, ten individuals associated with the terrorist group Lashkar e-Tayyiba (LeT) carried out a series of coordinated assaults against multiple targets in Mumbai, India. The attack resulted in the deaths of 166 people, including six Americans.

The United States is committed to working with our international partners to identify and bring to justice those responsible for the 2008 Mumbai attack. Today's announcement marks the third RFJ reward offer seeking information on the perpetrators of the Mumbai attack. In April 2012, the Department of State announced reward offers for information that brings to justice LeT founder Hafiz Mohammad Saeed and Hafiz Abdul Rahman Makki, another senior LeT leader.

In December 2001, the Department of State designated LeT as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) in accordance with section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended. FTO designations play a critical role in our fight against terrorism and are an effective means of curtailing support for terrorist activities and pressuring groups to get out of the terrorism business. In May 2005, the United Nations (UN) 1267 Sanctions Committee added LeT to the Consolidated UN Security Council Sanctions List.

More information about these reward offers is located on the Rewards for Justice website at www.rewardsforjustice.net. We encourage anyone with information on this incident to contact the Rewards for Justice office via the website, e-mail (info@rewardsforjustice.net), phone (800-877-3927 in North America), or mail (Rewards for Justice, Washington, D.C., 20520-0303, USA). Individuals may also contact the Regional Security Officer at the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate. All information will be kept strictly

confidential.

The Rewards for Justice program is administered by the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service. Since its inception in 1984, the program has paid in excess of \$150 million to more than 100 people who provided actionable information that helped bring terrorists to justice or prevented acts of international terrorism worldwide. Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/Rewards4Justice>.

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.

[Press Releases: Interview With George Lawson of KFDI News](#)

Interview
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Via Teleconference
November 25, 2018

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary, new Iran sanctions are in place, eight countries exempted and European countries are staying with the original agreement. What impact do you expect the new sanctions to have in the short term and long term?

SECRETARY POMPEO: The goal is really very clear, George. It is to make sure that we protect America from the threats that the Islamic Republic of Iran presents to folks all across the country and including in Kansas. So these sanctions are intended to convince the Iranian leadership to change their ways, to stop launching missiles into cities where Americans are, to stop building weapon systems that threaten America. That's our goal is to get the

leadership in Iran to change its behavior, to protect Americans wherever they live and wherever they travel.

QUESTION: And these sanctions are targeting the oil production in Iran?

SECRETARY POMPEO: Multiple levels of sanctions. Certainly their oil production, but many other elements of their commercial world as well. We're trying to do this at the same time that we protect the Iranian people. We're convinced that the Iranian people don't want what it is their leaders are bringing them. And so we are doing everything we can to make sure that Iran still has the food and medicine and all of the things that the Iranian people need so that they can make good decisions about their leadership and the actions their leadership will take.

QUESTION: A lot of discussions this week on Saudi Arabia after the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, and I know some senators like Lindsey Graham have disagreed with the President's assessment of the situation. They're talking about Congress imposing some sanctions against Saudi Arabia. What's your reaction to that?

SECRETARY POMPEO: Look, the mission the President set out for the State Department and for the U.S. Government is very clear. We want to make sure that we do everything we can to hold accountable those who committed the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, and do so while still maintaining this incredibly important relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. They provide a lot of oil that matters to folks in Kansas. They provide help pushing back against Iran. This matters a lot to the people of Kansas.

Senator Graham and I both share that concern about Iran and I'm very confident we will continue to work together to keep America safe from Iran. But different members of the Senate will have different views. We're happy to consider them, and the President said if they bring legislation, he'd be happy to take a look at it. And if it makes sense, if it furthers the interests of America and keeps folks in Wichita, folks in Kansas City, folks in small towns throughout Kansas safe, then the President will be happy to support it.

QUESTION: Have you had any contacts from members of Congress on this?

SECRETARY POMPEO: Oh yes, we've been talking to Congress about the issues of Saudi Arabia since I became the Secretary of State, not only issues around the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, and we've – I've talked to a number of members about that – but the broader set of issues in our relationship, the good work they do providing support to the young men and women who choose to serve in our armed forces who are from Kansas. The Saudis have been an important partner of the United States, helping us do whatever we can to create stability in the Middle East, which is good for American business and Kansas businesses as well.

QUESTION: Can you talk about the working group that has been set up by the U.S. and South Korea on dealings with North Korea?

SECRETARY POMPEO: Yes. That – it’s important as we work to denuclearize North Korea, as we work to fulfill the promises that were made between President Trump and Chairman Kim, there are lots of elements to them. One of them is the relationship between South Korea and North Korea, and the working group is designed to make sure that that effort, that effort to restore peace on the peninsula, moves in parallel with the denuclearization discussions. We are in lock step with our Republic of Korea partners and we want to make sure we stay that way.

QUESTION: So it’s really two issues that are being discussed here, the working group with South Korea, making sure you’re working together, relations between the North and South, and then also the denuclearization.

SECRETARY POMPEO: That’s right. Yes, sir, that’s exactly correct.

QUESTION: Of course, some strong statements recently from North Korea, talk about new tactical weapons they have. What are the next steps on that front?

SECRETARY POMPEO: So we think we know what it is they’re referring to there; we’re pretty sure. I can’t say much. Know this: We’ve known this was going to be a lengthy process. This administration came in with a very difficult risk from North Korea. The President made the decision to have a summit with Chairman Kim, and I’ve been tasked with negotiating its resolution. It will take time. We are prepared to be patient, but all the while – all the while that we’re working to make sure that North Korea has continued to stop its missile tests, continued to stop its nuclear tests, the economic sanctions which have caused North Korea to engage with us will remain in place.

QUESTION: And do you have a special message for the people of Kansas for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend?

SECRETARY POMPEO: Just a Happy Thanksgiving. Susan and I wanted to say thanks for all the people of Kansas have done for us. We miss them and we hope to be back there when our time of service is complete.

QUESTION: Okay. Mr. Secretary, I think that will cover us.

SECRETARY POMPEO: Thank you, sir.

QUESTION: Thank you very much.

SECRETARY POMPEO: You have a wonderful day and a great Thanksgiving, George.

QUESTION: You too, sir. Thanks.

SECRETARY POMPEO: So long.

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.

Press Releases: Bosnia and Herzegovina Statehood Day

Press Statement
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC
November 25, 2018

On behalf of the American people and the United States government, I extend our best regards to the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina as you celebrate your Statehood Day.

The United States is committed to a strong partnership with Bosnia and Herzegovina and to its sovereignty and territorial integrity. We remain dedicated to working with the new government, once formed, as it continues the reforms necessary for Bosnia and Herzegovina to advance its goals of Western integration.

We wish you the best as you celebrate this important day and look forward to further strengthening the friendship between our two nations.

*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.*