

# [Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's Call With Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid](#)

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
August 15, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:□

On Tuesday, Secretary Michael R. Pompeo spoke with Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah al-Khalid. The Secretary thanked the Foreign Minister for Kuwait's strong partnership and longtime friendship with the United States. The Secretary also expressed appreciation for Kuwait's assistance with Iraq's immediate energy needs and long-term reconstruction. The two leaders discussed issues of mutual concern, such as regional security.

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## [Press Releases: Release of Ilgar Mammadov](#)

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
August 15, 2018

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The United States welcomes the decision of the Azerbaijani Court of Appeal to release Republican Alternative Party Chairman Ilgar Mammadov, whose conviction and imprisonment for over five years raised serious concerns about the rule of law in Azerbaijan. We call on the government to drop the charges against him, in keeping with its international obligations and the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights.

We urge the Azerbaijani authorities to release all other individuals who have been imprisoned for exercising their fundamental freedoms.

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## **Press Releases: Republic of Indonesia** **National Day**

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
August 15, 2018

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On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, it is my pleasure to send our warmest wishes to the people of Indonesia as you celebrate your 73rd year of independence this August 17th.

Our relationship is founded on shared democratic values and ideals. This common vision forms the basis of our strong U.S.-Indonesia Strategic Partnership, and we are encouraged by the progress made on our joint goal of promoting a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific. The United States looks forward to another year of progress and advancement between our two countries.

I send my deepest congratulations to you on this National Day and wish you continued success for years to come.

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## **Press Releases: Republic of Congo** **National Day**

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
August 15, 2018

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On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I offer my heartfelt congratulations to the people of the Republic of Congo on the 58th anniversary of independence on August 15th.

The United States looks forward to increased cooperation with the Republic of Congo through African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)-generated trade and in areas such as preventing the spread of infectious diseases and increasing

maritime security. We hope that our bilateral ties will continue to grow stronger in the coming years.

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## **Press Releases: Indian Independence Day**

Press Statement  
Michael R. Pompeo

Secretary of State

Washington, DC  
August 14, 2018

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On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I extend my best wishes to the people and government of India on their Independence Day. Since gaining its independence 71 years ago today, India has set an example for South Asia and the world by supporting democracy, diversity, and the rule of law—values shared by the United States.

As members of the oldest and largest democracies, the people of the United States and India have always enjoyed strong bonds of friendship. We are grateful for the vibrant Indian-American diaspora and the growing number of young people strengthening ties between our countries as exchange students. The values shared by our people contribute to inspiring collaboration in health, energy, environment, science, and high technology that will fuel the jobs and prosperity of the future.

On this Indian Independence Day, we congratulate India—a unique civilization, fellow democracy, and a friend—on taking its rightful place as a leading global power and continuing our shared efforts to sustain the rules-based

order.

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