

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: an early draft readout // not for distribution
Date:	Tue, 22 Oct 2019 09:38:59 +0000

Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
(b)(6) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

-----Original Message-----

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 9:41 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Kurt Volker
(b)(6)
Cc: Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
Subject: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Gentlemen,

Please see below a draft (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: S Visit Crib Sheet
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 12:43:03 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(5) (b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, September 2, 2019 12:36 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark
 W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: S Visit Crib Sheet

Ambassador,

A one-pager checklist for your reference during the S visit. We have copies for you in the office and also have it on a pocket card as useful.

Cheers,
 Henry

S Visit to Brussels – September 2-3

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

SBU

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Ukraine trip updates - Zelenskyy and the East on Friday
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 11:15:17 +0000



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 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 9:01 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine trip updates - Zelenskyy and the East on Friday

Is Zelensky going on helo?

Zyrkal away till Sunday



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 7:45:26 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Ukraine trip updates - Zelenskyy and the East on Friday

Ambassador,

I'm attaching the latest Kyiv schedule, with the portion for your participation pasted below. We're looking at a confirmed dinner with Danylyuk on Thursday evening (we may go directly from the airport)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Kurt Volker will go onward to Stanytsia-Luhanska in the East, traveling via helicopter. He'll visit the line of contact and do press.

Open questions:

- Friday breakfast is still open on the schedule. (b)(5)
 (b)(5) Or do you have another preference?
- (b)(5)

Embassy Kyiv tells us this is still very much in flux, (b)(5)

(b)(6)

1900	Dinner with NSDC Secretary Oleksandr Danylyuk (2 hours, <i>Confirmed</i> <u>Location:</u> Ohota Na Ovets (<i>reservation under "Ivanna"</i>) <u>USG Participants:</u> Amb Sondland, Amb Volker, CDA Taylor, Catherine Croft, Tara Maher, Michael Kreidler (notetaker) <u>External Participants:</u> No translation required	2100	<i>Depart Ohota Na Ovets ert Hyatt via motorpool</i> <i>Police escort</i>
		2115	<i>Arrive at Hyatt</i>
RON	Hyatt Regency		

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 5:57 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Ukraine trip status

Ambassador,

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)

Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 3:34 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Ukraine trip status

Ambassador,

Embassy Kyiv is working on scheduling the Zelenskyy meeting for Thursday. We may not know until late tonight or even tomorrow what time the meeting will take place – (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best case scenario, we hope they can schedule the meeting for Thursday evening, which would allow you to travel as scheduled and participate in the meeting. In that case, you could overnight Thursday,

(b)(5) then depart Kyiv Friday morning/midday.

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Political Officer

U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6)

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6)gsndland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	S (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: S Visit Crib Sheet
Date:	Mon, 2 Sep 2019 11:23:06 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Monday, September 2, 2019 12:35:46 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark
W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: S Visit Crib Sheet

Ambassador,

A one-pager checklist for your reference during the S visit. We have copies for you in the office and also have it on a pocket card as useful.

Cheers,

Henry

S Visit to Brussels – September 2-3

(b)(5)

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	S (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Updated List of Due-outs
Date:	Tue, 15 Oct 2019 16:30:55 +0000

Do you know who attended the TAR dinner incl staff?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 6:28:40 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Updated List of Due-outs

Ambassador:

Here's what I could find in terms of what we prepared and shared with you re: the dinner you hosted on the margins of the Brussels forum.

Mark

*Mark W. Libby
 Deputy Chief of Mission
 U.S. Mission to the European Union (USEU)
 Brussels*

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 6:20 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Updated List of Due-outs

Ambassador,

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best,

(b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU)

Sent: Monday, September 30, 2019 12:19 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: FW: Updated List of Due-outs

Re-forwarding, per your request. (b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2019 9:55 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Updated List of Due-outs

Ambassador,

Here's an updated list of due-outs, this time organized thematically. I recommend (b)(5)

(b)(5) for follow-up.

(b)(6)

Fresh Start w/New EU Leadership Team:

Pending:

- (b)(5)

-

-

-

Ukraine: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Pending:

- Amb. Volker invited GDS to join trip to Ukraine week of July 22; (b)(5)

(b)(5)

-

Completed:

- OakTree's Herrera and Danyliuk connected
- WH meeting tweet live

5G: (b)(5)

Pending:

- (b)(5)

-

-

Completed:

- CISCO VP Jeff Campbell will meet Wilbur's COS 7/17
- Nokia Chairman and Krach connected
- Reciprocal data flow PowerPoint requested
- T+Lord letter on EDF/PESCO shared with E staff
- (b)(5)

Energy: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Pending:

- (b)(5)

Completed:

- (b)(5)

UNGA: (b)(5)

Pending:

- (b)(5)

Venezuela: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Pending:

- (b)(5)

- (b)(5)

Resources: (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Pending:

- (b)(5)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Doyle, Emma (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine
Date:	Sat, 20 Jul 2019 (b)(6) +0000

Sorry I forgot to add you



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 11:38:00 AM

To: Rick Perry; Kenna, Lisa D; McCormack, Brian; Taylor, William B (Kyiv); Volker, Kurt D; Mick Mulvaney

Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Kindly advise soonest.

Thanks.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 (b)(6) AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Subject: FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

As requested

From: Hill, Fiona EOP/NSC (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 3:43 AM

To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Fysa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pacelli, Andrew B. EOP/NSC" (b)(6)

Date: July 19, 2019 at 7:18:21 PM EDT

To: DL NSC EURUSSIA (b)(6)

Cc: DL NSC PaperDeputies (b)(6)

Subject: FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

FYSA

From: Linder, Jerad M. EOP/NSC (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 7:16 PM

To: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO (b)(6) DL NSC HOS

(b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff (b)(6) Staff Secretary

(b)(6)

Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor (b)(6)

Subject: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5) call will be rescheduled pending election results and availability...**call is on hold.**

v/r,

WHSR

From: Nolan, James P. EOP/NSC (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:49 PM

To: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO (b)(6) DL NSC HOS

(b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff (b)(6); Staff Secretary

(b)(6)

Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor (b)(6)

Subject: RE: PROPOSE: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Mike,

Understood. WHSR will propose a 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS call with President Zelensky of Ukraine.

v/r,

WHSR

From: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:47 PM
To: DL NSC HOS (b)(6); DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6); Staff Secretary (b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor (b)(6)
Subject: PROPOSE: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

WHSR,

Per approval of the NSC Schedule Proposal, please propose a **20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev)** secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine.

Thanks,

Mike

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Doyle, Emma (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:08:43 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 + (b)(6)

From: Kurt Volker (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 1:35 PM
To: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Cc: Buchan, Samuel (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Works for me.

On Fri, Jun 28, 2019 at 7:22 AM McCormack, Brian (b)(6) wrote:

Ukraine asking if the call can be moved 30 minutes later to 10:30 eastern. That will work for us. You guys ok?

From: Kurt Volker (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 5:52 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: McCormack, Brian (b)(6) Buchan, Samuel
 (b)(6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution

In addition to Gordon's point, I would like to add something mentioning (b)(5)
 (b)(5) Something like: Thanks - Kurt

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Amb. Kurt Volker

Executive Director

McCain Institute for International Leadership

Arizona State University

ASU Barrett & O'Connor Center

1800 I Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006

o: (b)(6)

c:

(b)(6)

www.McCainInstitute.org

[Twitter](#) • [Facebook](#) • [Instagram](#) • [YouTube](#) • [LinkedIn](#)

On Fri, Jun 28, 2019 at 4:39 AM Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

I would add something to the end of the second paragraph like:

(b)(5)

(FEEL FREE TO EDIT)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 9:41:17 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Kurt Volker

Cc: Buchan, Samuel

Subject: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Gentlemen,

Please see below a draft (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Draft:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

This message does not originate from a known Department of Energy email system.
Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

--

Amb. Kurt Volker

Executive Director

McCain Institute for International Leadership

Arizona State University

ASU Barrett & O'Connor Center

1800 I Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006

o: (b)(6)

c:

(b)(6)

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UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:19:53 +0000



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 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 1:22 PM
To: Kurt Volker (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Ukraine asking if the call can be moved 30 minutes later to 10:30 eastern. That will work for us. You guys ok?

From: Kurt Volker (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 5:52 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <SondlandGD@state.gov>
Cc: McCormack, Brian (b)(6) Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution

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(b)(5)

(b)(5)

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1800 I Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006

o (b)(6)

c

(b)(6)

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On Fri, Jun 28, 2019 at 4:39 AM Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

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(b)(5)

(FEEL FREE TO EDIT)



Gordon D. Sondland

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United States Mission to the European Union
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1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 9:41:17 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Kurt Volker
Cc: Buchan, Samuel
Subject: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Gentlemen,

Please see below a draft (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

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Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution
Date:	Tue, 22 Oct 2019 09:39:59 +0000



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 (b)(6) (b)(6)

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From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 1:22 PM
To: Kurt Volker (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
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To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <SondlandGD@state.gov>
Cc: McCormack, Brian (b)(6) Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
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o: (b)(6)

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(b)(6)

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wrote:

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(FEEL FREE TO EDIT)



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1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 9:41:17 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Kurt Volker
Cc: Buchan, Samuel
Subject: an early draft readout // not for distribution

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Please see below a draft (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Draft:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

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Use caution if this message contains attachments, links or requests for information.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) sondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: [EXTERNAL] RE: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:16:08 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(7) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, July 21, 2019 4:09 PM
To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
 (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

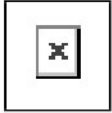
From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Date: Saturday, Jul 20, 2019, 15:28
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
 McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Yup

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 3:13 PM
To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Standby for a bit



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 1:11:40 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Volker, Kurt D; McCormack, Brian

Subject: RE: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

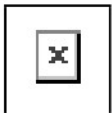
Got it. (b)(5)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 3:07 PM

To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

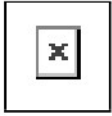
(b) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:55:28 PM

To: Kenna, Lisa D

Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:38:24 PM

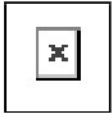
To: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO

Cc: Rick Perry

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Your call and we will
take your lead...



Gordon D. Sondland

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United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:30:04 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Rick Perry

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

From Bolton last night (forwarded to me by someone else):

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

(b)(5)

MM

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 20, 2019, at 7:25 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:20:18 PM

To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)

Cc: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Rick Perry; Kenna, Lisa D; McCormack, Brian; Volker, Kurt D

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

MM

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 20, 2019, at 6:36 AM, Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) wrote:

(b)(5)

Advice?

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:44 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Rick Perry

(b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6) McCormack,

Brian (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D

<VolkerKD@state.gov>; Mick Mulvaney (b)(6)

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

from here.

Bill Taylor

Let me know how I can help

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:38:00 PM

To: Rick Perry (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D

(b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D

(b)(6) Mick Mulvaney (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Kindly

advise soonest. Thanks.

<image001.jpg>

Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 11:32:57 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); McCormack, Brian
(b)(6)
Subject: FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

As requested

From: Hill, Fiona EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 3:43 AM
To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Fysa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pacelli, Andrew B. EOP/NSC"
(b)(6)
Date: July 19, 2019 at 7:18:21 PM EDT
To: DL NSC EURUSSIA (b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC PaperDeputies (b)(6)
Subject: FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

FYSA

From: Linder, Jerad M. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 7:16 PM
To: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO
(b)(6) DL NSC HOS
(b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6) Staff Secretary
(b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor
(b)(6)
Subject: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5) call will be rescheduled pending election results and availability...**call is on hold.**

v/r,
WHSR

From: Nolan, James P. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:49 PM
To: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO
(b)(6) DL NSC HOS
(b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6) Staff Secretary
(b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: PROPOSE: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS
Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Mike,

Understood. WHSR will propose a 20 JUL, 0800 EDT
(1500 Kiev) secure HoS call with President Zelensky of
Ukraine.

v/r,
WHSR

From: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO
(b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:47 PM
To: DL NSC HOS (b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6) Staff Secretary
(b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor
(b)(6)
Subject: PROPOSE: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call
with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

WHSR,

Per approval of the NSC Schedule Proposal, please propose a
20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President
Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine.

Thanks,
Mike

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: an early draft readout // not for distribution
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:09:17 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
(b)(7) (b)(6)

From: Kurt Volker (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 11:52 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: McCormack, Brian (b)(6) Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
Subject: Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution

In addition to Gordon's point, I would like to add something mentioning (b)(5)
(b)(5) Something like: Thanks - Kurt

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Amb. Kurt Volker

Executive Director

McCain Institute for International Leadership

Arizona State University

ASU Barrett & O'Connor Center

1800 I Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006

o: (b)(6)

c:

(b)(6)

www.McCainInstitute.org

[Twitter](#) • [Facebook](#) • [Instagram](#) • [YouTube](#) • [LinkedIn](#)

On Fri, Jun 28, 2019 at 4:39 AM Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

I would add something to the end of the second paragraph like:

(b)(5)

(FEEL FREE TO EDIT)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 9:41:17 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Kurt Volker

Cc: Buchan, Samuel

Subject: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Gentlemen,

Please see below a draft (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Draft:

(b)(5)

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
CC:	Brechbuhl, Thomas U (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: S cannot beak away from U.K. program
Date:	Sun, 26 May 2019 14:07:58 +0000

(b)(5)

(b)(5) This dinner is really beginning to have some diplomatic “needle moving” elements. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Pls let me know soonest who can stand in for Mike of equivalent rank. Thx so much.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D

Sent: Sunday, May 26, 2019 6:41:13 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Brechbuhl, Thomas U

Subject: Re: S cannot beak away from U.K. program

(b)(5)

Sent from my iPhone

On May 26, 2019, at 9:19 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D

Sent: Sunday, May 26, 2019 3:42:17 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Brechbuhl, Thomas U

Subject: S cannot beak away from U.K. program

Gordon,

There is no way for S to break away from the U.K. program June 4. He will need to staff POTUS through the evening that day. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sent from my iPhone

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6) Brechtbuhl, Thomas U (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Two things (Time Sensitive)
Date:	Mon, 10 Jun 2019 11:25:29 +0000

Any feedback? Call w Bolton 3pm eastern



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 1:13:13 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: Two things (Time Sensitive)

Mike, two things need your quick attention.

1. Boeing Max

Met with Administrator Elwell and my FAA team. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Zelensky

Great dinner.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Your call.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Two things (Time Sensitive)
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:49:15 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2019 3:02 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Two things (Time Sensitive)

He appreciates your work on #1.

On #2, the issue is timing. I can explain better on the tel.

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 1:13:13 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: Two things (Time Sensitive)

Mike, two things need your quick attention.

1. Boeing Max

Met with Administrator Elwell and my FAA team. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Zelensky

Great dinner.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Your call.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) sondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Ukraine
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:44:27 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 6:22 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Ukraine

I'll look into it. We made it clear that we support your participation.

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 12:06 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Ukraine

Lisa,

See below. This is getting old. The Ukrainians reached out. They want me there. Perry also asked me to join him.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Mick Mulvaney
Cc: Doyle, Emma; Rick Perry; McCormack, Brian
Subject: Ukraine

Hi Mick,

Rick Perry asked me to join him on the inaug delegation. I have a lot going on right now with Ukraine vis-a-vis the EU and I am hosting Pres Zelensky in a couple of weeks for dinner in Brussels. Their Dep FM called me personally to confirm if I am attending and told me they are holding a space for me.

Someone at the WH/NSC keeps bumping me off the list. Not sure why but if you dont want me there, pls advise. I am just trying to do my job but this internal back and forth with unknown folks is really frustrating. Thx for your help.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

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United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Ukraine
Date:	Tue, 22 Oct 2019 09:22:21 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 10:05 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine

Thx for fixing Lisa.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 9:21:54 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Ukraine

I'll look into it. We made it clear that we support your participation.

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 12:06 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Ukraine

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Gordon



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Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Ukraine
Date:	Fri, 17 May 2019 16:45:55 +0000

Thanks. Stuck on the west coast until advised



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 9:21:54 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Ukraine

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Official
UNCLASSIFIED

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To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Ukraine

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United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

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Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 8:46 AM

To: Mick Mulvaney

Cc: Doyle, Emma; Rick Perry; McCormack, Brian

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Gordon



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Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Action Items
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:51:33 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
(b)(7) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2019 10:04 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Action Items

Dear Gordon,

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Best, Lisa

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 5:44 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Action Items

Lisa,

Need some visibility on:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Thx so much.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(1) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:39:54 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

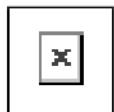
Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 2:12 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
 McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Subject: RE: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Got it. (b)(5)

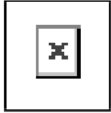
From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 3:07 PM
To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine



Gordon D. Sondland

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 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:55:28 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
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(b) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:38:24 PM
To: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO
Cc: Rick Perry
Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Your call and we will
take your lead...



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Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
(b) (b)(6)

From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:30:04 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Rick Perry

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

From Bolton last night (forwarded to me by someone else):

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

(b)(5)

MM

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 20, 2019, at 7:25 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:20:18 PM

To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)

Cc: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Rick Perry; Kenna, Lisa D; McCormack, Brian; Volker, Kurt D

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

MM

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 20, 2019, at 6:36 AM, Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) wrote:

(b)(5)

Advice?

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:44 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Rick Perry

(b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6) McCormack,

Brian (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D

(b)(6) Mick Mulvaney (b)(6)

Subject: Re: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

Let me know how I can help

from here.

Bill Taylor

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 12:38:00 PM

To: Rick Perry (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D

(b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6)

Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D

(b)(6) Mick Mulvaney (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Kindly

advise soonest. Thanks.

<image001.jpg>

Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Taylor, William B (Kyiv)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 (b)(6) AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); McCormack, Brian
(b)(6)
Subject: FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

As requested

From: Hill, Fiona EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 20, 2019 3:43 AM
To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Fysa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Pacelli, Andrew B. EOP/NSC"
(b)(6)
Date: July 19, 2019 at 7:18:21 PM EDT
To: DL NSC EURUSSIA (b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC PaperDeputies (b)(6)
Subject: FW: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

FYSA

From: Linder, Jerad M. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 7:16 PM
To: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO
(b)(6) DL NSC HOS
(b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6) Staff Secretary
(b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor
(b)(6)
Subject: ON HOLD: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

(b)(5) call will be rescheduled pending election results and availability...**call is on hold.**

v/r,
WHSR

From: Nolan, James P. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:49 PM
To: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO
(b)(6) DL NSC HOS
(b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6) Staff Secretary
(b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: PROPOSE: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

Mike,

Understood. WHSR will propose a 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS call with President Zelensky of Ukraine.

v/r,
WHSR

From: Haidet, Michael B. EOP/WHO
(b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 3:47 PM
To: DL NSC HOS (b)(6) DL NSC NSA FO Staff
(b)(6) Staff Secretary
(b)(6)
Cc: DL NSC WHSR Watchfloor
(b)(6)
Subject: PROPOSE: 20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev) secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

WHSR,

Per approval of the NSC Schedule Proposal, please propose a **20 JUL, 0800 EDT (1500 Kiev)** secure HoS Call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine.

Thanks,
Mike

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Two things (Time Sensitive)
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:48:29 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
(b)(6) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 1:43 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Two things (Time Sensitive)

Gordon,
Will relay right away. Best, Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 7, 2019, at 7:13 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Mike, two things need your quick attention.

1. Boeing Max

Met with Administrator Elwell and my FAA team. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Zelensky

Great dinner. (b)(5)

(b)(5) (b)(5) Your call.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(5)
To:	(b)(6) sondland (b)(5)
Subject:	FW: Zelensky Oval
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:47:37 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
(b)(7) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(5)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 8:03 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(5)
Subject: RE: Zelensky Oval

Passing to S. We will check on this today.

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(5)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 1:58 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(5)
Subject: Zelensky Oval

Mike,

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) We all got up from meeting and agreed, now this. (b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(5)
Recipient:	(b)(1) gsondland (b)(5)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Zelensky Oval
Date:	Tue, 22 Oct 2019 09:16:29 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 10:00 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Oval

Thanks. (b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 11:02:50 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Zelensky Oval

Passing to S. We will check on this today.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 1:58 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Zelensky Oval

Mike,

(b)(5)

(b)(5) We all got up from meeting and agreed, now this. (b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(1) gsondland (b)(6)

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Non-paper on Ukraine (b)(5)
Date: Tue, 15 Oct 2019 20:05:43 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b) (b)(6)

From: Vindman, Alexander S. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 9:38:58 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
 McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Cc: hill, fiona (b)(6) (b)(6) Erath, John F. EOP/NSC
 (b)(6) Reeker, Philip T (b)(6) Kent, George P
 (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) Buchan, Samuel
 (b)(6) Julia G. Friedlander (b)(6) Freden, Bradley
 A (b)(6)
Subject: Non-paper on Ukraine (b)(5)

Gentlemen,

I've provided some edits to the attached non-paper. Please let me know if I can review any other products in preparation for your engagement with President Zelenskyy.

(b)(5)

Thank you.

V/R,
 Alexander S. Vindman
 Director for Eastern Europe and Russia
 National Security Council
 Desk (b)(6)

Secure: (b)(6)

S: (b)(6)

TS: (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Non-paper on Ukraine (b)(5)
Date:	Sat, 26 Oct 2019 19:08:30 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2019 4:05:43 PM
To: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Non-paper on Ukraine (b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Vindman, Alexander S. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 9:38:58 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
 McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Cc: hill, fiona (b)(5) (b)(6) Erath, John F. EOP/NSC
 (b)(6) Reeker, Philip T (b)(6) Kent, George P
 (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) Buchan, Samuel
 (b)(6) Julia G. Friedlander (b)(6) Freden, Bradley
 A (b)(6)
Subject: Non-paper on Ukraine (b)(5)

Gentlemen,

I've provided some edits to the attached non-paper. Please let me know if I can review any other products in preparation for your engagement with President Zelenskyy.

(b)(5)

Thank you.

V/R,
Alexander S. Vindman
Director for Eastern Europe and Russia
National Security Council

Desk: (b)(6)

Secure: (b)(6)

S: (b)(6)

TS: (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: POTUS Call this morning
Date:	Thu, 25 Jul 2019 12:34:29 +0000

**Gordon D. Sondland**

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 (b)(6) PM

To: Doyle, Emma (b)(6)

Cc: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D

(b)(6)

Subject: POTUS Call this morning

Emma,

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Two things (Time Sensitive)
Date:	Fri, 7 Jun 2019 11:53:00 +0000

**Gordon D. Sondland**

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 1:13:13 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: Two things (Time Sensitive)

Mike, two things need your quick attention.

1. Boeing Max

Met with Administrator Elwell and my FAA team. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Zelensky

Great dinner.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Your call.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(1) (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Call with S
Date:	Tue, 2 Jul 2019 14:27:33 +0000

Lisa, no worries! Hope you (b)(6) have a fantastic 4th. All the best.
Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2019 7:25:00 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Call with S

Hi, yes, I'm so sorry. I lost control of our schedule on Sunday. I'll come back to you today with some times. Best, Lisa

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2019 10:24 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Call with S

Following up.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Sunday, June 30, 2019 7:21:01 AM

To: Kenna, Lisa D

Subject: Call with S

Lisa,

I have a number of mission critical q's for S. (b)(5)

(b)(5) and two or three others. Can you find a 10 minute slot for me in the coming few days? I can do secure (b)(7)(E) Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b) (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: More Reading on Ukraine - Press Guidance
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 12:44:06 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2019 6:04 PM
To: USEU-FO-DL (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) E (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: More Reading on Ukraine - Press Guidance

Ukraine Press Guidance (07/18/2019)

What's the path forward in Ukraine?

We reaffirm our commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders. As we made clear with our Crimea Declaration, Crimea is part of Ukraine and the United States will never recognize Russia's attempt to annex it.

Let's remember the facts: In 2014, Russia occupied Crimea and fomented the conflict in eastern Ukraine. Russia continues to arm, train, lead, and fight alongside its forces in eastern Ukraine in a conflict that has killed approximately 13,000 people since 2014. Russia further escalated its aggressive activities against Ukraine in November 2018, when it attacked three Ukrainian naval vessels in the Black Sea near the Kerch Strait and seized 24 Ukrainian crewmembers, who remain detained in Russia.

We remain fully committed to diplomatic efforts to resolve the Russia-instigated conflict in eastern Ukraine and reestablish Ukrainian government control over all of Ukraine's territory. Ambassador Kurt Volker has negotiated in good faith with his Russian counterpart, but the Russians are not seriously engaging and have not demonstrated they seek a real resolution of the

conflict. In the midst of one of the worst humanitarian crises in Europe in a generation, this stalling is unacceptable and deeply cynical.

What about Minsk as a solution to the war in Ukraine?

The United States remains committed to the Minsk agreements as the way forward in eastern Ukraine. The resolution to this conflict must be a diplomatic one. U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker continues to engage with officials from Ukraine, Russia, Germany, France, and other interested partners and allies to move that process forward.

I would point out that Ukraine has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to the Minsk agreements. In contrast, Russia has not even started to fulfill its commitments under Minsk to improve the security situation in eastern Ukraine.

Sanctions:

Our sanctions will remain in place until Russia reverses the actions that caused us to impose them in the first place.

Solidarity with the EU:

From the beginning of the conflict, the United States and the EU have stood united in defense of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Volker-Surkov channel:

That channel of communications remains open, but I don't have any new meetings to announce.

What was the U.S. response to the Kerch Attack?

The United States condemned Russia's unjustified November 25 attack on Ukrainian vessels attempting to exercise their legal right to transit the Kerch Strait. We have called on Russia to immediately return to Ukraine its vessels and 24 detained crewmembers. On March 15, the United States, the EU, and Canada announced coordinated sanctions against Russian officials involved in the attack. The United States has increased its maritime security assistance to Ukraine, and in April 2019, NATO Foreign Ministers agreed to a package of measures to enhance Black Sea security, to include assistance to Ukraine and Georgia to enhance their maritime capabilities, information sharing, and interoperability with NATO.

Crimea:

The United States remains gravely concerned by the brutal repression by Russia's occupation regime in Crimea. During the past five plus years, Russian occupation authorities have engaged in an array of abuses in a campaign to eliminate all opposition to its control over Crimea. As part of this campaign, Russia has arbitrarily detained and wrongfully convicted individuals for peaceful opposition to the occupation, and in some cases has forcibly transferred these

individuals from occupied Crimea to Russia. The United States calls on Russia to release all of the Ukrainians, including members of the Crimean Tatar community, it has imprisoned in retaliation for their peaceful dissent. We call on Russia to cease all its abuses immediately, to end its occupation of Crimea, and, in the meantime, to comply with its obligations under international law, including the law of occupation.

In his Crimea Declaration of July 25, 2018, Secretary Pompeo reaffirmed the United States' refusal to recognize the Kremlin's claims of sovereignty over Crimea. The United States also condemns Russia's illegal actions in Crimea and its continued aggression against Ukraine. The United States will maintain respective sanctions against Russia until the Russian Government returns control of Crimea to Ukraine and fully implements the Minsk agreements. The United States reiterates its unbending support for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, within its internationally recognized borders, including its territorial waters.

Status of Ukraine Reform Efforts:

Building capable, trustworthy Ukrainian institutions that strengthen rule of law, reduce corruption, increase government accountability, create jobs, and attract investment is the surest path to economic growth, resilience, and independence in the face of external pressure. We welcome President Zelenskyy's stated commitment to pursuing needed reforms and will continue to work with the Ukrainian people and Ukraine's elected officials to achieve these goals.

Ukraine has enacted extensive reforms over the last five years, including in the banking, health, education, and energy sectors. It has created anti-corruption institutions and increased transparency in government procurement. Civil society has been instrumental in driving these reforms forward. These reforms are commendable, but Ukraine has more to do to cement progress. The election of President Zelenskyy and a new parliament is an opportunity to revitalize the reform process, as is the likely start of a new IMF program following government formation. We look forward to working with the government of Ukraine and the international community to support a robust IMF program that will spur reform and economic growth.

Corruption remains one of the most significant obstacles to Ukraine achieving its Western aspirations and achieving its economic potential. Quick progress to address corruption would send a clear signal of Ukraine's commitment to realizing the promise of the Revolution of Dignity and be welcomed by international investors.

Energy

We urge the new government to implement reforms that will strengthen Ukraine's energy security. These reforms include improving the efficiency and transparency of the energy sector, strengthening corporate governance at key institutions, and complying with conditions for EU market integration—chief among them, unbundling Naftohaz's gas transmission arm from the rest of the company.

The Ukraine-Russia gas transit contract ends on December 31, and trilateral negotiations led by the EU have stalled due to Russian intransigence. We are urging the sides to negotiate so there is no interruption in gas supplies to Ukraine and Europe.

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) sondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Luskin, Robert (b)(6)
CC:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Rough translation of Ze-Volker-Sondland meeting readout
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 11:23:19 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 2:11 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)
 Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Rough translation of Ze-Volker-Sondland meeting readout

FYI

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: (b)(6) (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 2:18:05 PM
To: Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6) Kvien, Kristina A (b)(6) Kyiv EXEC
 (b)(6) Kyiv POL Core (b)(6) Kyiv ECON FSOs
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (Kyiv) (b)(6) Ballard, Juliana K
 (b)(6) Ballard, John A (Kyiv) (b)(6) Pennington, Joseph S (Kyiv)
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (Kyiv) (b)(6) Kutor, Susan (KYIV/DIR)
 (b)(6) Wofford, Thomas Q (Kyiv) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Cc: Kyiv IOs (b)(6) EUR-Ukraine Desk-DL (b)(6) Kent, George P
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Tomlinson,
 Christina (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Rough translation of Ze-Volker-Sondland meeting readout

Very rough translation of the readout just posted on the President of Ukraine's website. (English version not yet posted there.)

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy met with US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Volker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland.

The Head of State thanked the U.S. side for their consistent support of Ukraine and the efforts of the United States aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Donbas.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy discussed with the representatives of the U.S. administration the current situation in the area of the Joint Forces Operation, in particular the process of disengaging forces and equipment around Stanytsia Luhanska.

During the meeting, the need was noted for the occupation authorities to implement mutual steps previously agreed by the parties, which will allow successful completion of the process of separation of forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the line of contact.

The parties expressed the hope that the cease-fire regime introduced on July 21 would be comprehensive and permanent and that any armed provocations on the part of the occupied territories would be permanently discontinued.

<https://www.president.gov.ua/news/prezident-ukrayini-zustrivsyia-zi-specialnim-predstavnikom-ss-56621>

Official - Transitory

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Luskin, Robert (b)(6) (b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Sefcovic to Zelensky inauguration
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 11:38:21 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:13 PM
To: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Sefcovic to Zelensky inauguration

Looks like EU is eyeing Sefcovic to head their del to UA. Expect more information/details to firm up in the coming hours.

*Mark W. Libby
 Deputy Chief of Mission
 U.S. Mission to the European Union (USEU)
 Brussels*

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:09 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
 Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) C (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 E (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Sefcovic to Zelensky inauguration

Sef cos just called me to thank me and the team for all the support. He said sef will go to kyiv likely on the noon flight from Brussels on Sunday.

Regards,

Henry

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:06:35 PM

To: Libby, Mark W (USEU); Witmer, Kami A (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU);
(b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)

Subject: Sefcovic to Zelensky inauguration

I'm hearing informally that Sefcovic is likely to head the E.U. delegation to the Zelensky inauguration on May 20. Will let you know once confirmed.

(b)(6)

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) sondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Travel
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:54:28 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2019 3:58 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Travel

Hi,

It is way too early for them to do their manifests, but we've made our request clear. I'd stand by for now. And I'll keep following up. Lisa

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2019 9:15 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Travel

Good morning,

Need to book travel for Iohannis, Zelensky and Poland. Haven't received anything from WH.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) sondland <(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: UNGA
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 12:01:49 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 10:06 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: UNGA

Dear Gordon,

I revisited the UNGA issue with S. He supports your participation in the Zelensky meeting. I've relayed this update to our WH colleagues.

Best, Lisa

Lisa Kenna
 Executive Secretary
 Department of State
 (b)(6) (desk)
 (b)(6) (mobile)

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)sondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: UNGA
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 12:01:30 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

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Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 8:32 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: UNGA

Understood. I'll ask him this aft.

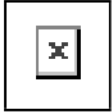
SBU

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: UNGA

Lisa,

Spoke with Tim. S needs to sign off on my presence at the Zelensky bilat and he is fine. Kindly advise.

Dinner with Jared and Ivanka sched for 9/22. Borrell & Michel have confirmed. Also waiting for Finnish PM response.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) sondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(7) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Zelensky administration
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 11:21:12 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 5:01 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
 Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Zelensky administration

Ambassador,

We wanted to update you on the latest developments in the Zelensky administration. Zelensky has made appointments to some key national security posts, but left the Foreign Minister slot vacant, leading some to surmise that he could intend to ask Pavlo Klimkin to reprise his role as Foreign Minister. Much of this is clearly still in flux (and there is a touch of drama involved), but at a macro level, it's a good sign that these serious, experienced players are being placed in key posts.

On May 22, Ukrainian media reported that President Zelensky would appoint former Finance Minister Oleksandr **Danyliuk** (whom you met in Brussels May 2) as Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council. While this has not yet been officially announced, the Ukrainian mission in Brussels confirmed this was their expectation as well.

On May 22, Zelensky also appointed Ukraine's Ambassador to NATO, Vadym **Prystaiko**, as the Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration – a position Embassy Kyiv tells us is approximately equivalent to John Bolton's position as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (APNSA). This is the position that was previously offered to (and reportedly turned down by) Deputy Foreign Minister Olena **Zerkal** (and in fact, an executive order appointing Zerkal to the position was posted on the presidential website for a day before being taken down).

Both Danyliuk and Prystaiko were rumored frontrunners for Zelensky's choice as Foreign Minister. With both of them out of the running, our Ukrainian contact in Brussels suggested Poroshenko's Foreign Minister Pavlo **Klimkin** may be asked to join the Zelensky administration (despite having previously turned down the job, telling Zelensky he preferred to run for parliament). The Ukrainian contact pointed out that in his inauguration speech, Zelensky called for the resignation of all senior cabinet officials – except Klimin.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Political Officer

U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: UNGA
Date:	Tue, 17 Sep 2019 20:40:27 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 10:05:37 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: UNGA

Dear Gordon,

I revisited the UNGA issue with S. He supports your participation in the Zelensky meeting. I've relayed this update to our WH colleagues.

Best, Lisa

Lisa Kenna
Executive Secretary
Department of State
(b)(6) (desk)
(b)(6) (mobile)

(b)(6)
(b)(6)

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Travel
Date:	Fri, 2 Aug 2019 15:15:55 +0000

Got it. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2019 9:57:40 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Travel

Hi,

It is way too early for them to do their manifests, but we've made our request clear. I'd stand by for now. And I'll keep following up. Lisa

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2019 9:15 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Travel

Good morning,

Need to book travel for Iohannis, Zelensky and Poland. Haven't received anything from WH.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: UNGA
Date:	Sun, 15 Sep 2019 21:08:09 +0000

So my dinner on Sunday and the Zelensky bilat? Hard to do this with Ukraine if I miss the meeting since I've been talking to Ze all along. Should I drop the whole file?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 10:00:51 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: UNGA

Gordon,
S and the WH decided no COMs should attend UNGA. Lisa

SBU

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 1:45 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: UNGA

Lisa,

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Gordon D. Sondland

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United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: UNGA
Date:	Tue, 17 Sep 2019 20:39:57 +0000

Thanks Lisa and thank S as well.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 10:05:37 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: UNGA

Dear Gordon,
I revisited the UNGA issue with S. He supports your participation in the Zelensky meeting. I've relayed this update to our WH colleagues.
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Lisa Kenna
Executive Secretary
Department of State
(b)(6) (desk)
(b)(6) (mobile)
(b)(6)
(b)(6)

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Ukraine Energy Updates

1. Gas Storage: Filling Ukraine's underground gas storage reservoirs is a must. Ukraine needs roughly 20 bcm in storage by October to mitigate the impact of a gas cut-off. Thanks to low gas prices, Ukraine now has roughly 14 bcm of gas in storage, about 20 percent more than the same time last year. However, Naftogaz is facing a likely funding shortfall of \$1 billion to achieve its storage goals.

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3. Financing: OPIC's outstanding debt issue appears settled, so OPIC could provide political risk insurance to a private lender to finance Naftogaz's winter gas purchases. Naftogaz CEO Kobolyev told A/S Fannon on July 2 that Naftogaz is seeking a delay until 2020 of an EBRD €300 million loan to upgrade Ukraine's gas transit system, prioritizing instead a €900 million Eurobond for gas purchases. The Ministry of Finance gave permission this week for Naftogaz to go to market.

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(b)(5)

5. Winter Action Plan: DOE and the Commission are working with Ukraine on a "Winter Action Plan" for preparedness and response to a gas cutoff. This includes prioritizing protected consumers in the event of a cutoff, fuel switching in district heating systems, and tabletop crisis exercises.

6. Energy Council Working Group: The EU requested a joint letter to President Zelensky (from Perry and Sefcovic) outlining priorities. A draft is in progress.

Recent/Upcoming Meetings/Events:

July 8-9: EU-Ukraine Summit

July 10: Bolton/Danyliuk

July 11: U.S.-EU WG technical meeting on security of supply

July TBD: Volker, Perry, Ross visits to Ukraine

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Approved: CDA Tomlinson ()

Drafted: ECON (b)(6) – July 9, 2019

Cleared:	ECON	(b)(6)	(ok)
	DOE	(b)(6)	(ok)
	POL	(b)(6)	(ok)
	KYIV	(b)(6)	(ok)

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] I Talked to Zelensky just now
Date: Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:24:46 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

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 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
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UNCLASSIFIED

From: Perry (b) R. (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 9:30 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6); McCormack, Brian
 (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] I Talked to Zelensky just now

Mick just confirmed the call being set up for tomorrow by (b)(5)

RP

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Date: Friday, Jul 19, 2019, 2:28 PM
To: Mick Mulvaney (b)(6), Perry (b) R. (b)(6), S (b)(6)
 (b)(6), Blair, Robert B (b)(6)
Cc: McCormack, Brian (b)(6), Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I Talked to Zelensky just now

He is prepared to receive Potus' call. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: I Talked to Zelensky just now
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:23:47 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 10:25 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Rick Perry (b)(6) SE (b)(6) Blair, Robert B
 (b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D
 (b)(6)
Subject: Re: I Talked to Zelensky just now

I asked (b)(6) to set it up for tomorrow.

MM

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 19, 2019, at 3:28 PM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

He is prepared to receive Potus' call. (b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)() gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Pompeo
Date:	Mon, 4 Nov 2019 20:47:09 +0000

From: (b)() gsondland (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2019 2:23 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Pompeo

Pompeo

VISA Program
Romania/Georgia/Ukraine
Zelensky-Inaug

Trade New Strategy. Ireland Germany Italy

FTA 's Geopolitical (Swiss)

Romania Johannis State Visit
Dancila
Dragnea

UK Start negotiations

EDF



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Scenesetter - Take 2
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:42:50 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

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 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 1:04 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)
 Putney, Barton J (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Scenesetter - Take 2

Good morning Ambassador,

A new version of the scenesetter is attached and below for your review. Hopefully this is in line with your thinking. As always, feel free to call or let me know if I should call you. I'm also checking my cell for texts periodically.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

EU: Scenesetter for Secretary Pompeo's September 2-3 Visit to Brussels

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

EU: Scenesetter for Secretary Pompeo's September 2-3 Visit to Brussels

(b)(5)



From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Tweet clearance: meetings in Kyiv
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:14:15 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 4:48 PM
To: Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Cc: USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Tweet clearance: meetings in Kyiv

(b)(5)

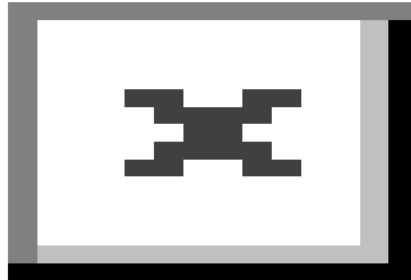
Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 5:31 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU); USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL; (b)(6) T (USEU); Witmer, Kami A (USEU)
Subject: Tweet clearance: meetings in Kyiv

Sir, hope your trip is going well. Please clear the following. Thanks.

Tweet 1:

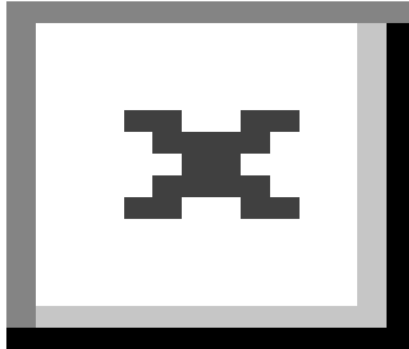
(b)(5)



[Tag: @USEmbassyKyiv @USAandEurope @USApoRusski @SpecRepUkraine @US2EU @UA_eumission]

Tweet 2:

(b)(5)



[Tag: @USEmbassyKyiv @USAandEurope @USApoRusski @SpecRepUkraine @US2EU @UA_eumission]

Christina Tomlinson

Minister Counselor for Public Affairs

U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6)

Follow us on [Twitter](#)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Ukraine
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:44:51 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 10:09 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Ukraine

We needed you there!

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 4:05 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine

Thx for fixing Lisa.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 9:21:54 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Ukraine

I'll look into it. We made it clear that we support your participation.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 12:06 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Ukraine

Lisa,

See below. This is getting old. The Ukrainians reached out. They want me there. Perry also asked me to join him.



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Mick Mulvaney
Cc: Doyle, Emma; Rick Perry; McCormack, Brian
Subject: Ukraine

Hi Mick,

Rick Perry asked me to join him on the inaug delegation. I have a lot going on right now with Ukraine vis-a-vis the EU and I am hosting Pres Zelensky in a couple of weeks for dinner in Brussels. Their Dep FM called me personally to confirm if I am attending and told me they are holding a space for me.

Someone at the WH/NSC keeps bumping me off the list. Not sure why but if you dont want me there, pls advise. I am just trying to do my job but this internal back and forth with unknown folks is really frustrating. Thx for your help.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Ukraine Energy Update
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 12:48:27 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2019 3:52 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: USEU-FO-DL (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Ukraine Energy Update

Ukraine Energy Updates

1. Gas Storage: Filling Ukraine's underground gas storage reservoirs is a **must**. Ukraine needs roughly 20 bcm in storage by October to mitigate the impact of a gas cut-off. Thanks to low gas prices, Ukraine now has roughly 14 bcm of gas in storage, about 20 percent more than the same time last year. However, Nafotgaz is facing a likely funding shortfall of \$1 billion to achieve its storage goals.

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seeking a delay until 2020 of an EBRD €300 million loan to upgrade Ukraine's gas transit system, prioritizing instead a €900 million Eurobond for gas purchases. The Ministry of Finance gave permission this week for Naftogaz to go to market.

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(b)(5)

5. Winter Action Plan: DOE and the Commission are working with Ukraine on a "Winter Action Plan" for preparedness and response to a gas cutoff. This includes prioritizing protected consumers in the event of a cutoff, fuel switching in district heating systems, and tabletop crisis exercises.

6. Energy Council Working Group: The EU requested a joint letter to President Zelensky (from Perry and Sefcovic) outlining priorities. A draft is in progress.

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To: (b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel
Date: Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:59:24 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 8:04 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel

I've been assured by the VP's CoS that Amb Sondland will be fully integrated into the VP's program. Lisa

SBU

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 12:29 PM
To: Prattipati, Anupama (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel

(b)(6)

To avoid confusion, kindly let Lisa Kenna and her team handle. I expect to be in all of the bi-lats previously confirmed as well as the VVIP dinner and the Zelensky bil lat. Lisa has been working this. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

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Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 12:24:40 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
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Subject: RE: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel

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In the meantime your schedule for today is set. I will meet you in the HST Lobby at 3:15 for your meeting with U/S Bulatao.

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4:30 pm Intel Read, (b)(7)(E)

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Subject: Re: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel

VP or S in that order. I would return in time for Brussels meetings from Warsaw



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To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
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(b)(5)

Questions for you:

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(b)(6)
Subject: RE: Your August 30 visit to Washington - UPDATES

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

We've confirmed your intel read for 4:30.

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Saturday, August 31

Morning Depart Four Seasons to Andrews Air Force Base

SBU

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Sent: Thursday, August 29, 2019 11:31 AM

To: (b)(6) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W

(USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)

(USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Your August 30 visit to Washington - UPDATES

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Yes Intel read. (b)(5)



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From: (b)(6)
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In terms of your schedule for August 30, we've confirmed your meeting with A A/S Reeker for 4:00 pm.

Pending decisions include (b)(5)

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Saturday, August 31

Morning Depart Four Seasons to Andrews Air Force Base

SBU

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To: Gordon D Sondland (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
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Saturday, August 31

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Would you like to have an intel read while you are in the building? I understand USEU passed some material to INR last week.

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Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To: (b)(6) sondland (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel
Date: Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:59:01 +0000



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SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 7:26 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Update on S and VPOTUS Travel

I've engaged the VP's Chief of Staff and will circle back with confirmation. Best, Lisa

SBU

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 12:29 PM
To: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W
 (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
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Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Warsaw Update
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:37:57 +0000

**Gordon D. Sondland**

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1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 7:08 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Warsaw Update

Ambassador,

Here's an update on your Warsaw trip:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

- Time between your arrival at the RON and start of the Borrell meeting might be tight, especially if the Secretary wants a pre-brief. AF1 baggage delivery will take time. There's no guarantee you'll receive any checked bags prior to your meeting with S and Borrell; bring all essentials in your carry-on. You will have to swipe a credit card at the hotel for incidentals.
- Your control officer – (b)(6) (goes by (b)(6) – is not credentialed for any of the events and does not have a seat in the motorcade. But, he will meet you at the RON upon arrival, and be on call to return at any time if you need assistance. He'll send you an updated schedule and his contact information on Friday.

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Chief of Staff

U.S. Mission to the European Union

Email: (b)(6)

Office: (b)(6)

Mobile:

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Yermak interview
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 11:18:44 +0000



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 1000 Brussels, Belgium
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UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 1:18 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6) Sherman, Nicholas (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Tomlinson, Christina (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Yermak interview

Ambassador,

This short interview with Andriy Yermak in the Ukrainian press is worth a read. He mentions you when discussing his DC trip and the Bolton meeting.

He also addresses plans for a Ze visit to Washington, NS2, security assistance, and plans to replace the Ukrainian AMB to the U.S. - no major surprises on any of these fronts (he's quite controlled in his comments) but interesting to get a sense of Yermak. He also describes his role in the administration at the very end.

(b)(6)

<https://en.interfax.com.ua/news/interview/601400.html>

Speaking in an exclusive interview with Andriy Yermak, aide to the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, elaborated on his visit to the United States and preparation for the president's upcoming visit, prospects for the development of Ukrainian-American relations and his functions as an aide to the president.

Q: A few days ago, you had an eventful visit to the United States jointly with Oleksandr Danyliuk, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine. Could you please share details of the visit and the meetings you had?

A: It was a two-day visit. I had a number of meetings, including meetings we jointly held with Oleksandr Danyliuk. One of them was a meeting in the White House with National Security Adviser John Bolton, U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker, and U.S. Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

A number of key issues concerning relations between our countries, as well as details of the future visit were discussed. You know that we've got an official invitation, and now we are working on preparations for this important official visit.

I would like to separately emphasize the support of Ukraine in all areas. Interest was expressed in building relations with President Zelensky, congratulations and expectations were conveyed. In the U.S., they closely monitor the president's actions, his steps, including trips around the country, communication with various officials, are in the center of attention.

Separately, I would like to highlight a meeting with Kurt Volker. This was just happening on the eve of our trip with Deputy Head of the Office of the President Vadym Prystaiko to Paris for a Normandy Four meeting.

The second day was devoted to congressional meetings. I talked to both Republicans and Democrats. The main purpose of these negotiations was to discuss a bill against Nord Stream 2.

In general, I will say that President Zelensky is a very visible figure for the United States; they are awaiting his visit with great interest. They see that he is a young, energetic, aimed at fighting corruption and sincerely wants changes in the country.

I got the firm impression that they in the United States believe Zelensky, and it isn't easy to convince Americans. It seems to me that the openness and sincerity of the president, the desire, in the first place, to remain human is very appealing to the Americans. Our partners expect that relations with Ukraine will reach a qualitatively new level, this was mentioned at all meetings. In the United States, President Zelensky's peace initiatives also resonate.

I also had meetings with representatives of the Ukrainian Diaspora, who are traditionally very active. Many of them were at the [President Zelensky's] inauguration. They are also waiting for the president's visit.

Separately, I'd like to note that I arrived in the United States with the news about President Zelensky's decision on changing the Ukrainian ambassador to the United States, which should be an important step towards taking the relations between our countries to a new level.

Q: Tentatively when could Zelensky's visit the United States take place?

A: The most convenient dates are under discussion right now, because the planning of the visit should take into account not only the schedules of the presidents, but also a huge interest in President Zelensky, as I said, from the leaders of Congress, American businesses, and so on.

Q; Was the possibility of expanding the Normandy Format involving, in particular, the American side, discussed during your meetings in the U.S.? After all, in his recent video address to Russian President Vladimir Putin, President Zelensky proposed, as an option, involving the signatories to the Budapest Memorandum – the United States and Great Britain – in Normandy Four talks.

A: In the address by President Zelensky, of course, there was a call that once again demonstrates that we are for transparency and openness, including in the negotiations to end the war in Donbas. If this goes into the framework of any formal proposals, then we will discuss it. So far we have the Trilateral

Contact Group in Minsk and the Normandy format in which the United States is not officially participating.

At the same time, I absolutely support the position of our president to expanding the range of possible participants. And their participation may be different. We are ready for the examination of our position by any international partners and organizations, because openness always provides an opportunity to defend our position.

Q: A few days ago, William B. Taylor, Chargé d’Affaires, a.i. of the United States Embassy in Kyiv, Ukraine, said that Ukraine had first applied for military equipment through the sales program of the U.S. Department of Defense, which would be considered. Did you discuss this issue in the U.S.?

A: I can say the following: during our meeting in the White House, we, together with NSDC Secretary Oleksandr Danyliuk, discussed prospects for our cooperation with the United States, including in the military sphere. I am not ready to talk about the details, but I confirm the fact of a conversation on this topic.

Q: Does Ukraine find the U.S. position on Nord Stream 2 satisfying?

A: Of course, we support all the steps of our partners that strengthen the energy security of Ukraine.

Q: What do you expect from the change of the Ambassador of Ukraine to the U.S.?

A: I fully support this decision. Ukrainian-U.S. relations should reflect and take into account the position of President Zelensky. Ukraine should become a mutually beneficial strategic partner for the United States. This is the key to our success, and we have all the possibilities for this, the political will and a great desire. Naturally, this all implies there should be another person in the place of the Ukrainian ambassador to the United States.

Q: Are there any candidates now?

A: We are working on it. The president is very attentive to the choice of candidates. He does not make chaotic decisions. The president opts to hold a personal meeting with all key candidates, in addition to reading their dossiers, to understand for himself what kind of person he or she is, the level of his or her professionalism and motivation.

Q: There is an opinion that the president is in isolation and his communication is carefully controlled...

A: I can tell you the following: having graduated from the Institute of International Relations under Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, being a professional lawyer, I personally know so many politicians in our country, and all my life I have refused offers to go into politics. And only my unconditional faith in Zelensky and to President Zelensky is my personal motivation to devote five years of my life to this work. Knowing the president well, I can tell you that he is a strong, intelligent, charismatic leader who always makes decisions independently. And I am sure that in the very near future he will pleasantly surprise even the most pessimistic skeptics.

Q: What is your scope of your authority, and which areas are you responsible for in the Presidential Office?

A: The same as First Assistant to the President Serhiy Shefir, I am directly subordinate to the president. We are the people who perform the functions directly delegated by the president.

For example, one of the areas of my work is the sphere of international relations: the settlement of the situation in Donbas, participation in talks as part of the Normandy Four format, regional policy, energy security issues, the humanitarian sphere.

In principle, I am always there where the president needs my help. Now, for example, this is a question of preparing his visit to the United States.

My background involves a variety of tasks. I am an expert in international law by profession and therefore I understand challenges perfectly well both inside and outside the country, including those related to the economy, security and a number of other areas.

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(1) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Zelensky
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:57:14 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2019 1:23 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky

I'll try for sure.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 22, 2019, at 7:05 PM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Lisa,

Can you get 10-15 min on the Warsaw sched for this? I'd like to know when it is locked so that I can call Zelensky and brief him.



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From: S(b)(5) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2019 4:03:17 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky

Yes.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 22, 2019, at 7:00 PM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Mike,

Should we block time in Warsaw for a short pull-aside for Potus to meet Zelensky?

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 12:01:09 +0000



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UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 2:09 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

No, but I can't see when things get confirmed. We will get an update on Monday, I'm sure.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 15, 2019, at 6:13 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Did you know the bilat is confirmed in NY on 9/25 at 14:15?



Gordon D. Sondland

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 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 3:13:21 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rick Perry
(b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Are we discussing a meeting at unga or in DC?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 8:55 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

We discussed and Kurt and I will attend without Rick if he is unable



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 2:17:47 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Rick Perry (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

I don't know if we know when it will be yet; it may occur when Sec Perry is still (b)(6) Will follow-up.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 12:30 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Tim,

Please manifest Sec Perry, Amb Volker and me for the bilat. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

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United States Mission to the European Union

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+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Zelensky Oval
Date:	Tue, 22 Oct 2019 09:15:23 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 3:10 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Oval

Great!

1. Could you get me a copy please?
2. Can we give it to Zelensky in person Tues in Brussels?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 9:08:39 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Zelensky Oval

The letter was signed in S' presence yesterday.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 9:06 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Oval

I am headed to WH later. Any update on this?



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 2:02:50 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Zelensky Oval

Passing to S. We will check on this today.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 1:58 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Zelensky Oval

Mike,

(b)(5)

(b)(5) We all got up from meeting and agreed, now this. (b)(5)
(b)(5)



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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Amb. Sondland article questions
Date:	Wed, 13 Nov 2019 16:51:39 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 8:44:43 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
 Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Amb. Sondland article questions

Sir,

Just an FYI that Michael Birnbaum anticipates this article will be published tomorrow. We'll flag it as soon as we see it.

(b)(6)

From: Birnbaum, Michael (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 8:56 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Amb. Sondland article questions

Dear Christina and (b)(6)

We're at work on another article about Ambassador Sondland, this time looking at his time in Brussels and his conduct inside the mission. I've just sent this list of questions to his lawyer, but I wanted to send them to you as well, both for your awareness and because I wanted to see if there was any State Department comment. Or, if either of you happens to know anything that shines a light on any of this, I'd certainly welcome a more informal conversation as well. We intend this story to run over the weekend.

Best,
Michael

- 1) Part of this article will be a summary of the week, and attacks on you from both Democrats and Republicans in Congress. Do you think you can still effectively do your job after misremembering key events under oath, getting attacked by Trump's top allies, such as Lindsey Graham as someone who is conspiring with the Democrats, and receiving complaints from your underlings in Brussels? Have you spoken to Trump recently? Have you felt pressure to resign?
- 2) We were told that you made subordinates at the mission walk your dog. Is this accurate?
- 3) We were told that your stay at the Amigo Hotel -- at a cost of \$50,000 a month -- raised concerns among State Department officials in Washington as well as subordinates at the mission. Was there another way to handle the temporary relocation during the renovations? Any comments about the stay at the Amigo?
- 4) We have heard multiple accounts from people who saw you bring devices such as an iPhone, other cellphones, into secured areas of the mission where they are banned. This has raised security concerns. Did you indeed bring cellphones into the secure areas of the mission? Were you ever counseled on how to handle unsecured electronic devices? Any response to these accounts of misusing the classified space?
- 5) Did Jay Leno have a military escort from the airport at the Independence Day celebrations? We were told that he did -- a treatment typically reserved for officials of cabinet level or higher.
- 6) What was your goal for the Independence Day dinner? We were told that the informality of the dinner and the presence of Jay Leno raised some concerns within the mission and with Ambassador Gidwitz, who felt that it should be more business-focused. At the same time, we also heard from someone close to Mogherini that she was delighted with being seated next to Zelensky, and found it very useful for breaking the ice with him, which I imagine was precisely one of your goals in hosting the meal.
- 7) Despite Mogherini's happiness about having been seated next to Zelensky, we've also heard that you don't particularly like working with her, and that when she sought a meeting with Pompeo, you intervened to prevent it from taking place. Is this accurate? Separately, we were told that during one meeting you said of Mogherini, "We're gonna push her back against the wall and make her play." Is that accurate?
- 8) We were told that during a mission staff meeting, you told diplomats your opinion about having kids in cages at the U.S. border with Mexico. We were told you said: "We can do whatever we want. If people come into our country who aren't supposed to be here, the courts say it'll take six months to get them out, but POTUS can do it immediately." This surprised at least some of the diplomats in the mission. Is this an accurate rendering of what you told them?
- 9) In the same meeting, we were told that you supported unusual hardline tactics with E.U. allies. One official gave an update about something that was progressing well. We were told that you said we need to threaten the Europeans. "Tell them you can't come into our country if you don't share." The idea was that the US should consider banning Europeans from boarding any flights to the US unless they

immediately complied with what we wanted them to do. Is this accurate?

10) The job search for a protocol/events manager. We were told you told staff you wanted the position to be filled by a single woman with no kids, so that she would be able to travel with you without any outside responsibilities. Is this accurate?

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(7)(g)sondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: BOOTLEG: Menendez QFRs to Deputy Secretary Sullivan
Date:	Sat, 2 Nov 2019 15:51:48 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, November 2, 2019 4:47:53 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: BOOTLEG: Menendez QFRs to Deputy Secretary Sullivan

Sir:

The Department is working on these "questions for the record" related to D's hearing for his nomination to Russia. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Mark

Mark W. Libby

Deputy Chief of Mission

U.S. Mission to the EU

Brussels

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, November 2, 2019 03:21

To: Libby, Mark W (USEU)

Cc: (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: BOOTLEG: Menendez QFRs to Deputy Secretary Sullivan

Mark:

FYI that the QFRs for the Sullivan hearing included several related to Ambassador Sondland.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: EUR-StaffAssistants (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, November 1, 2019 8:20 PM

To: EUR-RUS-DL; EUR-Directors-DL; EUR-Deputy Directors-DL; EUR-Deskofficers-DL

Cc: EUR-StaffAssistants

Subject: BOOTLEG: Menendez QFRs to Deputy Secretary Sullivan

Dear RUS and other offices,

Please see the bootleg of the Sullivan-Menendez QFRs. The spreadsheet will follow. Two notes:

- The deadline for all the D QFRs will actually be **10 am tomorrow to the EUR/FO** to accommodate the corrected deadline to the Line of 3pm tomorrow (the prior spreadsheet the Line sent was in error).
- H will use placeholders for several of the questions (see highlights below), which will be reflected in the forthcoming spreadsheet.

(b)(6)

Staff Assistant | Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

U.S. Department of State | HST Building, Room 6223A

202-736-7934 | (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2019 8:08 PM
To: EUR-StaffAssistants (b)(6)
Cc: SES-Line_H_Tasking (b)(6)
Subject: For EUR: Menendez QFRs to Deputy Secretary Sullivan
Importance: High

EUR Colleagues,

Please see attached a bootleg of the Menendez QFR questions, (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) We will follow up this evening with the formal spreadsheet tasker. All items in that formal tasking will be listed as be due to SES-Line_H_Tasking **NLT 3PM tomorrow, November 2.**

Thank you,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, November 1, 2019 8:01 PM
To: SES-Line_H_Tasking (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: Menendez QFRs to Deputy Secretary Sullivan
Importance: High

Colleagues,

Please see attached QFRs from Senator Menendez.

Tasking Instructions:

Placeholder for questions in Sections 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 13, 14, 15, 32, 33

Section 2: Task questions 1-7, 17-18 (placeholder for 8-16)

Section 6: Task question 2 (placeholder for 1)

Task questions in sections 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 16-29, 31

Task question in section 30 to L

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

**Questions for the Record Submitted to
John Joseph Sullivan on his Nomination to Serve as Ambassador to Russia
By Senator Robert Menendez
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
November 1, 2019**

1. **Department Employees Testifying and Subpoena Compliance.** You said in your nomination hearing, “there would be no greater honor for me, if confirmed as the U.S. Ambassador to Russia, than to serve with the dedicated women and men and their families who constitute our mission in Russia...Dedicated career officers from across the U.S. government are serving with distinction in the wake of massive staff cuts, uncertainty, and intense pressure from the host government.”

- **Do you commit that none of the individuals who have testified before the House related to the Ukraine/impeachment inquiry will be subject to any retaliatory action, demotion, reassignment, transfer, or curtailment of duties or assignment for giving testimony to Congress?**
 - Please describe in details the steps you are taking or will take to ensure that these actions do not take place.
- **Do you commit that the Department will not seek to interfere with, block, preclude, or dissuade any Department employee or former Department employee from providing any testimony to Congress related to Ukraine/impeachment?**
- **Do you commit that the Department will cease sending any form of written or oral communication to any Department employee or former employee that has the direct or indirect purpose of seeking to dissuade an individual from testifying before Congress on Ukraine/impeachment?**
- **On what legal basis has the State Department been directing Department employees not to appear voluntarily before Congress to provide testimony?**
- **On what legal basis has the State Department been directing former Department employees not to appear voluntarily before Congress to provide testimony?**
- **On what legal basis has the State Department been directing Department employees not to appear before Congress in response to duly authorized subpoenas?**
- **On what legal basis has the State Department been directing former Department employees not to appear before Congress in response to duly authorized subpoenas?**
- **Do you believe the executive branch should comply with congressional subpoenas?**
- **What are you doing to ensure that the Department is responsive and provides documents to Congress, including in response to the House inquiry on Ukraine?**
- **Will the Department be providing documents in response to the House inquiry on Ukraine?**

2. **State Department Personnel, Retaliation, and Retention.**

- **Does the Department have a formal retention program that provides guidance and support to those contemplating resignation?**

- Do you or does anyone from the Department interview personnel resigning from the Foreign Service?
- What steps does the Department take to ascertain the reasons why employees are retiring or leaving the Department?
- What is your assessment of the Department's ability to retain experienced and talented employees?
- In your opinion, what are the minimum qualifications that an individual should possess to be nominated for a Senate-confirmed job at the State Department or USAID? What are the ideal qualifications?
- What steps are you and the Department taking to ensure whistleblowers know their rights, know how to raise concerns through appropriate channels, and are not subject to retaliation for exercising their rights?
- Do you agree retaliation of any kind has no place in federal government? Do you agree that anyone found to have engaged in retaliation should be held fully accountable, up to and including losing their job?
- When did you first become aware of allegations of retaliation at the Department? What did you do with those concerns? Did you ever raise concerns about political retaliation at the Department to Secretary Pompeo?
- What have you done, personally, to address concerns of retaliation against career employees?
- In April 2018, according to the Inspector General, a PDAS in IO expressed concerns about the management of IO and treatment of staff by Moley and Stull. What steps did you take next?
- Did you recommend any disciplinary action for Assistant Secretary Moley, including administrative steps to sideline Moley's supervisory role?
- What prompted your June 25, 2018 meeting with Assistant Secretary to discuss "the general atmosphere in IO?"
- After your meeting with Assistant Secretary Moley on June 25, 2018, at which he dismissed employee concerns about leadership misconduct and retaliation in IO, what steps did you take next to protect IO employees or discipline Assistant Secretary Moley?
- Given you were aware of employee concerns about leadership misconduct in IO for at least three months by the time you met with Mr. Moley directly, did you express concerns to Secretary Pompeo or any other senior State Department officials about his conduct before meeting with him? How about afterward?
- Did you ask Moley to resign? Why not?
- What steps are you taking to address low morale at the Department and in the IO Bureau?
- What steps are you and the Department taking to ensure whistleblowers know their rights and are not subject to retaliation for exercising them?
- What else can the State Department do to prevent and counter retaliation?

3. Ukraine Policy/Giuliani.

- What did you know about Rudy Giuliani's involvement in Ukraine policy?

- What is the basis of that understanding?
- When did you first learn that Mr. Giuliani was seeking to meet with Ukrainian officials?
- How did you learn that Mr. Giuliani was seeking to meet with Ukrainian officials?
- When did you learn that Mr. Giuliani was seeking to meet with State Department officials about Ukraine?
- How did you learn that Mr. Giuliani was seeking to meet with State Department officials about Ukraine?
- Were you aware of Mr. Giuliani's meetings with Ukrainian officials on or around the dates that they happened?
- Are you aware of other meetings between Mr. Giuliani and foreign officials?
- Are you aware of other meetings between Mr. Giuliani and State Department officials?
- Did you instruct anyone in the Department to not provide assistance to Mr. Giuliani regarding his meetings with foreign officials?
- Did you ever discuss Ambassador Yovanovitch with Rudy Giuliani?
- Were you aware that Special Envoy Kurt Volker or Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland were engaged with Mr. Giuliani regarding Ukraine? How were you aware?
- Who from the Department received readouts of, met with, or spoke to Mr. Giuliani about his meetings with foreign officials?
- Were you ever asked to communicate to Ukrainian officials President Trump's desire for assistance in investigating one of his political opponents or unsubstantiated theories related to Ukraine's involvement in the 2016 U.S. election?
- Do you have any reason to believe that Ukraine interfered in the 2016 U.S. election? If so, what?
- Since you have been in your current role, how many times have you met or communicated with Rudy Giuliani? Please describe the subject and nature of your discussions with him.
- Were you aware of any attempts by Giuliani to lobby, directly or indirectly, the state Department about any individuals, topics, clients, or countries? If so, whom/what topics? Please provide details.
- Were you ever directed by Secretary Pompeo or anyone outside the State Department to meet or communicate with Rudy Giuliani? If so, please describe the circumstances.
- When did you first become aware that Mr. Giuliani was working with and directing the actions of State Department officials on U.S. policy toward Ukraine?
- Upon learning of Mr. Giuliani's role with regards to U.S. policy toward Ukraine, did you or anyone at the State Department take any steps to ensure that U.S. policy was not being influenced by Mr. Giuliani's private interests?
- Did you or anyone at the State Department review Mr. Giuliani's business interests for potential conflicts of interest?
- Are you aware of Mr. Giuliani working with any other State Department officials on any other matters involving countries besides Ukraine?

- Were you aware of any efforts to provide Viktor Shokin with a visa to enter the United States? If so, what did you know and what did you do in response? What did you do to stop it?
- Since you have been in your current role, has anyone from outside the State Department contacted you regarding Dmitry Firtash? If so, please describe the content of those discussions.
- You testified in your nomination hearing that neither you, nor Secretary Pompeo, nor John Bolton ordered Volker, Sondland, and Taylor to coordinate with each other in pressing the Ukrainians for these investigations into Burisma or the origins of the 2016 U.S. elections interference. You also testified that, since you learned of these activities in September, you have not made any attempt to find out where their instructions were coming from. Why did you not seek to find out why people under your control were being given direction from an unknown source? Why did you not try to find out what the policy of the U.S. toward Ukraine was during this time period?
- Were you ever asked to communicate to Ukrainian officials President Trump's desire for assistance in investigating one of his political opponents or unsubstantiated theories related to Ukraine's involvement in the 2016 U.S. election?
- Have you received or are you aware of any requests from Ukraine that the US investigation of oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky, a former business partner and patron of Ukraine President Zelensky, for money laundering to be dropped? Are you aware of any discussions of U.S. legal proceedings against Kolomoisky?
- Have you or anyone at the State Department undertaken any action in response to the statement from Donald Trump that China should investigate Hunter Biden to pursue the issue with China or with any other country?

4. Zelensky Call.

- When did you first hear concerns from senior officials about the July 25 Trump-Zelensky call?
- Did you speak to any Ukrainian officials between May 1, 2019 and September 12, 2019? If so, what did you discuss?
- Did you ever communicate to Ukrainian officials that the President wanted to discuss corruption or investigations in Ukraine?

5. Security Assistance.

- When did you first become aware that security assistance to Ukraine would not be immediately obligated? What did you do to ascertain why it was being held up?
- Did you ever discuss assistance for Ukraine with U.S. diplomats based in Ukraine, including but not limited to Ambassador Taylor and Ambassador Yovanovitch?
- Did you discuss assistance to Ukraine with Ambassador Sondland or Special Representative Volker?
- Sondland testified that he understood all of his actions involving Ukraine to have "the blessing of Secretary Pompeo," and that, "very recently," he received a congratulatory note from Secretary Pompeo saying he was doing great work and encouraging him to "keep banging away." To what extent were you aware of

Sondland's actions in Ukraine? Were you aware of Secretary Pompeo's "very recent" note to Sondland? Did Sondland keep you updated on his work relating to Ukraine?

- **When did Sondland start engaging with Ukraine, which, as you know, is not an EU member state? Did you instruct Sondland to engage with Ukraine? When? How?**
- **Did you make any effort, through formal channels or otherwise, to weigh in and reverse the Office of Management and Budget hold on security assistance to Ukraine?**
- **Other than Ukraine, have you signed off on shutting down assistance to any country until that country addressed any alleged corruption issue in which a U.S. person was said to be involved?**
- **In your view, what changed from the time the funds were withheld until they were released in early September, other than the fact that the fiscal year was coming to a close? Did the White House communicate any changes to you? Did the State Department provide any analysis about Ukraine's anti-corruption efforts during this time period?**
- **Did you have any role in providing during the period of "interagency review" of security assistance to Ukraine? Was the State Department involved in this interagency review in any manner? Please describe.**
- **Did the State Department take into account the Department of Defense's May 23, 2019 certification of Ukraine's anti-corruption efforts in its analysis?**
- **Sondland testified that the U.S. Mission to the EU's June 4, 2019 event had a main event and then, "Following the main event...a smaller, separate dinner for about 30 people. President Zelensky and several other leaders of EU and non-EU member states attended the dinner, along with Secretary Perry, U.S. State Department Counselor Ulrich Brechbuhl on behalf of Secretary Pompeo, and numerous other key U.S. and EU officials." Did you participate in the decision to send Brechbuhl on Pompeo's behalf? When was that decision made?**
- **Sondland testified that "my boss Secretary Pompeo was very supportive of our Ukraine strategy"—speaking about the strategy that Sondland, Secretary Perry, and Ambassador Volker were pursuing. Did you ever hear Pompeo express support of the "Ukraine strategy"? To whom?**
- **Sondland testified that he encouraged Ambassador Taylor to contact Secretary Pompeo about "concerns that the Ukrainians could perceive a linkage between U.S. security assistance and the President's 2020 reelection campaign." Did Ambassador Taylor contact you about these concerns? When? What did you say?**
- **Taylor testified that he wrote and transmitted a first-person cable to Pompeo relaying his concerns about the "folly" of withholding of military aid to Ukraine on August 29, 2019. Did you see that cable? If so, when? What was your response?**

6. Trump Organization.

- **Since you have been in your current role, how many times have you met or communicated with individuals from the Trump Organization? Please describe the content of your discussions with them.**
- **Since January 20, 2017, how much money has the State Department spent at properties owned or licensed by the Trump Organization?**

7. **G7.** President Trump selected his own property, Trump National Doral Miami, to host the 2020 Group of Seven (G7) leader-level summit. He has since walked back the decision, which raises further concerns about the process by which the Trump administration has been planning the U.S. Chairmanship of the G7 in 2020.

- **In the past, the White House would pick the host city and the Department would choose the hotels for the G7 site. Is that the process that was followed leading up to the selection of Doral as the site for the 2020 G7 summit? If not, will it be followed moving forward?**
- **Did you have any role in providing recommendations about, or in selecting the G7 site? If so, describe that role.**
- **What was the Department's role in the initial selection of Doral to host the 2020 G7? Which Bureaus, Offices, and personnel in the Department were involved at any point in the selection process? Which Bureaus, Offices, and personnel in the Department will be involved moving forward? Please provide dates for the selection of the location for the G7 summit, including the date that the site selection process for the 2020 G7 began, the date that an initial solicitation was sent out, when proposals were received, when Doral was selected, when Doral was decided against, when the process of selection began again, and the deadline for a new site to be selected.**
- **Was the Department consulted in the decision to rescind the initial selection of Doral to host the 2020 G7? If so, which Bureaus, Offices, and personnel in the Department were involved? When?**
- **Since the rescinded location decision, has the Department been consulted in the site selection process moving forward for the 2020 G7? If so, which Bureaus, Offices, and personnel in the Department are involved in the process?**
- **Did President Trump or anyone else at any point suggest hosting any other events associated with U.S. Chairmanship of the G7 in 2020 at any other Trump Organization properties in addition to Doral?**
- **Does the Department have a total estimated budget for the 2020 U.S. Chairmanship of the G7 in its entirety, including a total estimated budget for the 2020 G7 leader-level summit, and including the Department's portion? How much of that would go directly to the host venue?**
- **Did anyone in the Department seek a legal opinion or guidance about hosting an official summit at Doral? Did anyone in the Department seek a legal opinion or guidance about hosting an official summit at Doral? Did the Office of the Legal Adviser furnish any opinion?**

8. **Climate and the G7.** Mulvaney said that "climate change will not be on the agenda" for next year's G7 summit.

- **Do you believe that climate change should be on the agenda for the 2020 G7?**
- **Given your current position as Deputy Secretary of State, what role has, does, and will the Department play in the agenda-setting process for the 2020 G7, including on decisions such as whether to include climate change?**

- **Do you believe it is appropriate for the U.S., or even has the authority, to unilaterally strike an issue, like climate change, from the agenda of the G7?**

9. **Foreign Interference.** In the wake of President Trump's comments welcoming derogatory information on a U.S. political figure from foreign entities, it is important that the State Department have explicit guidance for all of its personnel on how to deal with this scenario. Guidance on handling interactions that prompt concern about exploitation by a foreign entity, such as FAM Chapter 12, Section 262, does not clearly address this situation.

- **Do you agree that any candidate for office in the United States who is presented with information on an opponent from a foreign power should report that to the FBI?**
- **If a foreign person or government approaches you or a staffer at the embassy with derogatory information on a U.S. political figure, what is your understanding of official State Department policy on how to handle this specific situation?**
- **Has a cable with clear guidance on how to handle this specific situation been sent to all U.S. embassies?**
- **In your current role as Deputy Secretary of State, do you commit to issuing clear guidance to all U.S. embassies on how embassy staff should handle the specific situation of a foreign person or government approaching them with derogatory information on a U.S. political figure? Existing guidance on handling interactions that prompt concern about exploitation by a foreign entity, such as FAM Chapter 12, Section 262, does not clearly address this situation.**
- **If confirmed as U.S. Ambassador to Russia, do you commit to issuing clear guidance on how to handle this specific situation?**

10. **Anticorruption.** Senator Coons asked you in your nomination hearing about the Trump administration's repeated attacks on U.S. anticorruption funding. Budgets reflect priorities, and the President's budget shows a diminished prioritization of State Department anticorruption efforts. You responded that "the prime obstacle to anticorruption reform in Ukraine is not technical or monetary support by the United States but the will of the Ukrainian government."

- **What role do you believe U.S. technical and monetary support plays in U.S. anticorruption efforts?**
- **Do you believe combatting corruption should be a U.S. foreign policy priority?**

11. **Alliances.** President Trump has made a number disparaging comments about UN member states. In tweets, he has referred to Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as "Very dishonest & weak," called Europe "A total mess!"

- **Do you personally agree with these statements?**
- **Is this how the U.S. should be conducting diplomacy?**
- **How do you plan to keep U.S. alliances strong with some of our closest partners, including those who have been the target of the President's verbal attacks?**
- **What do you see as the role of U.S. alliances generally?**
- **Do you believe that allies are important and integral to U.S. foreign policy?**

12. **Whistleblower Protection**. As you know, those working for the federal government, including civil service, foreign service, and contractors, who possess information they reasonably believe demonstrates a violation of law; gross mismanagement; gross waste of funds; abuse of authority; a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or censorship related to research, analysis, or technical information are protected and entitled under federal law to raise those concerns through authorized channels, including to Congress or Inspectors General, without fear of retribution or reprisal. Even in cases where information is required to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or the conduct of foreign affairs, disclosure to Inspectors General or the Special Counsel is still protected. It is imperative that senior officials throughout government ensure that employees know their rights, and that employees are not discouraged from raising valid concerns.

- **Do you agree with the President's statements on whistleblowers, including his reference to them as "spies"?**
- **What are you doing to stand up for career employees, both internally and externally?**
- **What are you doing to ensure that all State Department personnel know and understand their rights under federal whistleblower laws?**
- **What have you done to make sure all employees feel free to report concerns through the proper channels, including to Congress and Inspectors General?**
- **Has the U.S. Embassy in Russia issued any communications or documents to staff regarding whistleblower rights or communicating or cooperating with Congress since January 2017? If so, please provide a copy of each such communication or document. If not, do you pledge to issue such a communication if confirmed as Ambassador to Russia?**
- **In light of President Trump's efforts to discredit and unmask the identity of a whistleblower, how do you plan to counter the damage to U.S. credibility in pressing for greater whistleblower protections globally?**
- **How do you plan to advance whistleblower protection at the U.S. Embassy to Russia?**

13. **Yovanovitch**

- **Did you ever personally advocate for a statement of support on behalf of Ambassador Yovanovitch? In your nomination hearing, you said, "At the time of her removal, I did not." Did you do so at any other time?**
- **At what point did you learn that the President had lost confidence in Ambassador Yovanovitch and no longer wished her to serve? Who told you?**
- **Did you ever discuss Ambassador Yovanovitch with Rudy Giuliani?**
- **What specifically did you do to protect Ambassador Yovanovitch from political retaliation?**
- **How did you defend Ambassador Yovanovitch against efforts by President Trump, Giuliani, and others to discredit her using debunked conspiracy theories?**
- **Ambassador Yovanovitch testified that you told her in your April 2019 conversation that there had been a concerted campaign against her, and that the Department had been under pressure from Trump to remove her since the summer of 2018. At what**

point did you become aware of the smear campaign against Ambassador Yovanovitch and Mr. Giuliani's role in seeking her removal?

- Ambassador Yovanovitch testified that you told her in your April 2019 conversation that she had done nothing wrong and this was not like other situations where you had recalled ambassadors for cause. Do you stand by that assessment? Had Ambassador Yovanovitch done nothing wrong?
- Did you receive instructions from the President, the White House, Rudy Giuliani, or Secretary Pompeo about Ambassador Yovanovitch's removal on or prior to May 7, 2019? If so, what were they?
- After you became aware of Ambassador Yovanovitch's recalling, did you express concern to Secretary Pompeo about the way she was being treated? Did you express concerns before?
- Did you speak to Ambassador Taylor about concerns he had about Ambassador Yovanovitch's treatment as he tried to make a final decision on taking the post in Ukraine?
- Taylor testified that the decision of whether to agree to Secretary Pompeo's request to return to Kyiv was "not an easy decision," because of how Ambassador Yovanovitch had been treated. Are you concerned about the implications for U.S. foreign policy if qualified candidates think twice about accepting important positions because of uncertainty that they will be treated fairly?
- Michael McKinley testified that he left his post over frustration with Pompeo regarding the treatment of Ambassador Yovanovitch. He testified that he asked Pompeo repeatedly to show support for Ambassador Yovanovitch in the past month (September 2019-October 2019) but that he did not respond. Did McKinley ask you to show support for Ambassador Yovanovitch? If so, when?

14. **Disinformation Packet on Yovanovitch.**

- To the best of your knowledge, how did the Secretary of State come into possession of a packet of disinformation that included claims about Ambassador Yovanovitch?
- Was it mailed? Hand-delivered?
- You testified that the packet of disinformation came "in response to inquiries by the Secretary and others about what our ambassador had done." What were those inquiries?
 - Did the Secretary ask people inside the State Department for information on what Ambassador Yovanovitch "had done"?
 - Did the Secretary ask people outside the State Department for information on what Ambassador Yovanovitch "had done"? Who?
 - What is your understanding of what the Secretary was referring to?
 - What had people told him that she "had done"?
- You testified that you believe that the Counselor, Ulrich Brechbul, obtained the packet from the White House. What is your understanding of who from the White House gave it to him?
- From whom did you receive the packet?

- Did you discuss the packet with the Secretary?
 - What specifically did you discuss about it?
- Did you discuss the packet with Ulrich Brechbul?
 - What specifically did you discuss about it?
- Did you ask the Secretary how he came into possession of the packet?
- You testified that you asked where it came from. What were you told in response?
- With who else did you discuss the packet?
- Upon receiving it, were you concerned that someone was seeking to smear Ambassador Yovanovitch?
- Why did you recommend that the Acting Legal Adviser provide it to the Inspector General?
- You testified that “you [were]n’t aware of all that might be going on in the background.” What did you mean?
- At the time you received the packet, why did you think that Rudy Giuliani might be involved with the information it contained?
- Is it your understanding that Giuliani gave the packet to the Secretary, or that he caused it to be delivered to the Secretary through the White House?
 - What is your basis for that understanding?

15. **Calls with Foreign Leaders**

- When did you learn of the content of the President’s July 25 call with President Zelensky?
 - What action did you take when you learned of the July 25 call?
- Did you communicate, or are you aware of efforts by any U.S. officials to communicate, to Ukrainian officials the topics that the President wanted to discuss with President Zelensky?
- Have you received transcripts or summaries of all of the President’s calls with foreign leaders?
 - Did you receive a transcript or summary of the President’s call with President Zelensky?
 - Did you receive a transcript or summary of any other calls between the President and a foreign leader in which he raised his political opponents?
- Are you aware of any records of communications between the President and foreign leaders that have not been stored on the standard White House system for such calls?
- Have you or anyone at the State Department undertaken any action in response to the statement from President Trump that China should investigate Hunter Biden to pursue the issue with China or with any other country?

16. **Social Media.** As a U.S. Ambassador, you are charged with representing the interests of the American people and communicating the viewpoints of the U.S. Government overseas. This includes on any official social media profiles you have. As a recent review by the State

Department Inspector General found, a number of Ambassadors have not complied with the Department's social media policies.

- **Have you reviewed the Department's policies?**
- **Do you commit to following them going forward?**
- **What are some examples of the types of posts that you understand would require review by the Department?**
- **Do you commit to seeking review of any social media posts on a personal account that could be considered a matter of Departmental concern?**

17. **U.S.-Russia Relations**

- **If confirmed, will you encourage American companies to attend the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum? Will you attend the event?**
- **In what ways will the State Department work with the NSC and other government departments and agencies to address the arbitrary detention of U.S. citizens who are seemingly being arrested for the purpose of sanctions relief or prisoner trades?**
- **What actions will you take to secure Paul Whelan's release? What policy options has the United States put on the table in order to secure his release? Would you consider imposing targeted sanctions if Paul Whelan is not released in a timely manner?**
- **Why was Maria Butina released early? In your response, please do not refer me to the Department of Justice for an answer.**

18. **Arms Control and Nonproliferation**

- **Russia remains the only country whose nuclear forces pose an existential threat to the United States. One of the ways the United States has sought to manage this threat is through arms control agreements by limiting the size and capabilities of Russian nuclear forces. These agreements also have sought to provide transparency and stability to our nuclear relations with Russia to ensure we avoid a catastrophic nuclear miscalculation by either side. I'm extremely concerned the administration discounts the vital importance of arms control to U.S. national security and is on course to allow the New START Treaty to expire in February 2021. Do you believe it is in the national security interests of the United States to continue legally binding arms control efforts with Russia?**
- **Assuming Russia is in compliance with the New START treaty do you support a five year extension of it?**
- **The Administration has stated it is seeking a new arms control agreement with Russia and China that include a range of new and complex issues. Who within the State Department is leading these efforts since all of the senior arms control positions at the State Department are now empty?**

- **Do you believe if New START expires, and all limitations on Russian strategic nuclear forces disappear, that Russia will increase its strategic nuclear forces? Will changes to the U.S. nuclear posture be necessary if New START disappears in 16 months? Wouldn't these changes require significant additional funding for U.S. nuclear forces?**
- According to various reports, the administration is planning to withdraw from the Open Skies Treaty. It appears the administration is willing to take this step with zero consultation with Congress or U.S. allies. The Open Skies Treaty is an important multilateral arms control agreement and withdrawing would be yet another gift from the Trump Administration to Putin. It has been an essential tool for United States efforts to constrain Russian aggression in Ukraine. In December of 2018, the United States conducted an extraordinary flight under Open Skies that the Department of Defense stated was "intended to reaffirm U.S. commitment to Ukraine and other partner nations." **Has President Trump made a decision to withdraw the United States from the Open Skies Treaty? Yes or No. Was the State Department or the Defense Department consulted before a decision to withdraw was taken?**
- **We have spoken with numerous NATO allies who informed us they deeply value the Open Skies treaty and that a decision by the United States to withdrawal would adversely impact their security? Did the administration consult with allies before coming to this decision?**
- **What is the reasoning behind leaving Open Skies? How will abrogating Open Skies affect U.S. security?**

19. **Russia in Africa**

- The Administration's Africa strategy emphasizes Great Power competition across the continent. As exemplified by the recent Russia-Africa summit in Sochi, Russia is taking concrete steps to expanding its power and influence. At the summit's opening President Vladimir Putin pledged to double trade ties with the continent over the next 5 years. Putin also signaled interest in natural resources, promoting African partnerships with Russian natural gas and mineral resource companies, even meeting individually with several leaders to discuss potential projects. After the summit, the Central African Republic's (CAR) President stated that his country is considering hosting a Russian military base, and he would like Moscow to supply CAR with new weapons. **What is your understanding of Russia's goals and aims for expanding influence in Africa? If confirmed, how can you help shape the Administration's strategy for mitigating Russian influence across the African continent?**
- A Russian national is a security adviser to CAR's President, Faustin-Archange Touadera and there are reports indicating that Russia's defense ministry intends to establish a five-

person team at CAR's defense ministry. Russia has supplied arms to the CAR government, and the Russian private military contractor Wagner is present in the country.

- **What arms and material has the Russian government supplied to CAR?**
- **What is your understanding of the nature and purpose of Wagner's role in the Central African Republic? How many personnel do they have in country? To your knowledge, did Wagner play a role in the 2018 murder of three Russian journalists in Central African Republic? Do you see Wagner's role in CAR as positive?**
- **If confirmed, what concrete actions will you take to ensure transparency in Russia's activities in CAR?**
- Assistant Secretary Tibor Nagy was quoted in a recent news article as stating that "there is space for other countries to play a positive role in the [African] region." **What positive role is Russia currently playing in Africa? What positive role could it play, and what specifically will you do if confirmed to ensure that Russia's role in Africa is positive?**
- Special Counsel Robert Mueller's report into Russian meddling in the 2016 Presidential elections noted that the Kremlin engaged in a concerted effort to upend the U.S. elections using social media and cyberattacks. **To your knowledge did or does the Kremlin have similar plans to affect the outcome of African elections? If so, what impact did these efforts have? Does the Kremlin have a broader malign strategy to undermine democracy in Africa? What steps will you take as Ambassador if confirmed to discourage malign efforts by the Kremlin to impact the expansion of democracy in Africa?**

20. **Russia in the Middle East**

- The Administration's recent withdrawal from northern Syria has put Vladimir Putin firmly in the driver's seat in Syria and helped to reestablish Russia as a significant powerbroker in the Middle East. In Syria, Russia has bombed civilians in order to allow Bashar al-Assad to continue to rule over the rubble. In Libya, Russia has sided with ostensible U.S. allies like Egypt and the UAE to support General Hefar's destructive offensive in Tripoli against the internationally recognized Government of National Accord. Throughout the region, Putin has cut energy and weapons deals, often in defiance of Congressional sanctions that this Administration appears unwilling to enforce.
 - **What are Russia's goals in the Middle East? What countries in the region do you see as priorities for Russia and in what countries should the U.S. prioritize pushing back on Russian influence?**
 - **What steps is the U.S. taking to counter Russian influence in the Middle East? What further steps should the U.S. take?**
 - **If confirmed, what steps will you take to counter Russian influence in the Middle East?**

- **Do you believe that Russia is capable of or politically willing to reduce Iranian influence in Syria?**
- Russia remains a key party to the JCPOA and has made clear its opposition to the maximum pressure campaign against Iran and has been muted in its condemnation of Iranian backsliding in the deal.
 - **What common interests does Russia share with the U.S. regarding Iran?**
 - **What role will you play in engaging with Russia regarding Iran and the JCPOA?**
- Russia continues to push weapons systems and arms sales with various Middle East countries. **What specific steps will you take to address this concern and potential threat to U.S. interests in the region?**
- **What message does it send to other countries in the Middle East that the United States has yet to fully implement CAATSA sanctions against Turkey for its purchase of the S400 Air Defense system?**

21. **Humanitarian Situation in Northeastern Syria**

- **What steps is the Administration/State Department taking to mitigate the humanitarian catastrophe in Northeast Syria?**
- As Russian and Syrian forces take control of territory, there are thousands of Syrian aid workers under immediate threat of harassment, harm, arrest, conscription or worse. **Will the USG ensure that funding for the humanitarian response inside Syria be made flexible to cover the costs of evacuation and relocation of these vulnerable Syrians who have supported US efforts and interests? What is the diplomatic strategy for ensuring humanitarian access to those in need in NE Syria via the most direct routes, including cross-border mechanisms authorized under UNSC Resolution 2449?**

22. **Crackdown on Activism in Russia**

- **Please discuss your understanding of U.S visa policy toward pro-democracy activists from Russia, in light of the fact that many have been criminally convicted by the Russian state as a result of their activism (with criminal charges and facts often fabricated or grossly exaggerated) and the fact that many are not employed, again due to their activism.**
- **Would you support the use of Global Magnitsky sanctions against judges, law enforcement investigators, and prosecutors who actively engage in the fabrication of cases and the criminal prosecution of pro-democracy protestors, and of the parents of youth protestors, often based on false or extremely exacerbated charges?**

- **If confirmed, how would you work as Ambassador with the U.S. State Department and the Administration to increase pressure on the Kremlin to release the now more than 300 political prisoners held in the Russian Federation?**

23. **UN Funding**

- In early October, UN Secretary General Guterres sent a letter to all Member States raising the alarm about the financial situation of the UN and calling on States to pay their dues as soon as possible. Due to the UN's financial crisis, the Secretary General has already suspended non-essential travel, stopped hiring, and cancelled or deferred some meetings. The letter indicated that unless States pay up, the UN may be unable to cover salaries beginning in November. **As of October 30, 2019, has the U.S. paid all its assessed dues to the UN in full? If not, please detail what funding is outstanding, why the funding has not yet been obligated, and when the Department expects those funds to be paid.**
- **What steps should the Department take to ensure that it pays its UN bills in full and on time?**

24. **Foreign Assistance**

- **Do you believe that it is in the U.S. interest to provide development assistance supporting activities that improve economic growth and opportunity, stability, wellness, and security? Do you believe the cuts to foreign assistance the Administration has consistently proposed for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and 2020, if enacted, would improve the effectiveness U.S. foreign assistance?**
- During the President's 2018 State of the Union speech and again at the UN General Assembly in the Fall of last year, the President made the statement that the U.S. should only provide assistance "to our friends." **What is the policy realizing these statements? Who is, and is not, considered "our friends"? What role have you played in developing and implementing this policy? Do you believe that this sort of transactional politics serve as the basis for determining where and to whom receives U.S. foreign assistance?**
- **Can you explain the policy and process that led to the administration's decision to suspend most foreign assistance to Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador? Would you please also provide the data that supports or recommends withholding or suspending foreign assistance as effective means towards reducing migration from these countries?**
- **What are the goals and objectives that administration expects to accomplish through the suspension of foreign assistance to Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador? Would you please include how these goals and objectives apply to any**

decision to maintain, carryover, or instate a suspension on foreign assistance to these countries for fiscal year 2020 and beyond?

- What role have you played in the decision to suspend most foreign assistance to El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala?
- What guidance is the State Department giving the USAID missions to El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala on how to plan for the year ahead while the status and availability of the resources remains in question?

25. Climate Security

- Do you believe the effects of climate change present challenges to U.S. national security that must be accounted for?
- Are you aware of efforts, led by the White House (particularly those led by former Senior national security advisor Dr. William Happer, to question or reevaluate the significance of and utilization of climate science in U.S. national security planning?
- What role, if any, did you have in decisions and implementation of policies to diminish the consideration, or question the validity, of applying consensus climate science to national security planning? Have you expressed concerns, or opposed, any of the Administration's efforts to diminish the utilization and application of climate science in national security planning?

26. Paris Agreement

- Do you believe it is in the U.S. national interest to be the only country not party to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change? How are U.S. interests' better served as a non-party to the Paris Agreement?
- How is the United States, when (or if) it becomes a non-party to Paris Agreement, insulated or shielded from decisions and actions achieved by the parties to Paris Agreement that effect the global economy?
- When the President announced his intentions to withdraw the U.S. from the Paris Agreement on June 1, 2017 he mentioned his intention to take a number of alternative and related actions to the U.S.'s withdrawal from the Paris Agreement. **In your role as Deputy Secretary of State can you please provide answers, to the best of your knowledge, to the following:**
 - What progress has been made by the President to "start to negotiate, and we will see if we can make a deal that's fair"? What involvement and work has the State Department done towards developing a new "fair" "deal"?
 - What efforts has the White House made to "to immediately work with Democrats to either negotiate our way back into Paris"? Have you received

any instruction, or taken any initiative to deliver on this objective as mentioned by the President?

- What is the timeline for delivering outcomes on either of these intended actions?

27. **El Salvador**

- What was the strategic reason and rationale for suspending and reprogramming U.S. foreign assistance to El Salvador?
- Can you tell us when you were informed of the President's decision to suspend and reprogram U.S. foreign assistance to El Salvador?
- Were you informed of this decision prior to the president's announcement?
- What steps did you personally take to carry out this decision?
- What steps did you personally take in the decision to partially reinstate foreign assistance to El Salvador?
- What evaluation did the State Department conduct about the repercussions to U.S. national interests and national security of suspending and reprogramming U.S. foreign assistance to El Salvador? When did such an evaluation start and when did it finish? What were the findings of any such evaluation?
- What specific steps does the United States want El Salvador to take prior to obligating new U.S. foreign assistance for El Salvador? Has El Salvador taken any such steps? What is the potential timeline for reinstating U.S. foreign assistance to El Salvador?
- To your knowledge, is the Government of El Salvador speaking with any other foreign donors or investors—including, but not limited to the Government of China—to offset the impact of the U.S. cuts during this period in which we have suspended foreign assistance?

28. **Guatemala**

- What was the strategic reason and rationale for suspending and reprogramming U.S. foreign assistance to Guatemala?
- Can you tell us when you were informed of the President's decision to suspend and reprogram U.S. foreign assistance to Guatemala?
- Were you informed of this decision prior to the president's announcement?
- What steps did you personally take to carry out this decision?
- What evaluation did the State Department conduct about the repercussions to U.S. national interests and national security of suspending and reprogramming U.S. foreign assistance to Guatemala? When did such an evaluation start and when did it finish? What were the findings of any such evaluation?

- **What specific steps does the United States want Guatemala to take prior to obligating new U.S. foreign assistance for Guatemala? Has Guatemala taken any such steps? What is the potential timeline for reinstating U.S. foreign assistance to Guatemala?**
- **Is the Government of Guatemala speaking with any other foreign governments—including, but not limited to the Government of China—to offset the impact of the U.S. cuts during this period in which we have suspended foreign assistance?**

29. **Honduras**

- **What was the strategic reason and rationale for suspending and reprogramming U.S. foreign assistance to Honduras?**
- **Can you tell us when you were informed of the President’s decision to suspend and reprogram U.S. foreign assistance to Honduras?**
- **Were you informed of this decision prior to the president’s announcement?**
- **What steps did you personally take to carry out this decision?**
- **What evaluation did the State Department conduct about the repercussions to U.S. national interests and national security of suspending and reprogramming U.S. foreign assistance to Honduras? When did such an evaluation start and when did it finish? What were the findings of any such evaluation?**
- **What specific steps does the United States want Honduras to take prior to obligating new U.S. foreign assistance for Honduras? Has Honduras taken any such steps? What is the potential timeline for reinstating U.S. foreign assistance to Honduras?**
- **Is the Government of Honduras speaking with any other foreign governments—including, but not limited to the Government of China—to offset the impact of the U.S. cuts during this period in which we have suspended foreign assistance?**

30. **U.S.-Mexico Joint Declaration and Supplemental Agreement**

- On August 7, 2019 I sent a letter to the Secretary regarding the U.S.-Mexico Joint Declaration and Supp. Agreement. To date, I have not received a fulsome, accurate, and transparent written response to each question as requested. I have also received the following statements conveyed by the Department to the Committee in response to questions originally submitted to the Department on June 8, 2019:
 - “We can confirm that we regard the Joint Declaration with Mexico to be an authoritative political agreement that both governments will implement in good faith.” – email from the Bureau of Legislative Affairs (C. Donnelly) to SFRC staff, dated July 12. Acting Legal Adviser String, in his July 24 appearance before SFRC, testified that the JD is an “important, authoritative agreement.”

- “We can now confirm that the United States regards the June 7 Joint Declaration and the Supplementary Agreement with Mexico, which we have previously provided to the Committee, collectively to constitute a binding agreement under international law. We will be transmitting these instruments to Congress, in accordance with the Case Act.” – email from the Bureau of Legislative Affairs (C. Donnelly) to SFRC staff, dated July 29, and letter from Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs to Ranking Member Menendez, dated August 1.
- “We consider the Joint Declaration and Supplementary Agreement to be, collectively, an executive agreement, concluded in the exercise of the President’s constitutional authority for the conduct of foreign relations.” -- email from the Bureau of Legislative Affairs (C. Donnelly) to SFRC staff, dated July 29, and letter from Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs to Ranking Member Menendez, dated August 1.
- **Please explain why the Department characterized the Joint Declaration (JD) as an “authoritative political agreement,” which appears to blur the line between instruments that are binding under international law – generally referred to as legal agreements – and instruments that are not binding under international law – generally referred to as political arrangements or commitments.**
 - **Please explain the precise characteristics that lead to the classification of a written instrument or oral commitment as an “authoritative political agreement.”**
 - **Please provide examples of other “authoritative political agreements” in U.S. history. Were such instruments or oral commitments referred to as “authoritative political agreements” at the time they were finalized or concluded? If not, when were they classified as such? For any examples, please indicate whether they are binding or non-binding for purposes of international law, and whether they were reported under the Case Act (if finalized subsequent to enactment of that statute).**
 - **Does the United States ever enter into political agreements that are not “authoritative?” If yes, please explain why, and please provide examples of such non-authoritative political agreements.**
 - **Does the Department generally transmit to Congress authoritative or non-authoritative political agreements pursuant to the Case Act? If yes, please provide examples. If no, please explain why not.**
- **Were the JD and Supplementary Agreement (SA) negotiated and concluded pursuant to C-175 authority?**

- If yes, did the C-175 authorization and underlying memorandum of law indicate that the JD, the SA or both, individually or collectively, would constitute a binding agreement under international law? Please explain.
 - If yes, please provide the date(s) any such C-175 authority was issued.
 - If yes, please provide copies of the authority and underlying memorandum of law.
 - If the JD and/or the SA were not negotiated and/or concluded pursuant to C-175 authority, please explain why.
- **Analysis of whether JD and SA are binding under international law**
 - Please indicate whether the JD alone is binding under international law.
 - Please identify the characteristics of the JD from which it can be concluded that both the United States and Mexico regard the JD as binding under international law.
 - Please indicate which specific provisions of the JD impose binding obligations on either the U.S., Mexico, or both.
 - Please indicate whether the SA alone is binding under international law.
 - Please identify the characteristics of the SA from which it can be concluded that both the United States and Mexico regard the SA as binding under international law.
 - Please indicate which specific provisions of the SA impose binding obligations on either the U.S., Mexico, or both.
 - Please identify and explain in detail the specific factors that the Department analyzed in arriving at the position that the JD and SA collectively are binding under international law.
 - Please provide a detailed explanation, with relevant examples, of the legal theory by which the Department believes it is possible for a subsequent instrument, such as the SA, to render a change in the legal character of a prior instrument that was not itself previously considered binding under international law.
 - Please indicate whether the Department's analysis of the binding nature of the JD, SA, and the JD and SA collectively is consistent with the practice and precedent of the United States on international agreements and arrangements, or if the analysis departs from the practice and precedent of the United States in this area. If it does differ, please explain the following: how it differs; why the executive branch departed from U.S. practice and precedent; whether the executive branch's position on the JD, SA, and SA and JD collectively is a one-time departure from U.S. practice and precedent, or whether the departure represents a shift in executive branch practice; and

whether the executive branch has made the Government of Mexico (GOM) aware of any departure in practice and precedent.

- **During the course of the negotiations of the JD and SA, what was the position of the United States on whether the JD, the SA, and the JD and SA collectively were binding under international law?**
 - Upon finalizing the JD and SA, what was the position of the United States on whether the JD, the SA, and the JD and SA collectively were binding under international law?
 - Acting Legal Adviser String appeared to indicate in his July 24 testimony that questions of whether the JD and SA were binding under international law were still being considered within the executive branch. If the United States did not have a position on the question of whether the instruments were binding during the negotiation or when the instruments were finalized, please explain why that would be the case.
 - Did the position of the United States on whether the instruments were binding change from the outset of the negotiations to the date the instruments were finalized or at any point between the date the instruments were finalized to the July 29 communication from the Department to SFRC staff. If yes, please explain the substance of the change(s) – i.e. from what to what – and the reason(s).
- **Has the position that the JD and SA collectively constitute a binding agreement under international law been conveyed to the GOM?**
 - If yes, please indicate when this position was first conveyed to the GOM.
 - If no, please explain why it has not been conveyed to the GOM.
- **What is the Department's understanding of the position of the GOM on the following:**
 - Whether the JD is binding for purposes of international law,
 - Whether the SA is binding for purposes of international law, and
 - Whether the JD and SA collectively are binding for purposes of international law.

[Please note that the preceding questions are not a request for the Department to speak on behalf of the GOM; rather we are interested in the Department's understanding of the GOM's position.]

- **If the GOM does not share (and never has shared) the executive branch position that the JD and SA collectively are binding under international law, would that change the executive branch position that the JD and SA collectively are binding? If no, please explain.**

- **If the GOM does not share (and never has shared) the executive branch position that the JD and SA collectively are binding under international law, could the GOM be bound by any provision of such instruments? If yes, please explain.**
- **In light of the executive branch position that the JD and SA collectively are binding under international law and the indication that they will be transmitted to Congress pursuant to the Case Act, does the Department commit to transmitting to Congress, pursuant to the Case Act, all similarly-situated instruments going forward?**
- **Does the Department generally transmit to Congress authoritative or non-authoritative political agreements pursuant to the Case Act? If yes, please provide examples. If not, why not?**
- **The Department has indicated that it “consider[s] the Joint Declaration and Supplementary Agreement to be, collectively, an executive agreement, concluded in the exercise of the President’s constitutional authority for the conduct of foreign relations.” Please be more specific concerning the constitutional authority asserted as the basis for the JD and SA. Which specific provisions of the Constitution does the Department view as providing the domestic legal authority for the JD and SA?**
 - **Prior to the JD and SA, had the United States concluded any international instrument related to immigration or migration and asserted “the President’s constitutional authority for the conduct of foreign relations” or any other constitutional authority of the President as the sole domestic legal basis for the instrument(s)?**
 - **If yes, please provide a list of each instrument that meets these criteria, the date it was concluded, and a statement of the specific constitutional provisions that provide the asserted authority.**

31. **Democracy and Human Rights:**

- **What are the most important actions you have taken in your career to date to support democracy and human rights? What has been the impact of your actions?**
- **What issues are the most pressing challenges to democratic development in Russia? These challenges might include obstacles to participatory and accountable governance and institutions, rule of law, authentic political competition, civil society, human rights and press freedom. Please be as specific as possible.**
- **What steps will you take – if confirmed – to support democratic development in Russia? What do you hope to accomplish through these actions? What are the potential impediments to addressing the specific obstacles you have identified?**

- How will you utilize U.S. government assistance resources at your disposal, including the Democracy Commission Small Grants program and other sources of State Department and USAID funding, to support democracy and governance, and what will you prioritize in processes to administer such assistance?
- If confirmed, do you commit to meet with civil society members, human rights and other non-governmental organizations in the U.S. and with local human rights NGOs, and other members of civil society in Russia? What steps will you take to pro-actively address efforts to restrict or penalize NGOs and civil society via legal or regulatory measures?
- If confirmed, do you commit to meet with democratically oriented political opposition figures and parties? What steps will you take to encourage genuine political competition? Will you advocate for access and inclusivity for women, minorities and youth within political parties?
- Will you and your embassy team actively engage with Russia on freedom of the press and address any government efforts designed to control or undermine press freedom through legal, regulatory or other measures? Will you commit to meeting regularly with independent, local press in Russia?
- Will you and your embassy team actively engage with civil society and government counterparts on countering disinformation and propaganda disseminated by foreign state or non-state actors in the country?
- Will you and your embassy teams actively engage with Russia on the right of labor groups to organize, including for independent trade unions?
- Will you commit to using your position, if confirmed, to defend the human rights and dignity of all people in Russia, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity? What challenges do the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people face in Russia? What specifically will you commit to do to help LGBTQ people in Russia?

32. **Responsiveness:**

- Do you commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by Members of this Committee?
- Do you commit to appear before this Committee upon request?
- If you become aware of any suspected waste, fraud, or abuse in the Department, do you commit to report it to the Inspector General?

33. **Administrative:**

- Has anyone ever made a formal or informal complaint or allegation of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate

conduct against you, in a workplace or any other setting? If so, please describe the nature of the complaint or allegation, your response, and any resolution, including any settlements.

- **Have you ever addressed concerns or allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct made against any employee over whom you had supervisory authority? If so, please describe the outcome and actions taken.**
- **Do you agree that any targeting of or retaliation against career employees based on their perceived political beliefs, prior work on policy, or affiliation with a previous administration, is wholly inappropriate and has no place in the federal government? If confirmed, what will you do to ensure that all employees under your leadership understand that any retaliation, blacklisting, or other prohibited personnel practices will not be tolerated?**

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Doyle, Emma (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: I Talked to Zelensky just now
Date:	Fri, 19 Jul 2019 19:29:03 +0000

FYI



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

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From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 9:28:25 PM

To: Mick Mulvaney; Rick Perry; S (b)(6); Blair, Robert B

Cc: McCormack, Brian; Kenna, Lisa D

Subject: I Talked to Zelensky just now

He is prepared to receive Potus' call. (b)(5)

(b)(5)



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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Doyle, Emma (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: I Talked to Zelensky just now
Date:	Sat, 20 Jul 2019 09:07:10 +0000



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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Remarks by President Trump Before Marine One Departure re: Ukraine
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 09:29:19 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

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From: Kent, George P (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, August 10, 2019 9:26:41 AM
To: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Wilde Gavin
 (b)(6) (U) Vindman, Alexander S (Kyiv | EOP)
 (b)(6) Kurt Volker (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D
 (USEU) (b)(6) Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Remarks by President Trump Before Marine One Departure re: Ukraine

More complete version of the exchange with journalists on the lawn.

Q Mr. President, do you plan invite your Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky to the White House? And what would be your advice for him —

THE PRESIDENT: Who are you talking about?

Q The President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky.

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah.

Q Do you plan to invite him to the White House? And what would be your advice for him on how to communicate with Vladimir Putin to stop the conflict in Eastern Ukraine?

THE PRESIDENT: I think he's going to make a deal with President Putin, and he will be invited to the White House. And we look forward to seeing him. He's already been invited to the White House, and he wants to come. And I think he will. He's a very reasonable guy. He wants to see peace in Ukraine. And I think he will be coming very soon, actually.

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b)(6)

Date: August 10, 2019 at 7:24:57 AM GMT+3

Subject: Remarks by President Trump Before Marine One Departure re: Ukraine

To: (b)(6), Reinert, David "Mike" (Kyiv)

(b)(6) (Kyiv)

(b)(6) (Kyiv)

(b)(6) KYIV/PCS)

(b)(6)

Warm greetings. In case you hadn't seen. Note question and response re: Trump re: Ze.
Highlighted in yellow.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-marine-one-departure-59/>

South Lawn

9:49 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: So, we're doing very well with China. We're talking to China. We're not ready to make a deal, but we'll see what happens. But, you know, we've been hurt by China for 25, 30 years. Nobody has done anything about it. And we have no choice but to do what we're doing.

It's working out very well, as you know. We called them on manipulation and they brought their numbers back, and they brought them back rapidly. And they were able to do that because they manipulate. But that's — so it's called "monetary manipulation." Not good.

But what happened and what's happening with China now — we have an open dialogue. We'll see whether or not we keep our meeting in September. If we do, that's fine. If we don't, that's fine. But it's time that somebody does what we're doing.

And I said, the American taxpayer is not paying for it. We had a big day in stock market yesterday, but the American taxpayer is not paying for it.

What China is doing is, by depressing their currency and by pouring tremendous amounts of money into their system, they're paying for it. The prices have not gone up. So when the Amer- — in fact, in some cases, they've gone down because the devaluation, plus the money supply — the amount of money that they pour in, which is a form of manipulation — has more than compensated for an increase in price.

So, as I said — and everybody questioned it — in the case of China, the tariffs have been amazing. We're taking in billions and billions of dollars. Now, China has had their worst year in 35 years now. It was in 26 years, but now it's in 35 years. I want them to do well. But as of this moment, they're having the worst year that they've had in many, many years — in decades. And really, we're just bringing the system back into order.

We have all the cards. We're doing well. Our country is doing fantastically well. You look at Europe; they've got problems. In fact, the biggest problem we have is the fact that a lot of other — continents, frankly — but a lot of other countries are not doing well. But we're doing great, and we continue to do great. Our companies are poised. They have a lot of cash. Our system is beautiful.

Q Mr. President, the NRA has been a strong supporter and ally of yours, going all the way back to the campaign. Can you take a position at odds with the NRA on background checks?

THE PRESIDENT: I think I could, but I don't think I'll be there. I have a great relationship with the NRA. They supported me very early, and that's been a great decision they made. We have Justice Kavanaugh. We have Justice Gorsuch. And they feel very strongly about the Second Amendment.

The NRA has made a great decision in supporting me, and nobody else would have won, aside from everything else. I have a very good relationship. I'll change it: I have a great relationship with the NRA. I have a lot of respect for the people at the NRA. And I have already spoken to them on numerous occasions. Numerous occasions.

And, frankly, we need intelligent background checks, okay? This isn't a question of NRA, Republican, or Democrat. I will tell you, I spoke to Mitch McConnell yesterday. He's totally onboard. He said, "I've been waiting for your call." He is totally onboard. I spoke to senators that, in some cases, people — friends of mine — but pretty hardline senators. Hardline. And when I say that, I say that in a positive way. Hardline on the Second Amendment. And they understand.

We don't want insane people, mentally ill people, bad people, dangerous people — we don't want guns in the hands of the wrong people. I think that the Republicans are going to be great and lead the charge along with the Democrats.

I spoke yesterday to Nancy Pelosi. We had a great talk. I spoke to Chuck Schumer. We had a great talk. And Chuck Schumer, in particular, loves my China policy, as you probably know. I said, "I can't believe it. You actually like something that I'm doing." He said, "Not 'like.' Love."

So Chuck Schumer is — he's great on the China situation, which we are winning and winning big. And China wants to do something, but I'm not ready to do anything yet. Twenty-five years of abuse. I'm not ready so fast. So we'll see how that works out.

But on the background checks — on background checks, we have tremendous support for really commonsense, sensible, important background checks.

Q Mr. President, you expressed support for background checks after Parkland. Why is now different?

THE PRESIDENT: Time goes by. I don't think I'm different, but I think the Senate is different. I think other people in the House are different. I think that people that maybe had their arm up a couple of years ago, maybe they feel differently. I don't think I feel any differently.

I think with a lot of success that we have, I think I have a greater influence now over the Senate and over the House.

Q Can it get done now? Can it get done now?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we can get something really good done. I think we can have some really meaningful background checks. We don't want people that are mentally ill, people that are sick — we don't want them having guns. Who does?

Q Mr. President, but if the NRA does not support that effort, will you fight them on it?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we'll see where the NRA will be. But we have to have meaningful background checks. You know, in the case of — in both cases, it's possible they wouldn't have been caught.

But in the one case, we also have to talk about age, because he did things that were very, very bad in Ohio, in Dayton. He did some things that were really bad. His school knew about it. When he turned 18, everything was expunged. We're going to have to get rid of that because you can't have that barrier. If they would have had that barrier, they would have been able to see. But because he was a minor, it was expunged. We're going to have to get rid of that barrier.

I think this: I think a lot of really meaningful things on background checks will take place, including red flags, including a lot of other very, very important items. And the Republicans are looking at it very seriously. And I really believe that the NRA — I've spoken to them numerous times — they're really good people. They're great

patriots. They love our country. They love our country so much. And, frankly, I really think they're going to get there also.

Q Mr. President, when you talked to Wayne LaPierre — you talked to him several times — did he warn you that background checks could cost you, politically? And did you say to him, “Forget politics, we have to do something now”?

THE PRESIDENT: No. No. I had a good talk with Wayne. And I like Wayne. And, you know — as you know, they supported me very early — far earlier than anybody thought possible, especially me not being a politician. And that support has paid off. We now have two Supreme Court justices that are phenomenal — Kavanaugh and Gorsuch. And, I mean, they're phenomenal people, and they're big believers in the Second Amendment, which Wayne is also and which I am.

I mean, there's been — there's been no President that feels more strongly about the Second Amendment than I do. However, we need meaningful background checks so that sick people don't get guns.

Q Will he support you? Will Wayne support you?

THE PRESIDENT: I think, in the end — I think, in the end, Wayne and the NRA will either be there or maybe will be a little bit more neutral, and that would be okay, too.

Look — look, the NRA has, over the years, taken a very, very tough stance on everything, and I understand it. You know, it's a slippery slope. They think you'll prove one thing, and that leads to a lot of bad things. I don't agree with that.

I think we can do meaningful — very meaningful background checks. I want to see it happen.

So I've got a lot of support. And I also have the support of other people on the other side. And I think the Democrats and Republicans have a chance to really come together.

Q On Mississippi, why wasn't there a better plan in place to deal with the migrant children in Mississippi? Why was there family separation?

THE PRESIDENT: The reason is because you have to go in; you can't let anybody know. Otherwise, when you get there, nobody will be there. But a big factor is to let people outside of the country that want to come in legally — illegally into our country, where they come in in caravans where they surge the border — which, by the way, we have the numbers way down right now, if you see, because Mexico has done a fantastic job.

Mexico has 26,000 soldiers, right now, on the border. They have been fantastic — because of tariffs. But I don't care what it is, because Mexico — in fact, I'll be calling the President at a certain point. I just hope they keep it up. Because if the Democrats will

change the laws — which I was thinking about putting together, as you know, with the gun situation. So we have immigration and we have, let's say, some of the things we're talking about right now — you have them together.

But I want people to know that if they come into the United States illegally, they're getting out; they're going to be brought out. And this serves as a very good deterrent. If people come into our country illegally, they're going out. They're not coming in illegally and staying. We have bad laws. They may get in — although we're being very tough — but they may get in, but it doesn't matter because they're going out. And when people see what they saw yesterday, and like they will see for a long time, they know that they're not staying here.

Q (Inaudible) black Americans give you another chance in 2020?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I think they really like — you know, it's really amazing because African American unemployment just came out very recently — the lowest in history. It's the best — the best numbers in history. African American employment — and Hispanic and Asian, too — have more people working today than ever worked in the history of our country.

Plus, I did criminal justice reform, which President Obama could not get approved — which the media never talks about. If President Obama got criminal justice reform done, it would be front-page stories all over the place. I got it done. I think that African Americans appreciate it.

So I got that. I have the best unemployment numbers. I have the best employment numbers for a lot of people. But for African Americans: number one that we've ever had.

One other thing we did, aside from criminal justice reform: Opportunity Zones. And they are doing unbelievably well. And you'll see that, and you've already seen it. But Opportunity Zones. And the biggest beneficiary there is African Americans.

Q (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: I think so. Yeah. I do.

Q Mr. President, do you plan invite your Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky to the White House? And what would be your advice for him —

THE PRESIDENT: Who are you talking about?

Q The President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky.

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah.

Q Do you plan to invite him to the White House? And what would be your advice for him on how to communicate with Vladimir Putin to stop the conflict in Eastern Ukraine?

THE PRESIDENT: I think he's going to make a deal with President Putin, and he will be invited to the White House. And we look

forward to seeing him. He's already been invited to the White House, and he wants to come. And I think he will. He's a very reasonable guy. He wants to see peace in Ukraine. And I think he will be coming very soon, actually.

Q Did you watch Mr. Biden's comments overnight? And does it make you want to change your own rhetoric?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, he comments — look. Look, Joe is not playing with a full deck. He made that comment. I said, "Whoa." I saw it because I was on — something; I had a television. I saw his comment. Joe Biden is not playing with a full deck. This is not somebody you can have as your President. But if he got the nomination, I'd be thrilled.

Q What are you going to do, Mr. President, to keep conservatives from being banned on Twitter?

THE PRESIDENT: We're looking at that right now. We have a lot of these companies coming in a little while, as you know.

Q What are you going to say to them?

THE PRESIDENT: We're going to be very tough with them. They're treating conservatives very unfairly.

Hollywood — I don't call them the "elites"; I think the elites are people they go after, in many cases. But Hollywood is really

terrible. You talk about racist — Hollywood is racist. What they're doing, with the kind of movies they're putting out — it's actually very dangerous for our country. What Hollywood is doing is a tremendous disturbance to our country.

We have now, in a little while, all of the heads of the biggest companies coming in, and we're going to talk to them. They treat conservatives and Republicans totally different than they treat others. And they can't do that.

Q Will the Trump administration devalue the U.S. dollar?

THE PRESIDENT: No. We don't have to. We have such a strong dollar. The problem is, our dollar is at a level that it makes it hard. But the advantage to doing what we have is money is pouring in because we have the safest currency in the world. We have the standard of the world.

But because it's so strong — it's gotten so strong because other countries have problems — it makes it harder for our manufacturers.

So if we lowered the interest rate by the Federal Reserve, that would automatically bring down the dollar a little bit, and it would make it easier for Caterpillar and these companies.

But we have the greatest currency in the world. No, I wouldn't do that.

Q Are you thinking of cancelling the trade talk next month with China?

THE PRESIDENT: So, China wants to settle this deal. They've had the worst year that they've had in many, many decades. And it's getting only worse. Thousands of companies are leaving China. They would like to make a deal. I'm not ready to make a deal.

Q But are you willing to cancel the talks next month?

THE PRESIDENT: Maybe. We'll see what happens. Right now — right now the talks are scheduled in September. Whether or not we're talking about China, whether or not they're cancelled, we'll see.

Look, as I said, our people are not paying for these billions and billions of dollars that came in, \$16 billion of which I gave to the farmers because they were targeted by China. And that's just a small fraction of what we've taken in.

So they are not — because what China has been doing — they're a currency manipulator — they've manipulated the value of their currency, and that's where the money comes. And also, they put tremendous money into the system.

So if you look, prices have not risen. Our people have not paid. So all of these guys that say, "Oh, Trump, Trump, Trump..." — they don't know what they're talking about.

Now, China is unique. That doesn't mean it happens with other countries. It probably doesn't. But the prices have not gone up. In fact, we have virtually no inflation in our country. If the Federal Reserve would bring down interest rates over a period of time —

Q How much?

THE PRESIDENT: I would love to see a point or even a little bit more than that. If they would stop quantitative tightening, we have a rocket ship.

I mean, we're doing well without it, but we're being handcuffed by the Federal Reserve. If they would stop that, it would be incredible.

Q Mr. President, do you want to expand South Korea and Japan Military Information Agreement? Will you support them?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I hope that South Korea and I hope that Japan start getting along with each other. You know, they're supposed to be allies. And it puts us in a very difficult position. South Korea and Japan are fighting all the time. They've got to get along because it puts us in a very bad position.

With that being said, I got a very beautiful letter from Kim Jong Un yesterday. It was delivered — hand-delivered from —

Q What did it say?

THE PRESIDENT: It was a very positive letter.

Q What did it say?

THE PRESIDENT: I'd love to give it to you. I really would. Maybe — maybe sometime I will.

Q Kim Jong Un mention of a next meeting and a summit talk?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we'll have another meeting. He really wrote a beautiful, three-page — I mean, right from top to bottom — a really beautiful letter. And maybe I'll release the results of the letter, but it was a very positive letter.

Q Any decision on Huawei?

THE PRESIDENT: We're not going to do business with Huawei. We're not doing business with them. And I really made the decision. It's much simpler not to do any business with Huawei. So we're not doing business with Huawei. That doesn't mean we won't agree to something if and when we make a trade deal, but we're not going to be doing business with Huawei.

Q When will you nominate someone to replace Coats? Are you looking at Maguire, Hoekstra?

THE PRESIDENT: Maguire is excellent. Admiral. Highly respected. A great leader. He's Acting right now. Sue did a great job. I like Sue Gordon very much.

I think that, over a period of time — I'm in no rush because we have a great Acting.

Q Have you interviewed Hoekstra?

THE PRESIDENT: I like Hoekstra a lot. I spoke to Senator Burr about different people. He's head of intelligence. And we're — I'm working together with Senator Burr and the whole committee. I want to get somebody that everybody can really come together with. I like Pete Hoekstra a lot. He's great. He's doing a fantastic job in the Netherlands right now.

Q You had mentioned it was down to three. Is it more than two?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I will tell you: That's a job that everybody wants. DNI. Everybody. But I'm dealing — I'm dealing with the committee. I'm dealing with, really, Senator Burr a lot. And we'll come up with somebody that's great. We have a lot of choice. A lot of people want the job.

Q Tension between Japan and South Korea, are you concerned?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, I'm concerned that they're not getting along with each other. They have to get along with each other. If

they don't get along, what are we doing? They have to get along with each other. It's very important.

South Korea and Japan have to sit down and get along with each other. Otherwise, what are we all doing?

Q Are you considering moving troops from Germany to Poland?

THE PRESIDENT: So, Poland has been a great, great friend of ours. They've offered to build a military base at the cost of many billions of dollars. No money put up by the United States whatsoever. They've offered to fund our troops and lots of other things — the way it should be. Not the stupid deals that we made with all these other countries that take advantage of us.

So, Poland has been terrific. And we're going to be going to Poland very soon. I'm sure you're going to be going with us. I had a great experience in Poland the last time I went. In fact, some of you actually said the speech was one of the best ever made in Europe by an American President. Hard to believe that you actually said that. When you said that, I was, like, in a state of shock.

Q On the fundraiser tonight, did Stephen Ross say anything about potentially cancelling, given the controversy?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Stephen Ross is a great friend of mine. He's a very successful guy. We were competitors but friends in real estate, in New York, in the old days. He's a great guy. He is — by

the way, I think he's probably more inclined to be a liberal, if you want to know the truth. But he likes me, he respects me. We're doing a fundraiser there. We're doing another fundraiser with another friend of mine. And I understand the fundraiser was totally sold out, and it's very successful.

Q Your reaction to the controversy, people boycotting?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think — I think it makes Steve much hotter. I explained — I didn't speak to him yet; I'll see him in a little while. The controversy makes Steve Ross hotter. He'll figure that out in about a week. But he's very happy. He's got a very successful — a lot of people are going.

We have two fundraisers. One is Steve; one is another gentleman. And I guess they're going to raise 11 or 12 billion — million dollars. Not billion. Million.

I'm getting used to saying "billion." We're talking about a lot of money.

Q When you talked about age restrictions to buy guns, 18 months ago you supported buying long guns at the age of 25, raising the age. Are you considering bringing that back now?

THE PRESIDENT: We're not talking about anything specific. I can tell you there's tremendous goodwill for meaningful — I'm talking

about “meaningful”; add that word — meaningful background checks so that sick and demented people don’t carry around guns.

You have to remember — and I’ve said it — it’s a big mental illness problem. And the gun doesn’t pull a trigger. A mind — a sick mind pulls a trigger. So we want to take that out of the equation.

Q Do you support the Toomey-Manchin bill or the House bill? Will you lift your veto threat?

THE PRESIDENT: We’re looking at Toomey-Manchin. Actually, if you look, there are many bills that have been put in over a period of four, five years. They went nowhere. But there’s never been a President like President Trump.

Q Mr. President, will you call Congress back into session to pass (inaudible)?

THE PRESIDENT: I don’t think we’ll need to. I may. Leadership is dealing along with me right now. By the time you call them back, they’re going to be back anyway. I don’t think we’ll need to call them back. I think we’ll have a very good package by the time they come back and they can start debating and voting on it then. So I really don’t think, for the extra little time, it matters.

Leadership is doing a really good job — Mitch McConnell, Kevin, Nancy. I spoke with Nancy Pelosi yesterday. I spoke with Chuck Schumer yesterday. There’s a lot of goodwill about this issue.

Q And do you think that — I mean, do you need to give a speech to do something to marshal support for this?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so. No. No.

Q Will you lead the charge?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we have a lot of support. I mean, I'm very fortunate. In the Republican Party, I'm at 94 percent approval rating, so that helps. But I have a great relationship with the Republican senators. And I really think they're looking for me to make — give them a signal. And we're going to have great support, and I think we'll have the support from the Democrats also.

Q Mr. President, you also said this after Parkland. Why should Americans believe you now?

THE PRESIDENT: No, no. I never said what I'm saying now.

Q (Inaudible) background checks after Parkland.

THE PRESIDENT: What I'm saying — what I said, though: You have tremendous opposition from many people on both sides. I see a better feeling right now towards getting something meaningful done. Meaningful. And we did do things after Parkland, but it wasn't to the same level that I'm talking about now.

You know, we did do the Fix NICS and various other things. So we did do a lot of work after Parkland. But I think we have now a chance to do something, really, much more meaningful —

Q Support among Republicans or —

THE PRESIDENT: — having to do — having to do, as you know, with background checks.

Q Mr. President, it's almost back-to-school season. What is your message to young children and teenagers who are anxious or nervous about going back to school after these mass shootings?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, my message to young children going back to school is: Go and really study hard, and someday you'll grow up and maybe be President of the United States or do something else that's fantastic.

They have nothing to fear. They have nothing to worry about. In addition, we're in constant contact with states, with state governments. And they are really doing a great job. We have this so much better than it was two and a half years ago. Two and a half years ago, when I came in, it was really not a good situation. I think we have a very, very good system right now. That doesn't mean that there's not going to be some crazy person, but that's what we want to do. We want to take the guns out of the hands of crazy, demented, sick people.

Q (Inaudible) assault weapons ban — will you be telling the NRA to stand down?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, we're not looking at that right now. We're really looking at very meaningful background checks. I think it's going to happen. There's great, great support. But we're looking at very, very meaningful background checks.

Q What is the advantage to having Maguire as the head of DNI versus Gordon?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Admiral — as you know, Maguire — Admiral Maguire is a very talented man. He's a great leader. As an Admiral, was always a great leader. He is a man who is respected by everybody, and he's going to be there for a period of time. Who knows? Maybe he gets the job. But he'll be there for a period of time — maybe a longer period of time than we think. We'll see.

We're dealing with Senator Burr. We're dealing with the committee. We're dealing with probably 9 or 10 people that want the job very much. You know the name of almost every one of them. They're truly outstanding. Everybody wants DNI. Everybody wants it.

And I will say that the Admiral is such a great choice from the standpoint of now. And maybe he goes further. We'll see what happens. But we're dealing with the committee and Senator Burr.

We have people, all of whom you know — highly respected people. We'll be making a decision in the not-too-distant future.

Q Thank you, Mr. President. Are you still committed to naming Eugene Scalia Secretary of Labor? And when will you send a nomination to the Senate?

THE PRESIDENT: So, Eugene Scalia is a highly respected lawyer in Washington. His father, as you know, was the great, great, great Supreme Court Justice. Even the people with not his views would say he was a great gentleman, a great man.

Eugene Scalia — Gene Scalia — has had a fantastic career. As you know, he's our appointment for Labor Secretary. I think — so far, it's been received very well. He is a very — he's one of the finest minds and lawyers in Washington. And I will say, so far, that's been received very well.

Q On North Korea, this letter to you, did Kim Jong Un make any promises about stopping the ballistic missile testing that he's been carrying out?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, he gave me a great letter. I would love to give you, but, I don't know, I don't think it would be appropriate. But it was a very personal letter.

Q Talked about missile testing?

THE PRESIDENT: It was a great letter. He talked about what he's doing. He's not happy with the testing. It's a very small testing that we did. But he wasn't happy with the testing; he put that in the letter. But he also sees a great future for North Korea. And so we'll see how it all works out.

In the meantime, I say it again: There have been no nuclear tests. The missile tests have all been short-range. No ballistic missile tests. No long-range missiles. We got back, and we're getting back — as we speak, we're getting back a lot of our fallen heroes. You know that. They're coming back into and through Hawaii. And we got back our hostages.

So I thought the letter — I just got it yesterday. It was hand-delivered and it wasn't touched by anybody. They literally take it from North Korea to my office. We have a system. It's the old-fashioned system. You don't have to worry about leaks. Something nice about that system.

Q Mr. President, what do you mean that he wasn't happy with the missile tests? He carried them out. He ordered them.

THE PRESIDENT: No, he wasn't. He wasn't happy with the tests — the war games. The war games on the other side, with the United States. And as you know, I've never liked it either. I've never liked it. I've never been a fan. You know why? I don't like paying for it. We should be reimbursed for it, and I've told that to South Korea. But I don't like it either. But I said, "Do this," because

this was a big test. This was a turnover of various areas to South Korea. I like that because that's what should happen.

Q Several countries issued travel warnings to United States. And Japan specifically said gunfire is potentially everywhere in the U.S. What is your reaction to that?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I can't imagine that. But if they did that, we'd just reciprocate. We are a very reciprocal nation, with me as the head. When somebody does something negative to us in terms of a country, we do it to them.

Look, our country has been taken advantage of by foreign countries, even allies — including allies, and in many cases, more than anybody else. We've been taken advantage of for many, many years, and it stops. It stopped.

Q In your view, Mr. President, should Colin Kaepernick get an opportunity to play in the NFL?

THE PRESIDENT: Only if he's good enough. Yeah, if he's good enough. Why would he play? If he's good enough. And I think if he was good enough — I know the owners. I know Bob Kraft. I know so many of the owners. If he's good enough, they'd sign him. So, if he's good enough — I know these people — they would sign him in a heartbeat. They will do anything they can to win games.

So I'd like to see it. Frankly, I'd love to see Kaepernick come in if he's good enough. But I don't want to see him come in because somebody thinks it's a good PR move. If he's good enough, he will be in.

Q Are you worried about global markets pulling back at all?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the global markets are not as good as our market. Our market has been really good.

Q Are you worried about the effect — the (inaudible) effect to the U.S.?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it always — it's never positive. Although, you could say it puts us in an even better position. I view it differently. I mean, most people would say that's a bad thing. I would say the fact that other countries aren't doing really well — China, in particular. China is doing horribly. Horribly. First time that anyone can remember. They are having a year like they never had. Almost — you know, go back, 30, 40 years. They're having one of the worst years ever. The numbers are phony. They're not doing 6.2; they're doing a totally different number.

Q What do you think they're doing?

THE PRESIDENT: Maybe neutral. Maybe even —

Q Does Democrats calling you and your supporters a white nationalist, a white supremacist, help you?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it helps. First of all, I don't like it when they do it because I am not any of those things. I think it's a disgrace. And I think it shows how desperate the Democrats are. Look, right now, I'm working with the Democrats on meaningful background checks. That's a big thing. Hopefully, we can do something. But — so I don't want to focus too much on that.

I will say this: For them to throw out the race word again — “racist, racist, racist.” That's all they use — to anybody. They called Nancy Pelosi a racist. She's not a racist. They call anybody a “racist” when they run out of cards.

I'm winning in the polls. They're desperate. They've got lousy candidates. They've got bad candidates. I mean, I watched the debates. I mean, I look —

Q (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: I look — well, I mean, Joe Biden can't answer a simple question. Something is going wrong with him. I mean, the only — the only thing is — I mean, a lot of people think that he was the one that wanted Bob Mueller to testify because it made Joe look intelligent. Okay?

Q Is your base supporting background checks?

THE PRESIDENT: I think my base relies very much on common sense and they rely on me, in terms of telling them what's happening. I think meaningful background checks — I don't just say "background checks." Because we passed background checks a number of times, meaning the Democr- — but everybody knew they weren't that strong.

Q Do you want to expand the law?

THE PRESIDENT: I think meaningful background checks are a real positive. Politically, I can't tell you. You know, I don't know — good, bad, or indifferent. I don't care, politically. I don't want to have crazy people having guns.

END

10:22 A.M. EDT

Best -

(b)(6)

Director, Office of Program Coordination and Strategy

USAID Regional Mission for Ukraine and Belarus

4 Igor Sikorsky St., Kyiv 04112

Tel. (b)(6) cell (b)(6) fax. (b)(6)

<http://www.usaid.gov/ukraine>

✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To: (b)(6) sondland (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent: TIME Magazine for Ambassador Sondland
Date: Mon, 9 Dec 2019 21:16:26 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 2:02:04 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Urgent: TIME Magazine for Ambassador Sondland

Sir — just FYI, Time now also says they'll have a separate longer request for response for a year-end piece we'll get soon. For this inquiry I'll send him to your counsel and will forward the other questions as soon as we receive them.

From: Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 9:20:44 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Urgent: TIME Magazine for Ambassador Sondland

Ambassador, given he is asking about your testimony should we refer him to Mr Luskin?

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 9:16 PM
To: Simon Shuster
Cc: Tomlinson, Christina (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); The Brussels Hub
Subject: Re: Urgent: TIME Magazine for Ambassador Sondland

Simon,
 Referring you to the U.S.-EU PAO Christina Tomlinson and Press Officer (b)(6)
 Regards,

Justin

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Simon Shuster (b)(6)

Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 9:12:13 PM

To: The Brussels Hub (b)(6) Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
(b)(6)

Subject: Urgent: TIME Magazine for Ambassador Sondland

Greetings, I'm the Time correspondent in Berlin, and last week I interviewed Mr. Andriy Yermak, a senior adviser to the President of Ukraine.

Mr. Yermak's comments cast doubt on the testimony that Amb. Sondland gave during the impeachment inquiry, and I would like to offer him the chance to respond.

Specifically, Mr. Yermak contradicted the account that Amb. Sondland gave of their meeting in Warsaw on Sept. 1. Mr. Yermak says that Mr. Sondland did not make it clear to him during that meeting that U.S. military aid would likely be conditional on the announcement of the investigations into Burisma/Biden and the 2016 elections.

Mr. Yermak says that he never talked to Sondland about such a conditionality, neither in Warsaw nor in previous meetings in Kyiv.

Could Mr. Sondland please comment on the apparent discrepancy between his and Mr. Yermak's recollection of these conversations? Whose recollection is correct?

We plan to publish the interview with Mr. Yermak at around 12:00 noon CET tomorrow, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019.

Please let me know if we can expect any comment before then.

Many thanks in advance for your help,
Simon

--

Simon Shuster
Europe Correspondent
TIME Magazine
Office: +(b)(6)
Mobile: +(b)(6)

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Zelensky
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 09:09:18 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: S (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2019 7:03:17 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky

Yes.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 22, 2019, at 7:00 PM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Mike,

Should we block time in Warsaw for a short pull-aside for Potus to meet Zelensky?

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

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United States Mission to the European Union

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Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient: (b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 09:21:17 +0000



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 1000 Brussels, Belgium
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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 9:49:19 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6) Rick Perry (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D
 (b)(6) Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Gordon, I take your call whenever you ask.
 Please keep the CDA in the loop.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 9:36 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

I was told that someone was teeing up an

UNGA bilat. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Btw, the CNN interview Ze was going to give yesterday will now be in NY.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

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From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 3:13:21 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rick Perry

(b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Are we discussing a meeting at unga or in DC?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 8:55 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

(b)(6) wrote:

We discussed and Kurt and I will attend without Rick if he is unable



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 2:17:47 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Rick Perry (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

I don't know if we know when it will be yet; it may occur when Sec
Perry is still (b)(6) Will follow-up.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 12:30 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

(b)(6) wrote:

Tim,

Please manifest Sec Perry, Amb Volker and me for the
bilat. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <SondlandGD@state.gov>
Recipient:	(b)(1) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 09:20:34 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 15, 2019 8:09:08 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

No, but I can't see when things get confirmed. We will get an update on Monday, I'm sure.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 15, 2019, at 6:13 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Did you know the bilat is confirmed in NY on 9/25 at 14:15?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 3:13:21 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rick Perry

(b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Are we discussing a meeting at unga or in DC?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 8:55 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

(b)(6) wrote:

We discussed and Kurt and I will attend without Rick if he is unable



Gordon D. Sondland

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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 2:17:47 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Rick Perry (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

I don't know if we know when it will be yet; it may occur when Sec
Perry is still (b)(6) Will follow-up.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 12:30 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
(b)(6) wrote:

Tim,
Please manifest Sec Perry, Amb Volker and me for the
bilat. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Call
Date:	Wed, 31 Jul 2019 18:18:53 +0000

Friday early or late afternoon good. I have a number of things.
Have a long call with Von der Leyen tomorrow. Wanted to chat prior.

(b)(5)

Give me a couple of times Fri. Thx!



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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1000 Brussels, Belgium
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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 8:12:30 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Call

Today is really tight; tomorrow isn't much better. Can it wait until Friday?

I'm told it's related to a (b) — which?

Thanks,

Tim Morrison
NSC-EUR

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 2:17 AM
To: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Subject: Call

Hi Tim,

Can we talk this afternoon or Thurs? I have a pretty good list. I will be in NYC after 3 eastern.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
CC:	Rick Perry (b)(6) S (b)(6) Blair, Robert B (b)(6) McCormack, Brian (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: I Talked to Zelensky just now
Date:	Sat, 20 Jul 2019 08:29:11 +0000

Thanks Mick
Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2019 10:24:32 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Rick Perry; S (b)(6); Blair, Robert B; McCormack, Brian; Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: Re: I Talked to Zelensky just now

I asked (b)(5) to set it up for tomorrow.
MM

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 19, 2019, at 3:28 PM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

He is prepared to receive Potus' call. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

**Gordon D. Sondland**

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
	Rick Perry (b)(6)
	S (b)(6)
	Blair, Robert B (b)(6)
	McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (Brussels) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-Staff-Aide DL (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Presidential Delegation events
Date:	Wed, 31 Jul 2019 06:23:19 +0000

(b)(5) Ok to send
and copy Lisa. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

From: (b)(6) (Brussels) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 8:21:58 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
USEU-Staff-Aide DL (b)(6)
Subject: Presidential Delegation events

Good morning Ambassador Sondland,

As you requested, below please find a list of Presidential Delegation events in the coming months that are the most likely priorities for you to attend. You had requested that Henry share this list with Counselor Brecheuhl's staff at the State Department to seek C's support for including in the Presidential Delegations for these events. If you agree with this list – and assuming it does not conflict with anything you have subsequently discussed with Lisa Kenna – we can send this off to C staff right away. Is that ok?

Presidential-delegation events

- (b)(5)
- **UNGA 74th Session:** New York, NY (September 17, 2019)
- **Munich Security Conference Core Group Meeting:** Doha (October 28-29, 2019)
- (b)(5)

Kind Regards,

(b)(6)

Acting Staff Aide

United States Mission to the European Union

Office: (b)(6)

Cell: +(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (Brussels) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-Staff-Aide DL (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Scenesetter - Take 2
Date:	Mon, 4 Nov 2019 20:36:03 +0000

(b)(5)



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From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 4:03:50 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)
 Putney, Barton J (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Scenesetter - Take 2

Good morning Ambassador,

A new version of the scenesetter is attached and below for your review. Hopefully this is in line with your thinking. As always, feel free to call or let me know if I should call you. I'm also checking my cell for texts periodically.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

EU: Scenesetter for Secretary Pompeo's September 2-3 Visit to Brussels

(b)(5)

SBU

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
CC:	S(b)(6) Bolton, John R. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Sitting with Pres Zelensky
Date:	Tue, 4 Jun 2019 02:41:09 +0000

Ok. I will discuss with Mike next week when things calm down. Thanks Mick.



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From: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2019 8:02:03 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: S(b)(6); Bolton, John R. EOP/WHO
Subject: RE: Sitting with Pres Zelensky

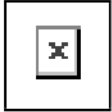
Adding Mike and John.

(b)(5)
 (b)(5)

MM

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, June 1, 2019 9:46 PM
To: Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
Subject: Sitting with Pres Zelensky

On Tue. Any update on Oval visit?



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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Mulvaney, Mick M. EOP/WHO (b)(6)
	S(b)(6)
	Bolton, John R. EOP/WHO (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
CC:	(b)(6) O (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Ukraine
Date:	Thu, 12 Sep 2019 06:22:47 +0000

Yes pls call. some nuances you should know after my last convo w Zelensky.

Also could you please manifest me for the Trans-Atlantic Dinner at UNGA. S was ok w this.

Any EU or EU member bilats I should sit in on at UNGA?



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From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 9:39:26 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Ukraine

I'm told we'll have an update on Ukr on Friday. Shall I call now anyway?

SBU

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 12:05 PM

To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

Subject: Ukraine

Pls call me



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United States Mission to the European Union

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6) (b)(6) O (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <SondlandGD@state.gov>
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <LibbyMW@state.gov>
Subject:	Re: Upcoming S travel
Date:	Mon, 4 Nov 2019 10:22:23 +0000

Got it. Thanks



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From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2019 4:18:10 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Upcoming S travel

Ambassador FYSA: the stop in Ukraine will not happen. Here's the official Department statement on the Secretary's upcoming travel:

Secretary Pompeo's Travel to Germany

11/01/2019 02:35 PM EDT

Michael R. Pompeo, Secretary of State

Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo will travel to Germany from November 6-8 to underscore important bilateral relationships, meet with key leaders, and commemorate the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

On November 6, the Secretary will arrive in Germany, where he will visit Grafenwohr, Vilseck, Modlareuth, and Leipzig to participate in events to commemorate the end of the Cold War and to highlight the United States' critical role in helping tens of millions of people in Eastern and Central Europe throw off the yoke of communism. In Leipzig, Secretary Pompeo will meet with German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas to discuss the importance of our Transatlantic partnership and the need for strengthened engagement in the face of growing threats from Russia, China, and Iran.

The Secretary will then travel to Berlin, where he will meet with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, and Vice Chancellor and Finance Minister Olaf Scholz to discuss areas of mutual cooperation and concern. While in Berlin, the Secretary will also deliver a speech on the continuing imperative to defend free nations and free peoples

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 5:05 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: UKRAINE: Scene Setter for Secretary Pompeo

Still TBC: 5-hour stop on Nov 6

Sent from a mobile device; please excuse any brevity, typos, or autocorrect misfires.

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 4:18:03 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: UKRAINE: Scene Setter for Secretary Pompeo

What is the trip date?

<html><body lang=EN-US link=blue vlink=purple><div class=WordSection1><p class=MsoNormal>
Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550<o:p></o:p></p><p class=MsoNormal><o:p> </o:p></p></div></body></html>

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, October 25, 2019 9:27:01 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-Staff-Aide DL (b)(6)
Subject: FW: UKRAINE: Scene Setter for Secretary Pompeo

Ambassador, flagging the enclosed scene setter for S.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: SMART Core (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2019 3:53 PM
Subject: UKRAINE: Scene Setter for Secretary Pompeo

UNCLASSIFIED

SBU



Action Office: POL, RSO
Info Office: POL_INFO, POL_LES_INFO

MRN: 19 KYIV 1952
Date/DTG: Oct 24, 2019 / 241352Z OCT 19
From: AMEMBASSY KYIV
Action: WASHDC, SECSTATE *IMMEDIATE*
E.O.: 13526
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, UA, RU
Captions: SENSITIVE
Subject: UKRAINE: Scene Setter for Secretary Pompeo

1. (SBU) Mr. Secretary, Embassy Kyiv welcomes you to Ukraine for your first visit as Secretary of State at one of the most critical moments in U.S.-Ukrainian relations in a generation. Ukraine – a democratic Euro-Atlantic aspirant under attack from an authoritarian, revanchist Russia – is the front line in defending our democratic values and strategic position. Our national security demands that this relationship remain strong and that Ukraine succeed. Large majorities of Ukrainians chose a fresh start this year by voting for political neophyte Volodymyr Zelenskyy in successive presidential and parliamentary elections, endorsing his platform largely consistent with our democratic values, reform priorities, and strategic interests. This ouster of the former president, installation of the country's youngest-ever government, and replacement of 80 percent of the Rada (parliament) rebooted Ukraine's political class, reflecting its failure to live up to the Ukrainian people's consistent demands for peace, prosperity, and justice – the same ideals that animated their 2014 Revolution of Dignity. This year's revolution at the ballot box underscores that, despite its imperfections, Ukraine is a genuine and vibrant democracy and an example to other post-Soviet countries and beyond – from Moscow to Hong Kong. How we respond to this historic opportunity will set the trajectory of our relationship and position on core principles central to our vital national interests for years to come.

2. (SBU) Ukrainians cherish the bipartisan American support that has sustained their Euro-Atlantic aspirations and recoil at the thought of playing a role in U.S. domestic politics or elections. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Vice President Pence said after his meeting with President Zelenskyy in Warsaw, “The U.S.-Ukraine relationship has never been stronger.” Ukrainians and their new government – even as they follow the controversy involving their country in our domestic politics and our evolving posture toward partners in other parts of the world – earnestly want to believe that.

3. (SBU) The policies we are implementing here match the three consistent priorities of the Ukrainian people since 2014 as measured in public opinion polling, namely, an end to the conflict with Russia that restores national unity, responsible economic policies that deliver European standards of growth and opportunity, and effective and impartial rule of law institutions that deliver justice in cases of high-level official corruption. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) The Zelenskyy administration has made positive steps consistent with each of these policy priorities, but they also face challenges (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Conflict Diplomacy: New Opportunities for Peace

4. (SBU) Since Russia occupied Crimea and asserted control over the Donbas – collectively comprising seven percent of Ukraine’s territory – its conflict with Ukraine has claimed almost 14,000 victims amid a multifaceted hybrid war to destabilize Ukraine and reverse its Euro-Atlantic trajectory while consolidating Russia’s power projection in the Black Sea and Mediterranean. Zelenskyy has taken political risks and paid a price in pursuit of peace that have yielded real progress, including the longest declared “ceasefire” since 2014, the exchange of high-profile political prisoners, and the beginning of a process of military disengagement and bridge reconstruction at a key crossing point on the line of contact. In response to Russia’s unilateral imposition of three conditions to hold a “Normandy Four” summit, Zelenskyy weathered street protests in the wake of signing the unpopular “Steinmeier formula” for Minsk implementation that contributed to a seven percent drop in his stratospheric approval ratings (at 66 percent down from 73 percent in September). His team is working through onerous Russian positions and stalling tactics in an attempt to fulfill the other two conditions, including a second round of disengagement at two additional points on the line of contact (Zolote and Petrivke) and a negotiated summit outcomes document. Meanwhile, Ukraine’s is also trying to negotiate a new gas transit agreement with Russia while preserving its Stockholm arbitration claims.

5. (SBU) (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Economy: Positive Outlook Threatened by Oligarch Kolomoyskyy

6. (SBU) Ukraine’s economic situation has improved markedly in recent years following a severe financial crisis and near collapse of the banking system triggered by Russia’s military intervention in

2014. The economic outlook has particularly brightened since Zelenskyy's election in April, as the central bank has successfully reduced inflation and international investors have flocked to the debt market, attracted by the new president's ambitious reform agenda. The new government led by Prime Minister Oleksiy Honcharuk has already passed dozens of laws intended to improve the business environment and attract international investment. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

7. (SBU) Although the economic outlook is currently positive, the situation could change rapidly if Ukraine fails to secure IMF backing by the end of the year. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Anti-corruption Reforms: Rebooting Institutions in Line with International Standards

8. (SBU) Zelenskyy has declared he not only intends to fight corruption, but to defeat it. He has used his Servant of the People (SoP) party's commanding parliamentary majority to appoint a government and pass key legislation restricting parliamentarians' immunity, reinstating a law on illicit enrichment, and enabling prosecutorial reform – all positive steps to fighting corruption. Zelenskyy's team has committed to animating the independent anti-corruption institutions – including an investigative bureau, prosecutor's office, and most recently an anti-corruption court – that we have painstakingly built together with all the major international stakeholders and partners spanning the past two U.S. administrations. The Rada is passing reform bills at a blistering pace, and has been willing to work closely with us to avoid unforced errors. Ukraine is also moving ahead on corporate governance reform, and we have supported the impartial process of appointing independent members to supervisory boards of state-owned companies, including Naftohaz.

9. (SBU). Zelenskyy is making real progress in implementing rule of law reforms and strengthening anti-corruption institutions to defeat corruption. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

10. (SBU) Congress has approved over \$3 billion in assistance to Ukraine since 2014, roughly half civilian and half security assistance, in addition to three \$1 billion loan guarantees. We have provided this assistance in close collaboration with European partners, who have contributed a combined \$12 billion since 2014. Our \$1.5 billion in security assistance is comprised of technical assistance, training, and

equipment to the Ukrainian Armed Forces and security services. Non-security assistance supports civil society and other local partners to reform the justice sector and strengthen rule of law and combat corruption, enhance energy security, improve governance, increase cyber security, and promote economic growth and improved health services for Ukrainians. It also helps stabilize communities affected by conflict, integrate internally displaced people into new communities, and meet the humanitarian needs of Ukrainians affected by the conflict. U.S. assistance also played a key role in Ukraine's highly successful 2019 presidential and parliamentary elections, and we are leveraging our assistance resources to support the new government's reform priorities. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

11. (SBU) With the new Zelenskyy administration enjoying unprecedented popular support here, Ukraine increasingly in the public consciousness of Americans at home, and the United States political establishment clearer than ever in the importance of strong bipartisan support for Ukraine, (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

One Team, One Mission

12. (SBU) To pursue our broad agenda, the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine operates with nearly 230 American diplomatic personnel, plus 659 locally hired staff, and numerous temporary staff, including up to 250 U.S. military personnel in training, advise, and assist roles. Ten cabinet level agencies are represented at the Embassy, which is also the platform for the largest Peace Corps presence (328 volunteers), Treasury advisory team, and Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) programs in the world. Despite changes in embassy leadership and political uncertainty, our team remains strong, results-oriented, and focused on making the most of Ukraine's once-in-a-generation opportunity to consolidate its Revolution of Dignity and solidify U.S. interests in the region. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Signature: TAYLOR

Drafted By: KYIV:Holmes, David A (Kyiv)
Cleared By: EXEC/LEG:Kvien, Kristina A
 ECON:Bouldin, Megan T (Kyiv)
 ECON:(b)(6) (Kyiv)
 DOD/DAO:(b)(6) (Kyiv)
 PD:Castillo, Raymond A (Kyiv)
 RAO:(b)(6) (Kyiv)
 INL:(b)(6) (Kyiv)
Approved By: EXEC/LEG:Taylor, William B (Kyiv)
Released By: KYIV:Holmes, David A (Kyiv)
Info: USNATO, USMISSION *ROUTINE*;USUN NEW YORK,
 USMISSION *ROUTINE*;NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON
 DC *ROUTINE*;OSD WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*;EUCOM POLAD
 VAIHINGEN GE *ROUTINE*;WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON
 DC *ROUTINE*;DNI WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*;CIA WASHINGTON
 DC *ROUTINE*;EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*;CIS
 COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*
XMT: ST PETERSBURG, AMCONSUL

Action Post: NONE
Dissemination Rule: POL, RSO, POL_INFO, POL_LES_INFO

UNCLASSIFIED

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Warsaw Update
Date:	Wed, 28 Aug 2019 17:21:49 +0000

Reach out directly to Dan Walsh. Tell him that Pompeo, Perry and I are together for this trip.

Kindly move me.



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United States Mission to the European Union

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1000 Brussels, Belgium

+32 2811-5550

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 10:20:22 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Warsaw Update

The White House Advance team on the ground is coordinating manifests, clearing through the

(b)(5) I've reached out to the trip coordinator to see if I can learn more.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 7:10:36 PM

To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Warsaw Update

Who exactly is saying no to the VVIP dinner



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From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2019 10:08:14 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Warsaw Update

Ambassador,

Here's an update on your Warsaw trip:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

- Time between your arrival at the RON and start of the Borrell meeting might be tight, especially if the Secretary wants a pre-brief. AF1 baggage delivery will take time. There's no guarantee you'll receive any checked bags prior to your meeting with S and Borrell; bring all essentials in your carry-on. You will have to swipe a credit card at the hotel for incidentals.
- Your control officer – (b)(6) – goes by (b)(6) – is not credentialed for any of the events and does not have a seat in the motorcade. But, he will meet you at the RON upon arrival, and be on call to return at any time if you need assistance. He'll send you an updated schedule and his contact information on Friday.

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Chief of Staff

U.S. Mission to the European Union

Email: (b)(6)

Office: (b)(6)

Mobile:

SBU

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA
Date:	Sat, 14 Sep 2019 16:53:36 +0000

Great



Gordon D. Sondland

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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 5:19:48 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Can call when (b)(6) start in about 15. Ok?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 10:01 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Pls call at your convenience



Gordon D. Sondland

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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 3:49:19 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6) Rick Perry (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6) Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Gordon, I take your call whenever you ask.
Please keep the CDA in the loop.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 9:36 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

I was told that someone was teeing up an
UNGA bilat. (b)(5)

(b)(5) Btw, the CNN interview
Ze was going to give yesterday will now be in NY.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

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From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 3:13:21 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rick Perry (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

Are we discussing a meeting at unga or in DC?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 8:55 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

(b)(6) wrote:

We discussed and Kurt and I will attend without Rick if he is unable



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC

(b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, September 14, 2019 2:17:47 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Rick Perry (b)(6) Kenna, Lisa D

(b)(6) Volker, Kurt D <(b)(6)>

Subject: Re: Zelensky Bi-Lat UNGA

I don't know if we know when it will be yet; it may occur when Sec Perry is still (b)(6) Will follow-up.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2019, at 12:30 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

Tim,
Please manifest Sec Perry, Amb Volker and me for the bilat. Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Zelensky Oval 9/16
Date:	Wed, 31 Jul 2019 16:31:42 +0000

Is that correct?



Gordon D. Sondland

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Atlantic Council: If Zelenskyy's Serious about Re form, He'll Ditch the Cronies
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 12:44:38 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

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 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, July 18, 2019 5:59 PM
To: USEU-FO-DL <USEU-FO-DL@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Atlantic Council: If Zelenskyy's Serious about Reform, He'll Ditch the Cronies

Ambassador – great piece (b)(6) found that is good reading for you as (b)(5)
 (b)(5)

Regards,
 Henry

FROM (b)(6) (b)(5)
 (b)(5)

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/if-zelenskyy-s-serious-about-reform-he-ll-ditch-the-cronies>

JULY 16, 2019

If Zelenskyy's Serious about Reform, He'll Ditch the Cronies

BY DIANE FRANCIS

Recent polls forecast that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's political party, Servant of the People, may take 43 percent in Sunday's parliamentary elections, or 30 percent less than he won in the April presidential race.

And there is one reason why: Ihor Kolomoisky.

A political proverb holds that not only must a leader be above suspicion but also that, as Julius Caesar stated, "Caesar's wife must be above suspicion." In other words, leaders are judged by those closest to them, and Zelenskyy's mishandling of this matter is destroying his "brand" and will impede his reform agenda.

Kolomoisky is a scourge and an impediment to progress, but the consensus is that Zelenskyy should not only take firm action against the oligarch but also dismiss the oligarch's lawyer, Andriy Bohdan, appointed as his chief of staff and the second most important decisionmaker in the new administration.

"Nobody's happy with his appointment so openly," said businessman Mohammed Zahoor in May. "He has a conflict of interest because Kolomoisky is fighting the government to get back his bank or to get billions in compensation. And here his lawyer is in the government."

The honeymoon period for the president continues, but is waning as an increasingly emboldened Kolomoisky causes consternation at home and abroad. For instance, he publicly stated that Ukraine should default on its IMF loans, causing the hryvnia to drop slightly.

As Zahoor stated: "He [Zelenskyy] should have the balls to say this openly... that Kolomoisky is a detached oligarch and has nothing to do with us. We are running our own government and he's not involved in any way. Now everyone thinks that Kolomoisky is behind Zelenskyy."

Since then, there have been rumors and some signals that Zelenskyy is trying to put distance between himself and Ukraine's most notorious oligarch. Not everyone is convinced.

Kolomoisky is the beneficiary of recent court judgments designed to cripple his airline competitor SkyUp and to damage the National Bank of Ukraine for nationalizing the bank he and a partner drove into the ground. Kolomoisky denies any involvement and churlishly responded to an interviewer's questions: "You probably know that at every meeting with the current president the Americans raise a question about you."

“So what?” said Kolomoisky. “I do not care. Our property was stolen from us. The thieves who stole it from us, selected it under the auspices of the state, incited by international organizations, such as the IMF or the World Bank, which applauded.”

Zelenskyy, for his part, has handled these oligarch onslaughts poorly. He refuses to fire **Bohdan** and said he will defend the independence of the National Bank and stay out of controversies like SkyUp's. But neither are good enough, given the oligarchy's manipulation and ownership of Ukraine's thoroughly rotten courts.

For instance, a small-town court ordered the grounding of SkyUp based on a complaint about a flight that never existed, by a "passenger" who never flew. Likewise, another small-town judge ruled to dismiss the deputy governor of the National Bank of Ukraine based on a complaint by a company that doesn't exist, [according to the Kyiv Post](#).

Both decisions should be tossed out of hand by the president's office especially given that in June Zelenskyy promised to end "raider attacks" on businesses before 500 international businesspeople, said SkyUp's President Alexander Alba. "But he and his government don't even return our phone calls and the president has not condemned this."

Such silence damages the country and is also encouraging more misbehavior.

On July 1, 200 million hryvnia was [set aside](#) to build a new international runway at Dnipro Airport which is owned by Kolomoisky, who has banned SkyUp and Turkish Airlines from landing there for anti-competitive reasons. This allocation must be blocked, as must the airport's ban against the airlines.

Another issue is that there are Kolomoisky operatives littering the Servant of the People's party list, including Oleksandr **Dubinsky**. He is a commentator on Kolomoisky's 1+1 channel, that backed Zelenskyy, and has been at the forefront of campaigning against the National Bank of Ukraine's former head who nationalized Kolomoisky's bank as well as an obscenity-laden video [attacking](#) SkyUp discount airline which competes against Kolomoisky's Ukraine International Airlines.

Other Servant of the People candidates in single-member constituencies are linked to Kolomoisky's 1+1 channel or his UKROP party. The Liga news website counted more than twenty of Kolomoisky's people among them. Clearly, Dubinsky and all the others must be culled.

Parliamentary reformer Yegor Soboliev recently pointed out another corrupt Kolomoisky offensive. The tainted Constitutional Court overturned the cancelation, by the National Anti-Corruption Bureau and the Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office, of 97 agreements proven unlawful. The complaint to the Constitutional Court was filed by an enterprise, Zaporozhye Ferroalloy Plant, owned by Kolomoisky.

Clearly, an example must be made of the aggressive and entitled Kolomoisky, and his minions. This will send an important signal to voters, businesses, investors, foreign governments, courts, institutions, and other oligarchs.

If Zelenskyy does not stand up now, his plurality in the July 21 vote may shrink further and faster. And deservedly so.

Diane Francis is a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center, Editor at Large with the National Post in Canada, a Distinguished Professor at Ryerson University's Ted Rogers School of Management, and author of ten books.

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Brussels July 10-12
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:12:26 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 9:22 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6); Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

POL is working on (b)(5)

Mark W. Libby
 Deputy Chief of Mission
 U.S. Mission to the EU
 Brussels

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 4:52:05 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

Thanks Phil. We are in touch. I will be in DC when Elliott visits.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Reeker, Philip T
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 1:49:52 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Fw: Brussels July 10-12

Gordon,
Not to steal Elliott's own outreach to you -- but Fyi.

I'm en route to Vienna overnight. Covering OSCE Ministerial Mon-Tues; stop in Budapest, then London (Media Freedom Ministerial Conference, etc) Back July 14.

Best, Phil

P.s.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 12:07 PM
To: Reeker, Philip T; (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Brussels July 10-12

Right—I'll email him.

From: Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 11:18 AM
To: Fisher, Julie D (b)(6); Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: Brussels July 10-12

Elliott,
I'm not sure if he'll be in town then, but if you have a chance

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Save travels.

Phil

From: Fisher, Julie D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:39 AM

To: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6) [redacted] Reeker, Philip T (b)(6) [redacted] (b)(6) [redacted]
 (b)(6) [redacted]
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

Of course! We'll circle back with a name.

From: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6) [redacted]
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:27
To: Reeker, Philip T; (b)(6) [redacted]
Subject: Brussels July 10-12

There's a big (Canadian-led) Venezuela conference in Brussels on July 11 and I will attend.

I am figuring on going over the night of the 9th, returning the 12th.

Can you help me let Embassy Brussels know this, and get me a control officer?

Many thanks,

Elliott

Elliott Abrams

Special Representative for Venezuela

U.S. Department of State

2201 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20520

Tel: (b)(6) [redacted]

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6) [redacted]
Recipient:	(b)(6) [redacted] gsondland (b)(6) [redacted]

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)	
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)	
Subject:	FW: Missing piece to the Ukraine puzzle: State Department's overture to Rudy Giuliani TheHill	
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:35:19 +0000	



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2019 10:08 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6); Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Missing piece to the Ukraine puzzle: State Department's overture to Rudy Giuliani | TheHill

<https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/462422-missing-piece-to-the-ukraine-puzzle-state-departments-overture-to-rudy>

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: Ukraine Inaug
Date:	Wed, 23 Oct 2019 11:43:59 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 2:42 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Ukraine Inaug

(b)(5) (b)(5) Lisa

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:14 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Ukraine Inaug

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Thx!



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
CC:	Rick Perry (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: [External] Ukraine
Date:	Sun, 30 Jun 2019 20:50:48 +0000

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Thoughts?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Herrera, Julio (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, June 30, 2019 4:43:01 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: Re: [External] Ukraine

Hi, Gordon, first and foremost, thank you for hosting us last night with your lovely family. It was a very fun night filled with good food, wine and friendship. I will let you know if we have interest. I spoke today with one of our energy specialists who advises state-owned oil companies. He sent me an internal deck that was presented to Zelensky's staff in the last week or so. Small world. I will let you know. Safe travels! Julio

On Jun 30, 2019, at 12:56 PM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) wrote:

(b)(6)

Hi Julio,

Great being with you last evening! Lmk if you and your colleagues have any interest in funding the Ukraine deal on some basis. Sec Perry and I can join you to discuss.

All the best,

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)	
Recipient:	McCormack, Brian <(b)(6)> Rick Perry (b)(6) Volker, Kurt D (b)(6)	

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Fwd: Brussels July 10-12
Date:	Sat, 26 Oct 2019 19:11:35 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 4:52:44 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

I read your interview in "Parliament" (I think that's what it's called) Magazine. Really good.

Safe travels.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 4:52 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

Thanks Phil. We are in touch. I will be in DC when Elliott visits.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Reeker, Philip T
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 1:49:52 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Fw: Brussels July 10-12

Gordon,
Not to steal Elliott's own outreach to you -- but Fyi.

I'm en route to Vienna overnight. Covering OSCE Ministerial Mon-Tues; stop in Budapest, then London (Media Freedom Ministerial Conference, etc) Back July 14.

Best, Phil

P.s.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone

From: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 12:07 PM
To: Reeker, Philip T; Fisher, Julie D; Temen, Christina
Subject: RE: Brussels July 10-12

Right—I'll email him.

From: Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 11:18 AM

To: Fisher, Julie D (b)(6)

Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Brussels July 10-12

Elliott,

I'm not sure if he'll be in town then, but if you have a chance

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Save travels.

Phil

From: Fisher, Julie D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:39 AM
To: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6); Reeker, Philip T (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

Of course! We'll circle back with a name.

From: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:27
To: Reeker, Philip T; Fisher, Julie D (b)(6)
Subject: Brussels July 10-12

There's a big (Canadian-led) Venezuela conference in Brussels on July 11 and I will attend.

I am figuring on going over the night of the 9th, returning the 12th.

Can you help me let Embassy Brussels know this, and get me a control officer?

Many thanks,

Elliott

Elliott Abrams

Special Representative for Venezuela

U.S. Department of State

2201 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20520

Tel: (b)(6)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: CNN inquiry
Date:	Wed, 25 Sep 2019 14:24:32 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Hansler, Jennifer (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:14:35 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: CNN inquiry

Hello Amb. Sondland,

I hope this email finds you well during this busy UNGA. I wanted to reach out to see if you had any comment on this Daily Beast [piece](#) and see if we could chat a bit about it? Do you feel it accurately portrays your role in this? Happy to speak off the record.

Thank you!

All the best,

Jennifer

Jennifer Hansler

CNN State Department producer

Office: (b)(6)

Cell/Signal/Whatsapp: (b)(6)

@jmhansler

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: De Standaard on some of President Trump's Ambassadors in Europe
Date:	Mon, 16 Dec 2019 12:18:56 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, December 15, 2019 11:46:58 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6); Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6); (b)(6)
Subject: FW: De Standaard on some of President Trump's Ambassadors in Europe

Sir,

Flagging this article in De Standaard for your awareness.

Jason

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2019 8:39 AM
To: Benini, Carla A (Brussels) (b)(6); (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6); (b)(6)
 (b)(6); (b)(6) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) Brussels
 EMB-ECON-POL <BRU-EMB-ECON-POL@state.gov>
Subject: De Standaard on some of President Trump's Ambassadors in Europe

Article in *De Standaard* on Saturday, December 14 -
https://www.standaard.be/cnt/dmf20191213_04766575

Google translate:

The mini-Trumps of U.S. diplomacy

De Standaard, December 14, 2019

The American-European diplomacy is not going well. Much has to do with the army of ambassadors that Trump has unleashed on Europe in recent years.

Gordon Sondland, the US ambassador to the EU, came to Brussels as a self-proclaimed "disruptive diplomat." Both in personal encounters and in his public appearances, since his appointment in 2018, Sondland has exhibited a remarkable *parler-vrai* and careless handling of protocol. On one occasion, according to The New York Times, Sondland, like President Donald Trump was a former hotel magnate, stated that he had been sent "to destroy the EU."

With his confrontation style, Sondland wanted to force breakthroughs in files such as the American-European trade relations, which his president found unbalanced. "If I give the impression that I am trying to disrupt the stagnant and circular way in which the US and the EU have dealt with issues of mutual interest," he said at a Brussels meeting in June, "you are right." "

But as an unintended center of impeachment hearings, in recent weeks Sondland has become an example of how things can go wrong with the type of envoys that Trump sent to major European capitals, people who conduct diplomacy following his example: more 'art of the deal', less tact

Richard Grenell, the American ambassador to Berlin, is one of the men who shares the nickname "mini-Trump" with Sondland. He bruised his hosts in 2018 by criticizing German refugee policy in an interview with the alt-right website Breitbart. Grenell added: "I absolutely want to give other conservatives across Europe a boost." He says they are on the rise due to "the failed policies of the left". A people's representative for the left-wing government party SPD responded that perhaps Grenell "had to leave the country."

David Cornstein, an 81-year-old New York jeweler who became Trumps ambassador to Budapest, broke with the tradition of his predecessors through his cordial relationship with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban. In a meeting between Hungarian NGO staff and representatives of the American Congress, Cornstein walked in, two attendees confirmed to De Standaard. He questioned the experts' argument about the rule of law and corruption in their country. One of the two present, Marta Pardavi from the Hungarian Helsinki Committee, remembers his words such as: "I know these people don't agree, but things are going well here. The government has the support of the population. It is a strong government that has the legislature and the courts. "The American embassy in Budapest responds by e-mail:" There are of course areas where we think Hungary can do better, and as a friend of Hungary we throw these questions in private. "

CLOSED DOORS

While the US President's first mandate is entering its final year, the balance of diplomats appointed by Trump in Europe is at best mixed. The hardest is for Sondland. "He has a particularly bad reputation here," says a Western European diplomatic insider in Brussels. "The news that he was sent to undermine the EU kept the doors shut for him." Sondland "is someone who fundamentally doesn't understand the EU," Nathalie Tocci, director of the Italian Istituto Affari Internazionali, agrees. She met him as a former adviser to EU foreign chief Federica Mogherini. "He really saw the EU as an opponent, just like China, and much more than Russia." "All the willingness that has been built up since the Marshall Plan doesn't seem to matter," he told [Politico](#).

Eighteen months after taking office, Sondland testified before Congress about his parallel diplomacy in Ukraine, serving Trump. Sondland had also put pressure on Ukrainian president Volodimir Zelenski to conduct an investigation into Trumps Democratic opponent Joe Biden. Recognizing that "quid pro quo" even made him a target at the Republican fan club.

In the meantime, the German government in Berlin did not succumb to Grenell's warnings that cooperation with the Chinese Huawei in the development of the German 5G network entails serious risks of espionage. Nord Stream 2, the Russian gas pipeline to Germany, is also nearing completion, despite Grenell's warnings that German companies involved risked American "sanctions."

"Those disruptive diplomats are really just people walking around in an area they don't know," concludes the aforementioned Brussels insider. The new generation of Trump diplomats has sometimes "behaved in a manner that causes serious irritation," says Ian Lesser, vice-director of the German Marshall Fund for the US and himself once employed at the US Department of Foreign Affairs.

"The business culture (where Trump and some of his new ambassadors come from, ed.) And the diplomatic culture do not go together," analyzes Paul Meerts, former senior associate at Clingendael. Meerts trained diplomats in countless countries for a quarter of a century. "Business people sometimes say, 'You don't have to have empathy, you have to bring in money. 'If you don't have empathy for the other party, you have a problem, certainly in the EU.'"

AMBASADOR POSTS FOR SALE

The fact that the business culture could leave its mark in this way also has to do with an American tradition, in which political appointments of ambassadors are normal. Often it's political lenders: Sondland gave a million dollars to the Trump campaign. All presidents engaged in that tradition, but since Barack Obama's resignation, the percentage has risen from 30 percent to 44 percent: a score that has been unseen since the 1950s. Ryan Scoville, lawyer at Marquette University

calculated that in a paper. He calls the practice "an aberration in developed democracies".

In addition, Scoville calculated that the politically nominated people are also less qualified than their professional counterparts in terms of language knowledge and other skills. Moreover, that gap grew while the amounts paid by new ambassadors to political campaigns increased. They reached a peak under Bush Jr. (\$ 214,221 on average), to fall to \$ 42,117 under Obama and to rise again to \$ 189,448 under Trump. "Further professionalization is possible" in American diplomacy, Scoville concludes, "but also a return to extensive amateurism."

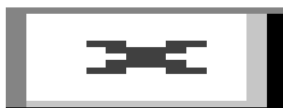
Lesser nuances: "From the point of view of European allies, it is not necessarily bad to have an ambassador who has political connections with the White House." Moreover, ambassadors are always flanked by an extensive team of professional diplomats. Between them and their European counterparts "an enormous amount of cooperation remains," he says.

But what the transatlantic relationships have lost in recent years is "predictability." Now that "Twitter diplomacy" and an increasingly personal approach to the new are normal, it becomes difficult to simply "reset" the old form of diplomacy, Lesser says. "In the meantime, everyone has adjusted, from our allies to Russia and China."

 (b)(6)
 American Embassy - Press Section
 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Follow the U.S. Embassy



Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
To:	Kurt Volker	(b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Fwd: Ukraine Action Required	
Date:	Sat, 25 May 2019 14:13:27 +0000	

FYI



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Microsoft Outlook O365

<MicrosoftExchange329e71ec88ae4615bbc36ab6ce41109e@usdos.onmicrosoft.com>

Sent: Saturday, May 25, 2019 6:23 AM

To: Volker, Kurt D

Subject: Undeliverable: Fwd: Ukraine Action Required



Your message to (b)(6) couldn't be delivered.

VolkerKD wasn't found at state.gov.

SondlandGD

Office 365

VolkerKD

Action Required

Recipient

Unknown To address

How to Fix It

The address may be misspelled or may not exist. Try one or more of the following:

- Send the message again following these steps: In Outlook, open this non-delivery report (NDR) and choose **Send Again** from the Report ribbon. In Outlook on the web, select this NDR, then select the link "**To send this message again, click here.**" Then delete and retype the entire recipient address. If prompted with an Auto-Complete List suggestion don't select it. After typing the complete address, click **Send**.
- Contact the recipient (by phone, for example) to check that the address exists and is correct.
- The recipient may have set up email forwarding to an incorrect address. Ask them to check that any forwarding they've set up is working correctly.
- Clear the recipient Auto-Complete List in Outlook or Outlook on the web by following the steps in this article: [Fix email delivery issues for error code 5.1.10 in Office 365](#), and then send the message again. Retype the entire recipient address before selecting **Send**.

If the problem continues, forward this message to your email admin. If you're an email admin, refer to the **More Info for Email Admins** section below.

Was this helpful? [Send feedback to Microsoft.](#)

More Info for Email Admins

Status code: 550 5.1.10

This error occurs because the sender sent a message to an email address hosted by Office 365 but the address is incorrect or doesn't exist at the destination domain. The error is reported by the recipient domain's email server, but most often it must be fixed by the person who sent the message. If the steps in the **How to Fix It** section above don't fix the problem, and you're the email admin for the recipient, try one or more of the following:

The email address exists and is correct - Confirm that the recipient address exists, is correct, and is accepting messages.

Synchronize your directories - If you have a hybrid environment and are using directory synchronization make sure the recipient's email address is synced correctly in both Office 365 and in your on-premises directory.

Errant forwarding rule - Check for forwarding rules that aren't behaving as expected. Forwarding can be set up by an admin via mail flow rules or mailbox forwarding address settings, or by the recipient via the Inbox Rules feature.

Recipient has a valid license - Make sure the recipient has an Office 365 license assigned to them. The recipient's email admin can use the Office 365 admin center to assign a license (Users > Active Users > select the recipient > Assigned License > Edit).

Mail flow settings and MX records are not correct - Misconfigured mail flow or MX record settings can cause this error. Check your Office 365 mail flow settings to make sure your

domain and any mail flow connectors are set up correctly. Also, work with your domain registrar to make sure the MX records for your domain are configured correctly.

For more information and additional tips to fix this issue, see [Fix email delivery issues for error code 5.1.10 in Office 365](#).

Original Message Details

Created Date: 5/25/2019 1:23:35 PM
Sender Address: SondlandGD@state.gov
Recipient Address: VolkerKD@state.gov
Subject: Fwd: Ukraine Action Required

Error Details

Reported error: 550 5.1.10 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound; Recipient VolkerKD@state.gov not found by SMTP address lookup
DSN generated by: MN2PR09MB3501.namprd09.prod.outlook.com

Message Hops

HO P	TIME (UTC)	FROM	TO	WITH
1	5/25/2019 1:23:35 PM	MN2PR09MB3934.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	MN2PR09MB3934.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	mapi
2	5/25/2019 1:23:35 PM	MN2PR09MB3934.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	MN2PR09MB3501.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	Microsoft cipher=TL)

Original Message Headers

(b)(7)(E)

(b)(7)(E)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Kurt Volker	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Mosbacher, Georgette (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Hi Georgette, any interest
Date:	Thu, 16 May 2019 13:25:15 +0000

Thanks Georgette! Will you be joining?

Henry is on the case.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Georgette Mosbacher (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 6:22:52 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

Gordon, President Duda will attend, he needs a formal invitation sent to his office. I suggest you send it electronically, now, and FedEx the paper version.

Ambassador Georgette Mosbacher

(b)(6)

----- Original message -----

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"

(b)(6)

Date: 5/15/19 7:10 PM (GMT+01:00)

To: Georgette Mosbacher

(b)(6)

Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

SACEUR YES.

SYG Maybe

Zelensky yes

Pompeo yes

Bakhtadze yes

Dancila yes

Perry yes

Mogherini yes

Tajani yes



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Georgette Mosbacher <(b)(6)>

Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 8:49:02 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

If the are confirmed President Duda will try and attend, will confirm on Friday.

Ambassador Georgette Mosbacher

(b)(6)

----- Original message -----

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>

Date: 5/14/19 12:18 PM (GMT+01:00)

To: Georgette Mosbacher <(b)(6)>

Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

Tripple checking



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Georgette Mosbacher (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, May 14, 2019 6:12:01 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

Have they confirmed?

Ambassador Georgette Mosbacher

(b)(6)

----- Original message -----

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Date: 5/14/19 9:47 AM (GMT+01:00)

To: Georgette Mosbacher (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

From: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Date: 5/13/19 3:39 PM (GMT+01:00)
To: Georgette Mosbacher (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

I believe so. Our teams are working the details. Who would come Pres or PM?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Georgette Mosbacher (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 3:08:09 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: Re: Hi Georgette, any interest

Gordon, has the SACEUR or NATO SYG confirmed yet? I am pushing to get an answer.

Ambassador Georgette Mosbacher

(b)(6)

On May 11, 2019, at 2:52 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

wrote:

From Duda or Morawiecki in attending 6/4 Brussels. We have a tight group and I need to know fairly soon. xxoo Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
	Mosbacher, Georgette

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce) (b)(6)
CC:	(b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: INVITATION // Concordia Europe - AmChamSpain Forum_Madrid, June 26
Date:	Tue, 23 Apr 2019 12:59:44 +0000

John,

I would like to accept this invitation. Please try to make certain that my speaking role is substantive. (b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Aida Casamitjana (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 5:04:54 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce); Sharlene Alonso; Concordia Speakers; Marta Santiago

Subject: INVITATION // Concordia Europe - AmChamSpain Forum_Madrid, June 26

Dear Ambassador Sondland,

It was a pleasure to briefly meet you in Brussels during the AmChamEU briefing and the fireside chat between you and my colleague Susan Danger.

As I mentioned to you that day, we have reached an agreement with Concordia to host the annual Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum in **Madrid on June 26, 2019**.

The *Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum* will bring together politicians, CEOs, and experts in different fields to address economic, geopolitical, and other relevant business-related concerns. We are happy to announce that **Ambassador of the U.S. to Spain, the Hon. Richard Duke Buchan III** will be giving opening remarks for the Latin America – US – Spain Relations roundtable.

It would be an honor to be able to count on your participation as a speaker at the Forum as well, which will provide an exceptional platform to analyze and debate current affairs in Spain, the United States, Europe, and Latin America.

To be more precise, we foresee your participation during the Future of the EU roundtable.

Enclosed you may find a formal invitation letter as well as the programming agenda for the Forum. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions or need more information.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Aida Casamitjana

Executive Director

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SPAIN - www.amchamspain.com

(b)(6)



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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)



CONCORDIA EUROPE: AMCHAMSPAIN FORUM



The Hon. Gordon D. Sondland
US Ambassador to the European Union
Rue Zinner, 13
1000 Brussels
Belgium

April 10, 2019

Dear Ambassador Sondland,

It is an honor to announce the agreement reached between the American Chamber of Commerce in Spain (*AmChamSpain*) and Concordia, a prominent international non-governmental organization based in New York for the organization of the annual **Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum** taking place on **June 26, 2019** at the **Eurostars Madrid Tower Hotel**.

We are pleased to invite you to participate as a speaker at the inaugural edition of the *Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum*, which will provide an exceptional platform to analyze and debate current affairs in Spain, the United States, Europe, and Latin America.

The *Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum* will bring together politicians, CEOs, and experts in different fields to address economic, geopolitical, and other relevant business-related concerns. Some of the topics covered in the Forum will include: the key technologies driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the future of the European Union, the changing landscape of international trade, European-US relations, the role of Spain in relation to Latin America and Africa, and the driving forces behind the rise of political populism in Western countries.

AmChamSpain is an apolitical and non-profit institution created in 1917, which has about 300 associated companies, among them, the majority of large American companies established in Spain and large Spanish companies with presence in the US, as well as a significant group of SMEs from both countries. In total, our partner companies have an aggregate turnover in Spain of 248,000 million euros, approximately 24% of the national GDP, and generate about 1 million direct and indirect jobs in Spain.

Concordia is a global organization dedicated to fostering public-private partnerships for social impact. Concordia organizes three regional events (Africa, Latin America and now Europe), and its Annual Summit during the week of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, brings together leaders of governments and companies from around the world, such as: Iván Duque, President of Colombia; Alexis Tsipras, President of Greece; Her Royal Highness Crown Princess María of Denmark; Joe Biden, former Vice President of the United States; Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the IMF; or Ivanka Trump, Advisor to the President of the United States.

It would be our honor for you to join us in Madrid. To confirm your participation or for any other questions, contact Sharlene Alonso, Communication and Events Manager, at (b)(6). We ask that you respond to this invitation before **May 1, 2019**.

Sincerely,

Matthew A. Swift
Co-Founder, Chairman & CEO
Concordia

Jaime Malet
Chairman
American Chamber of Commerce in Spain



CONCORDIA EUROPE: AMCHAMSPAIN FORUM



Concordia Europe - AmChamSpain Forum

June 26, 2019 | Eurostars Madrid Tower | Madrid, Spain

The Concordia Europe - AmChamSpain Forum will take place on June 26, 2019 at the Eurostars Madrid Tower Hotel. As the first event celebrated by Concordia in Spain, the purpose of this forum is to provide a platform for dialogue and reflection on current issues related specifically to European and Spanish affairs.

Estimated Attendees	500
Estimated Speakers	50
Scope	Regional (Spain and the European Union)
Programming Formats	Plenary Stage, High-Level Roundtables (Open & Private), Private Lunch & Dinners, Private Meetings
Media Reach	Plenary Live Stream; National + International Coverage; 1 Million+ Estimated Social Media Impressions

Event Schedule - *Madrid, Spain* (Subject to change)

Wednesday, June 26

General Registration	8:30am - 9:00am
Morning Programming	9:00am - 1:30pm
Lunch	1:30pm - 3:00pm
Afternoon Programming	3:00pm - 6:00pm



CONCORDIA EUROPE: AMCHAMSPAIN FORUM



Major Programming Themes

The program for the **Concordia Europe - AmChamSpain Forum** in Madrid will largely be driven by the initiatives, projects, and interests of the Concordia and AmChamSpain membership communities. The below themes indicate existing priority areas within these communities. However, there are still opportunities to participate in and help steer programming further through Programming Partnerships and Sponsorships.

Fourth Industrial Revolution

Characterized by continuous advances in communication and connectivity, the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) is once again challenging the world to examine the ways in which technology is utilized in everyday life. From the rise of social media and the Internet of Things (IoT) to the advancement of artificial intelligence and quantum computing, our globe has never been more connected than it is today. But what are the implications for businesses, governments, and civil society, and what must be done to stay ahead of the curve?

Latin American, U.S. and Spanish Relations

As the European Union's top exporter to Latin America, Spain has an economically important, politically complex relationship with the region. Spain, in company with the U.S., is also one of the world's largest foreign direct investors in Latin America. Understanding Ibero-American relationships is therefore key to a comprehensive understanding of Spain in a global context.

Africa, U.S. and Spanish Relations

The relationship between Africa, the U.S., and Spain is complex, multi-faceted, and collaborative, and has huge potential. Africa remains a strategic and political priority for both Spain and the U.S., with both countries highlighting the importance of creating inclusive and sustainable economic growth, peace, and security in the region.

Future of the European Union

With the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union imminent, uncertainty abounds around the future of economic and political unions across the continent. With political fault lines and structural imbalances in existence within the EU, there is a need for continued connectivity and integration across the region.

China & Global Commerce

China has rapidly evolved from a manufacturing powerhouse to a global innovator, making significant strides in developing cutting-edge technologies. As western companies adapt to this shifting landscape, governing bodies have a key role to play in creating a level playing field for investment, commerce, and trade.

Western Political Populism

Like many parts of the world, Europe is witnessing a rise in populism across the continent, with Italy, Poland, and Austria currently being governed by populist leaders who were largely elected on a platform of anti-immigrant policies. Given the increasing polarization of social and political issues in Spain, striking a balance between populist priorities and liberal values is key to sustaining a representative democracy in the country.

Refugees & Migration

Providing refugees access to education and labor markets is essential for integration and enabling them to lead dignified lives. Initiatives instituted by the private sector have been a force for change in helping to find solutions to the refugee crisis but require cooperation from governments to ensure sustainability and success.

Addressing the Venezuelan Crisis

The ongoing crisis in Venezuela—now the largest humanitarian crisis in the Western Hemisphere—has remained a focal point for Concordia over recent years. The Concordia Europe: AmChamSpain Forum will focus on immediate policy and investment steps that can be taken at the local level to urgently support the millions of Venezuelans who have fled the country and address the latest geopolitical advancements.



CONCORDIA EUROPE: AMCHAMSPAIN FORUM



Past Event Highlights

2018 Concordia Annual Summit Highlights - *New York City, United States*

Attendees	3,200
Speakers	426
Notable Speakers	<p>Ms. Ivanka Trump, Advisor to the President, the White House Ambassador Robert Lighthizer, US Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President President Iván Duque, Republic of Colombia HE Alexis Tsipras, President, The Hellenic Republic Hon. Elaine Chao, Secretary, US Department of Transportation Hon. Alexander Acosta, Secretary, US Department of Labor Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, Kingdom of Denmark Administrator Mark Green, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Ambassador John Negroponte, Former US Deputy Secretary of State HE Nana Akufo-Addo, President, Republic of Ghana Akon, Grammy-nominated, multi-platinum selling artist</p>
Media Reach	#2 Trending Hashtag in New York City; 1,000,000+ Social Media Reach

2018 Concordia Americas Summit Highlights - *Bogotá, Colombia*

Attendees	743
Speakers	153
Notable Speakers	<p>President Iván Duque, Republic of Colombia Vice President Marta Lucía Ramírez, Republic of Colombia Hon. Juan Manuel Santos, Former President, Republic of Colombia President Laura Chinchilla, Former President, Republic of Costa Rica Hon. Joe Biden, Former Vice President, United States of America Administrator Mark Green, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) General (Ret.) David H. Petraeus, Chairman, KKR Global Institute; Former Director, Central Intelligence Agency Fabián Andrés Hernández Ramírez, President & CEO, Telefónica Colombia Jorge Mario Velásquez, CEO, Grupo Argos</p>
Media Reach	#1 Trending Hashtag in Colombia; 750,000+ Social Media Reach; 175,000+ Live Stream Views



CONCORDIA EUROPE: AMCHAMSPAIN FORUM



2017 AmChamSpain Centennial Highlights - Madrid, Spain

Attendees	550
Notable Speakers	<p>S.M. el Rey Don Felipe VI de España Benjamin G. Ziff, Chargé d'Affaires, US Embassy Madrid Alfonso Dastis, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Jaime Malet, Chairman, AmChamSpain</p>
Other Notable Event Speakers	<p>President Pedro Sánchez, Spain Felipe González, Former President, Spain José María Aznar, Former President, Spain José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Former President, Spain Pablo Casado, President, Spain's Popular Party Albert Rivera, President, Spain's Ciudadanos Party Nadia Calviño, Minister of Economy and Business, Spain Ángel Garrido, President of the Community of Madrid Luis de Guindos, Former Minister of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness in Spain and Current Vice President, European Central Bank</p>
Media Reach	25+ Newspaper articles; 200,000+ Social Media Reach

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Katy Durant (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: June Travel - Add Select USA?
Date:	Wed, 15 May 2019 15:32:01 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)

Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 11:21:08 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)

Subject: June Travel - Add Select USA?

Ambassador,

Your current June travel schedule is below to include travel to **Kyiv, Ljubljana, Normandy, Paris, DC, and Madrid**. Without adding other travel, you would be in the office 11 work days in June.

The one item you have not confirmed is Select USA. Do you want to go to Select USA in DC June 10-11?

- **May 31:** Helsinki
- June 1: Kyiv for Zelensky Inauguration
- **June 3-4:** Independence Day Events, Brussels
- June 5: Three Seas, Slovenia [GES in The Hague also June 5]
- **June 6:** D-Day 75th Anniversary, Normandy
- *June 10-11 (T): Amb travel to Select USA Summit, Washington DC*
- **June 17:** Paris Air Show, then ert London to catch June 18 London flight to DC
- June 18: S-Mogherini Bilat in Washington, D.C. (Amb to join) ñ
- **June 26:** Amb travel to Madrid Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum ñ
- June 27-29: Brussels Forum

SELECT USA Rundown:

- Moderate a panel of U.S. Ambassadors from European markets in a discussion on transatlantic business investment in the U.S. would be ideal.
- Confirmed US Ambassadors to European capitals include:

Amb. Cornstein	Hungary
Amb. Duke Buchan	Spain
Amb. Ed McMullen	Switzerland and Lichtenstein
Amb. Eisenberg	Italy
Amb. Geoff Pyatt	Greece
Amb. Hans Klemm	Romania
Amb. Traina	Austria

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Katy Durant (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Meeting with Mogherini
Date:	Mon, 13 May 2019 10:33:03 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 10:32:23 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D
Subject: Meeting with Mogherini

Mike,

My recommendation is t (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Thoughts for discussion.

(b)(5)

Oh, and Poroshenko wants to see you. Thanked him for running a clean election and he needs to turn over the keys and remain cooperative and his future with us is fine. This is what I told him.

See you on 6/4!



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient:	Libby, Mark W (USEU)	(b)(6)	
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From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	Larry Kudlow <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Fwd: POLITICO Brussels Playbook, presented by Corteva Agriscience: Danes head to the polls — Sondland hearts Mogherini — Where are the women?
Date:	Thu, 6 Jun 2019 17:02:29 +0000

FYI



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Begin forwarded message

**Subject: POLITICO Brussels Playbook, presented by Corteva
 Agriscience: Danes head to the polls — Sondland hearts Mogherini —
 Where are the women?
 Reply-To: Florian Eder**

[EXTERNAL SENDER]



By FLORIAN EDER
with ZOYA SHEFTALOVICH

PRESENTED BY CORTEVA AGRISCIENCE

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GOOD MORNING. Tuesday evening's Brussels excitement was U.S. Ambassador Gordon Sondland's Independence Day party. Guests included presidential son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner, U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry and the EU's Federica Mogherini. Comedian Jay Leno entertained the audience (though a tipster tells us his material, delivered at breakneck speed and full of U.S. cultural references about things such as the service in American department store Sears, fell flat). The crowd, including many, many ambassadors to the EU, was very much worth a police helicopter or two patrolling overhead.

Fun fact: Commission Vice President Maroš Šefčovič was the first foreigner to fly aboard Air Force One under the Trump administration, when he traveled with the U.S. president to a Louisiana energy plant last month, Sondland, who was also on that flight, told Playbook over the phone late Tuesday during a break from his hosting duties. The trip was part of America's effort to convince the EU not to buy gas from Russia.

Dinner conversation: Right after Tuesday's splashy celebration of American independence, Sondland gathered about 20 VIPs for a more intimate dinner. Guests included Kushner, Mogherini and Perry, as well as Polish President Andrzej Duda, Romanian Prime Minister Viorica Dăncilă and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky (who is in Brussels on his first

presidential visit abroad, and met with Jean-Claude Juncker Tuesday and will see Donald Tusk today). The countries represented are all America's "special friends" (as opposed to just plain old friends, by which the rest of the EU goes), Sondland told Playbook about the Easterner-heavy guest list. They were all "focused on strengthening Ukraine."

New-found love: Mogherini? "I call her my sister," the ambassador said. "We've had issues," he admitted of EU-U.S. relations in general, which have "created heated rhetoric on both sides." But things have gotten much better since last year's Trump-Juncker meeting, he said. Is the relationship currently in trouble? That's "not correct at all," Sondland said, expressing hopes that the relations that have gotten "warmer and warmer over the past months" would elicit "tangible results."

Any US wishes for the next term? America has no interest in meddling in the — difficult enough — search for new EU leadership, Sondland said. "We want leaders willing to engage with the U.S. and work with us on trade, on defense ... whether those leaders come from one party or the other is less important ... We want counterparts to be responsive to our requests as they want us to be responsive to theirs."

Middle East: The mood of a meeting between Juncker, Mogherini and Kushner was "very positive," Sondland said. Kushner gave some details of his otherwise still confidential Middle East peace plan. "It's fair to say that they found the part he presented interesting," Sondland said.

Not so convinced, perhaps: There's no pathway to Palestinian statehood in Kushner's plan as far as we know. Juncker and Mogherini "listened to Mr. Kushner's ideas" for peace in the Middle East, a Commission spokesperson said. That's code for ... well ... they were listening, taking notes and shaking their heads. Note that the EU's foreign policy has yet to show as much impact in the region as America's.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Larry Kudlow	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Tweet from Sen. Bob Menendez
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 17:52:56 +0000

Is State on this?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 1:44:45 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Tweet from Sen. Bob Menendez

Sir - flagging this tweet from Senator Menendez from a few minutes ago.

Senator Bob Menendez (@SenatorMenendez)
26/09/2019, 19:37

Similarly, Ambassador Sondland ([@USAmbEU](#)) and Ambassador Volker ([@SpecRepUkraine](#)) must appear before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee immediately to explain their role in facilitating Giuliani's activities in [#Ukraine](#).
[#WhistleblowerComplaint](#)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	jmcdermott (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Tweet from Sen. Bob Menendez
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 17:49:40 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 1:44:45 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Tweet from Sen. Bob Menendez

Sir - flagging this tweet from Senator Menendez from a few minutes ago.



Senator Bob Menendez (@SenatorMenendez)

26/09/2019, 19:37

Similarly, Ambassador Sondland ([@USAmbEU](#)) and Ambassador Volker ([@SpecRepUkraine](#)) must appear before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee immediately to explain their role in facilitating Giuliani's activities in [#Ukraine](#).
[#WhistleblowerComplaint](#)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	jmcdermott	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Ukraine call
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 14:56:53 +0000



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Baker, Luke (Reuters) (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 10:53:56 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Ukraine call

Dear Ambassador Sondland,

I understand from the whistle blower complaint released by Congress today that you travelled with U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations, Kurt Volker, to meet President Zelenskyy in Kiev on July 26th.

The complaint suggests that you and Volker provided advice to Zelenskyy on how to “navigate” the demands that President Trump had put to Zelenskyy on the phone the previous day.

Obviously, we would very much like to hear YOUR side of the account. Would you be able to tell us what your understanding of the trip and meeting on July 26 this year was?

Thank you in advance,

Luke Baker

International Affairs Correspondent, Europe

Reuters News

London

D + (b)(6)
M -

Twitter @BakerLuke

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)gsondland <(b)(6)>	
Subject:	Fwd: USEU Newswire Highlights, January 8, 2019	
Date:	Tue, 8 Jan 2019 08:26:25 +0000	



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)
Sent: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 12:12:04 AM
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Transatlantic Relations

Trump administration downgrades EU mission to US

Deutsche Welle (Jan 7) - The Trump administration has downgraded the diplomatic status of the European Union's delegation to the United States, an EU official has confirmed to DW. The demotion happened at the end of last year without notice. The unannounced move by the US State Department, which has not previously been reported, downgraded the EU delegation's diplomatic status in Washington from member state to international organization. "We don't exactly know when they did it, because they conveniently forgot to notify us," an EU official who is familiar with the matter told DW in an interview. "I can confirm that this has not been well received in Brussels," the person said, adding that the issue and an official EU response was still being discussed. After the delegation noticed that the EU's Washington ambassador had not been invited to certain events late last year, officials organizing the state funeral for President George H.W. Bush provided final confirmation to EU diplomats that the status of the representation had in fact been downgraded. Diplomats believe the downgrade must have been implemented in late October or early November. At the high-profile event on December 5, as diplomats gathered in Washington to pay their respects, the EU's ambassador to Washington, David O'Sullivan, was not called up in the usual chronological order from the longest-serving to the newest ambassador, said the EU official. "But he was called up as the last person." Prior to

the demotion, O'Sullivan — who has served as the EU's ambassador to Washington since 2014 — would have been ranked among the first 20 or 30 ambassadors of the more than 150 foreign representatives dispatched to the US capital. [Back to the Top.](#)

Syria

US pullout from Syria to be done in 'prudent' way: Trump

AFP (Jan 7) - President Donald Trump on Monday sought to end fears of an abrupt US pullout from Syria, saying the fight against the Islamic State group was not over and that withdrawal would be done in a "prudent" manner. "We will be leaving at a proper pace while at the same time continuing to fight ISIS and doing all else that is prudent and necessary!" Trump tweeted. The president has come under withering pressure both at home and in allied capitals after previous statements indicating that he considered the IS group vanquished and that he wanted US troops out of Syria imminently. Trump's new statement follows a trip by his national security adviser John Bolton to Israel in which he told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday that withdrawal would not happen before "ISIS is defeated and not able to revive itself." In a call, Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron spoke of "the commitment of the United States and France to the destruction of ISIS as well as plans for a strong, deliberate, and coordinated withdrawal of US troops from Syria," the White House said. "They reiterated that any further use of chemical weapons in Syria must not be tolerated." Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he had spoken with French officials. "We'll make sure we address the concerns that they have. Everyone understands what the United States is doing," he told reporters as he headed on a Middle East visit. The reassurances followed a diplomatic storm caused by Trump's surprise announcement in December that appeared to signal a rapid withdrawal from Syria, where US special forces play an important role in supporting local forces fighting IS. "We've won against ISIS," he said at the time. "We've beaten them and we've beaten them badly. We've taken back the land. And now it's time for our troops to come back home." Allies like Britain and France warned that IS was not defeated. Questions were also raised over the fate of Kurdish groups that have done much of the fighting alongside the United States in Syria, but now fear attacks from Turkey. [Back to the Top.](#)

Trump's shifting timetable on Syria leaves allies scrambling

ANKARA, Turkey (AP, Jan 7) - President Donald Trump's shifting timetable for pulling U.S. troops out of Syria has left allies and other players in the region confused and jockeying for influence over a withdrawal strategy that appeared to be a work in progress. One day after White House national security adviser John Bolton announced the U.S. pullout would not be as immediate as Trump had initially declared, U.S. allies on Monday sought clarification from American diplomats. The Kurds, who have fought alongside U.S. forces against the Islamic State group and fear an assault by Turkey if the U.S. withdraws, were still asking publicly for an explanation from Washington. Bolton said the U.S. would first seek assurances from Turkey that it would not harm the Kurds - for the first time adding a "condition" to the withdrawal. He arrived Monday in Turkey to seek those guarantees from Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but there was little reason for optimism. In a New York Times op-ed published ahead of the Tuesday meeting, Erdogan referred to the Syrian Kurdish Peoples Protection Units, or YPG, as a terrorist group, Turkey's longtime position, and rejected any role for Kurdish fighters in restoring peace to the war-torn region. The piece set up a contentious day of diplomacy for Bolton and underscored the destabilizing impact of Trump's shoot-from-the-hip approach to foreign policy. Trump's spur-of-the-moment withdrawal came with no details, leaving allies scrambling for answers and aides crafting a strategy that can satisfy all the players, including Trump. [Back to the Top.](#)

Bolton reassures a nervous Israel about Trump's Syria plan

Politico Europe (Jan 7) - JERUSALEM — National Security Adviser John Bolton on Sunday sought to reassure Israeli leaders who fear that U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to withdraw U.S. troops from Syria might increase the risk of war with Iran. Bolton held meetings here with top security and intelligence officials Sunday to help reassure Israel that the U.S. intends to protect it from Iranian aggression even after the 2,000 U.S. troops stationed in Syria, where Iran has a growing military presence, are gone. The meetings were part of what U.S. officials, diplomats and outside experts called a damage-control tour by the top Trump adviser — who himself disagreed with the president's December troop withdrawal decision — in part because Bolton believes the U.S. must challenge Iran's influence in the war-ravaged country. Bolton met with the Israelis amid multiple signals that an American withdrawal from Syria will be slower than Trump first indicated last month. He and Trump both said on Sunday that there is no specific timeline for the exit. Speaking

alongside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu before the two men had dinner, Bolton also reaffirmed U.S. support for Israel. "We now have the best U.S.-Israel relationship in our history, and on our side we're certainly determined to continue that," Bolton said. In an implicit message to Iran, he warned that any country contemplating aggression against Israel should "think again." The departure of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, who resigned last month, in part over Trump's Syria decision, is seen as a blow to Israel. But Israeli officials fear that even talk of a U.S. withdrawal will embolden Iranian efforts to open up a new front against Israel from neighboring Syria. Iran has exploited Syria's bloody civil war to establish a military presence in the country, and in recent months Israel has conducted airstrikes against Iranian positions inside Syrian territory. [Back to the Top.](#)

White House says Trump position unchanged as Syria withdrawal plans slow

WASHINGTON, Jan 7 (Reuters) - The White House sought to make the case on Monday that President Donald Trump had not changed his position on withdrawing U.S. troops from Syria, a day after his national security adviser outlined conditions for a withdrawal that could take months. Trump's abrupt announcement last month that he was bringing home the roughly 2,000 troops in Syria, saying they had succeeded in their mission to defeat Islamic State there, sparked concern among officials in Washington and allies abroad and prompted Defense Secretary Jim Mattis to resign. In recent days, Trump administration officials have applied the brakes, making clear the withdrawal will not happen quickly. The president himself said last week that the United States would get out of Syria slowly "over a period of time." "The president hasn't changed his position, as he mentioned his primary goal is to ensure the safety of our troops and the safety of our allies as well," White House spokeswoman Mercedes Schlapp told Fox News on Monday. "And so the Department of Defense will come up with its operational plan to safely withdraw our troops." "It takes time to take the troops out because we want to make sure that our troops are safe in this process," she said. Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron discussed the two countries' commitment to destroy Islamic State and "plans for a strong, deliberate, and coordinated withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria" during a telephone call on Monday, the White House said. On Sunday, White House national security adviser John Bolton added a new condition to the U.S. withdrawal from Syria, saying Turkey must agree to protect the United States' Kurdish allies. Trump reiterated on Sunday that the United States would pull its troops out of Syria but

suggested the move might not happen soon. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told CNBC on Monday that the Syria drawdown is a "change of tactics" but reiterated that it does not alter the U.S. commitment to defeat Islamic State and counter Iran's influence in the region. [Back to the Top](#).

Middle East

Pompeo pledges no IS return on Middle East tour

AFP (Jan 7) - US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo vowed Monday that the Islamic State group would not be allowed to regroup as he headed to the Middle East following President Donald Trump's surprise decision to pull US troops from Syria. Leaving on a trip to eight Arab capitals, Pompeo told reporters he would show that "the United States is still committed to all the missions that we've signed up for with them over the past two years." The trip comes weeks after Trump announced that the United States would quickly pull its 2,000 soldiers out of Syria, declaring that the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS or IS, had been defeated. His advisers have since been walking back his timeline, with national security adviser John Bolton saying Monday in Jerusalem that the United States would verify that the group is truly defeated before withdrawing. Highlighting that IS emerged during the tenure of Trump's predecessor Barack Obama, Pompeo said the campaign to destroy the movement's self-styled caliphate in war-battered Syria has been "enormously successful." "And I am confident that we will continue to ensure that the kind of rise that ISIS had under the Obama administration doesn't occur again," he said on his plane as he started his longest trip since taking over as top US diplomat last year. - Coalition against Iran - Pompeo opens his trip in Jordan and will deliver an address on Middle East policy in Egypt, whose military ruler turned president, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, has been a key partner of Trump. Another major focus of the tour will be sustaining a regional coalition to counter Iran, the main enemy of US allies Saudi Arabia and Israel. "This is a coalition that understands that the largest threats -- terrorism and the Islamic Republic of Iran -- are things that we ought to work on jointly and we will be marshaling all of the resources, theirs and ours, to achieve them," Pompeo said. Last year, Trump pulled out of an international accord negotiated under Obama on ending Iran's nuclear program and has instead reimposed biting sanctions. Pompeo repeatedly has called Iran "the world's largest

state sponsor of terror," pointing to its targeting of domestic rivals in Europe and support of militant movements such as Lebanon's Hezbollah. [Back to the Top](#).

US pivots from Obama's Mideast vision

Politico Europe (Jan 8) - U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is heading out on what may prove his toughest trip yet, a weeklong swing through the Middle East in which he will give a major speech about America's role in the region and privately reassure Arab allies that his country remains committed to them. In his speech, to be given in Cairo, Pompeo plans to repudiate the Middle East vision of former President Barack Obama, who famously delivered an address to the broader Muslim world while in Egypt in 2009. Pompeo will slam Obama's engagement with Iran, sources told POLITICO, while asserting that President Donald Trump has the region's best interests at heart. But as Pompeo departed Monday, a question looms larger by the minute: Can foreign leaders believe he speaks for an unpredictable president? After all, Trump has spent the last several days contradicting him and other top advisers about his administration's plans in the Middle East. On Monday, the State Department sought to reassure on that front. "As Secretary Pompeo has made clear on numerous occasions, of course he speaks on behalf of President Trump," said Robert Palladino, a department spokesman. "They talk often and the secretary is in lockstep with the president on the foreign policy priorities of the administration." The confusion centers largely on when the U.S. will withdraw from Syria. Trump in December said it was imminent, but he and his advisers have spent weeks walking that back. Over the weekend, while in Israel, Trump's national security adviser, John Bolton, indicated that the U.S. wouldn't withdraw troops from Syria until after the Islamic State terrorist group was eradicated and Iran had also pulled out its forces — a timetable that could be indefinite. [Back to the Top](#).

Brexit

There will be no further negotiations with London on Brexit agreement, Commission repeats

07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) – The European Commission indicated on Monday 7 January that there was still no question of conducting further negotiations on the agreement reached on 25 November between Theresa May and the Twenty-Seven on the orderly exit of the United Kingdom from the EU. "There will be no meetings

between the negotiating teams”, said Margaritis Schinas, the institution's spokesperson, which is “normal, because the negotiations have been concluded”. The spokesperson was reacting to the comments of the British leader, who confirmed on Sunday 6 January that the British Parliament would vote on the current negotiation on 15 January and that she would continue to seek assurances from European partners until then. Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker met with her on 4 January and is expected to speak to her again this week, Schinas added. [Back to the Top.](#)

May says the 'danger' is ending up with 'no Brexit at all'

EurActiv (Jan 7) - A week ahead of a crucial vote in Parliament, Prime Minister Theresa May said on Sunday (6 January) that “the danger there is actually we end up with no Brexit at all”. She also said Britain would be in uncharted territory if her Brexit deal is rejected by parliament, despite little sign that she has won over sceptical lawmakers. Britain is due to leave the European Union on 29 March but May's inability so far to get her deal for a managed exit through parliament has alarmed business leaders and investors who fear the country is heading for a damaging no-deal Brexit. May said the vote in parliament would be around 15 January, as expected, contrary to reports she could delay it. May has already delayed the vote once, in December, when it became clear she would lose unless extra reassurances from the EU were agreed. Describing what would happen if she was defeated, May told the BBC: “We're going to be in uncharted territory. I don't think anybody can say exactly what will happen in terms of the reaction we'll see in parliament.” Amid the uncertainty over Britain's next steps – which range from leaving without a deal to not leaving at all – a poll showed more Britons want to remain a member of the EU than leave, and voters want to make the final decision themselves. May's party itself is divided over her deal, with many fearing that an insurance policy designed to avoid the re-emergence of a hard border between Ireland and Northern Ireland could leave Britain subject to EU rules indefinitely. One of those leading that opposition, lawmaker Jacob Rees-Mogg, said in a newspaper article that it was “wishful thinking” that time away from parliament over the Christmas holiday could persuade him to change his mind and back the deal. The Northern Irish party that props up May's minority government called on her to stand firm in demanding that the EU changes its “poison” backstop provision on Ireland's post-Brexit border. [Back to the Top.](#)

No-deal is closest to UK voters' idea of Brexit, says Boris Johnson

Politico Europe (Jan 7) - A no-deal exit from the European Union corresponds most closely to the British public's idea of Brexit, according to former Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson. In his weekly column in the Daily Telegraph, the leading Brexiteer said that government warnings about shortages of food and medicines had been met with indifference from voters. "The grimmer the warnings, and the more systematic the efforts to make their flesh creep, the greater has been [people's] indifference and their resolve," he wrote. "It is no deal, or WTO terms, that actually corresponds to their idea of coming out; and they view that option with a confidence that is now directly proportional to the growing strength of the Government's warnings against it, because these doom-laden predictions are so hyperbolic as to suffer from the law of diminishing returns." Brexiteers have, for months, been arguing that a no-deal exit is manageable and government warnings are overblown. Johnson added, however, that the government needs to do more work to prepare the country for leaving the EU without a deal. "There has been for far too long a confected hysteria about no deal, and a determination to make it taboo," he said. "That deliberate hysteria has prevented sensible preparations from being made." [Back to the Top](#).

UK plans rehearsals for no-deal Brexit amid fears of road, port chaos

EurActiv (Jan 7) - Britain will begin rehearsals for the possible chaos of a no-deal Brexit on Monday (7 January) by testing how the road network copes with a tailback of around 150 lorries caused by disruption at its most important trading gateway to continental Europe. Prime Minister Theresa May is trying to force her Brexit deal through parliament but if it is rejected then the United Kingdom will either leave without a deal at 2300 GMT on March 29 or have to delay Brexit. May has repeatedly warned that if lawmakers do not approve her deal then the world's fifth largest economy will leave the EU without one, a nightmare scenario for many big businesses who fear disruption to trade. Britain will hold a trial run on Monday of its plans for dealing with long queues of lorries at the port of Dover caused by disruption to cross-Channel traffic in the event of a no-deal Brexit, the Department for Transport said. The test will involve driving around 150 trucks between a local airport, which will be used as a lorry park, and Dover in southeast England to see if it clogs up the road network. "We do not want or expect a no-deal scenario and continue to work hard to deliver a deal with the EU," a spokeswoman for the

Department for Transport said. "However, it is the duty of a responsible government to continue to prepare for all eventualities and contingencies, including a possible no-deal." May's government has repeatedly warned of the disruption a no-deal Brexit would unleash on everything from pet tourism to the import of crucial medicines and supply chains that criss-cross Europe and beyond. Brexit supporters say that, while there may be some short-term disruption, in the long-term the UK will thrive outside what they cast as an undemocratic and excessively bureaucratic project dominated by Germany. Amid the uncertainty over the future course of Brexit, the British economy is showing clear signs of slowing. [Back to the Top](#).

Trade

Malmström-Lighthizer meeting this Tuesday in Washington

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström met with US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer in Washington on Tuesday as part of the Executive Working Group, and Commission spokesperson Margaritis Schinas announced on Monday 7 January. According to him, the meeting takes place within the framework of the agreement of 25 July between the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, and the American President, Donald Trump, to advance the new trade agenda between the EU and the United States. In recent months, Brussels and Washington have blamed each other for the lack of progress on the roadmap, which aimed to deepen the trade relationship between the two entities. Their last meeting, in mid-November (see EUROPE 12137), apparently did not unblock the situation, especially since the US trade deficit with Europe in 2018 should reach new records. On Wednesday 9 January, Ms Malmström will also discuss unfair commercial practices with her American and Japanese counterparts, focusing mainly on Chinese practices of forced technology transfer and the role of state-owned enterprises. Soybean imports up: In addition, according to the Commission, imports of American soya by the European Union increased by 112% in the current market year (July-December 2018) compared to the same period of the previous year, the European Commission announced on Monday 7 January. The United States remains the EU's largest supplier of soya, accounting for 74.5% of imports, well ahead of Brazil (39%). The EU is also the leading destination for US soybean exports (28%), followed by Argentina (10%) and Mexico (9%).[Back to the Top](#).

Eurozone, Banking & Finance

Former Greek PM teases fresh bailout, Commission says Greece is 'secured'

EurActiv (Jan 7) - Greece's position at the heart of the eurozone and the EU is "secured", according to the European Commission, following remarks made by a former Greek prime minister who claimed the country will soon seek fresh EU aid. Greece is currently trying to find its feet after its exit in August 2018 from the eight-year bailout programme. Government officials say that the economy should now focus on pro-growth reforms and the people who have been hardest hit by the crisis. But Kostas Simitis, a socialist politician who served as prime minister of Greece from 1996 to 2004, said in an interview on 30 December 2018 that the country would turn to the EU institutions again for additional aid. "In the European Union, it is certain that after 2018, Greece will quickly seek lending from the European Stability Mechanism (ESM)," Simitis said. "The inevitable consequence would be the imposition of new conditions on the economic policy of the Greek government," he added. EURACTIV.com asked the European Commission if there are talks in Brussels about another bailout, as Simitis pointed out. "We don't comment on comments. Greece successfully concluded the three-year stability support programme last August with its place at the heart of the euro area and the European Union secured," a Commission spokesperson said. The EU official also referred to the Commission's first report into "strengthened supervision" for Greece, which said that the draft budget for 2019 ensures the target of a primary surplus of 3.5% of GDP. But sources also say that no new bailout talks are taking place in Brussels. The Greek government reacted strongly to Simitis' statements, ruling out any scenario for new EU aid. "Our country will not enter into a new program, nor will it resort to ESM lending again [...] the answer is being given every day by the course of the economy and the statements of EU officials," leftist Syriza spokesperson Rania Svigkou said. [Back to the Top.](#)

Banks: Green light from Member States to European Parliament/Council agreement on minimum coverage of losses inherent to future stock of non-performing loans

07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) – On Monday 7 January, the Member States' ambassadors to the European Union ('Committee of Permanent Representatives' -

Coreper) approved the Interinstitutional agreement between the representatives of the European Parliament and the former Austrian Presidency of the EU Council of 18 December, on the Regulation introducing common minimum coverage thresholds (see EUROPE 12162) for bank loans issued in the future that may become 'non-performing loans' (NPL). A formal green light from the EU Council and the European Parliament is now required for the text to enter into force. [Back to the Top](#).

Finance: EU Council gives green light to prudential framework for investment firms with a strengthened equivalence regime

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - On Monday 7 January, the Member States' ambassadors to the EU (Coreper) reached political agreement in principle on the Directive and Regulation forming the legislative package on investment firms (see EUROPE 11930). Presented at the end of 2017, the package introduces a three-category classification of investment firms according to their size, nature and complexity, allowing them to be subject to proportional prudential and supervisory requirements. Among the amendments made by the Council features the reduction of the threshold to €15 billion for the first category of investment firms, which are considered to present similar risks to those of banks and are therefore subject to the same prudential rules as them. The Commission had proposed that systemically important investment firms with total assets exceeding €30 billion should be included in this category. The text also provides for a transitional period of five years to give companies sufficient time to adapt to the new regime. But the most sensitive point of the negotiation was the equivalence regime for third countries, including British companies, once the country left the EU, explained a European source. A compromise proposal from the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the EU had already been submitted to the Member States for approval by a silent procedure on 13 December 2018, but France and Luxembourg had broken the procedure and pointed to difficulties with the provisions on equivalence. The two countries have therefore prepared a joint compromise proposal on this point, subject to a new silence procedure that ended without objection on 4 January 2019. [Back to the Top](#).

Cybersecurity

German police raid home of 19-year-old in probe of data hack

Politico Europe (Jan 7) - BERLIN — German police raided the home of a 19-year-old man identified as a witness in a massive hack of politicians' online accounts as Berlin scrambled to coordinate a response to the breach. Police officers raided the home in Heilbronn, in the southwestern state of Baden-Württemberg, on Sunday, and confiscated some of his technical equipment, German media reported. The man, identified as Jan S. in reports, confirmed to German public broadcaster ARD that he had been questioned "for several hours" by police. The raid came as German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer planned to meet the president of the German Federal Office for Information Security, Arne Schönbohm, as well as the head of Germany's federal police agency, Holger Münch, on Monday. The leaders are scrambling to respond to a breach that exposed data of hundreds of politicians, journalists, comedians and activists. The stolen information also concerned German Chancellor Angela Merkel as well as members of the national parliament, regional state parliaments, the European Parliament and local officials. Among political parties, only the far-right Alternative for Germany appears not to be affected. A Twitter user claiming to be Jan S. — who according to German media works in the IT industry — said he had "only been listed as a witness." He earlier wrote in a tweet that he knew the presumed hacker known as "Orbit" who is believed to be behind the breach and had also published screenshots of conversations between the two. He further claimed the hacker contacted him shortly after the data breach, announcing he planned to destroy his computer. The 19-year-old man stressed he "would clearly distance himself" from the hacker's actions. [Back to the Top](#).

Data Privacy & Digital Economy

MEPs are concerned about implications of US CLOUD Act on protection of EU information systems

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - Members of the European Parliament's Civil Liberties Committee (LIBE) expressed serious concerns to the European Commission on Monday 7 January about the implications of the US CLOUD Act for data protection in EU information systems. US law provides that US service providers will be required to comply with US data disclosure orders, regardless of where the data is stored. In the field of justice and home affairs, the Commission has concluded contracts with companies for the development and management of large-scale EU IT systems. MEPs fear that, if these companies are subject to US jurisdiction, they will

be forced by US law enforcement authorities to disclose sensitive data about European citizens stored in these systems. Dutch MEP Sophie in't Veld (ALDE) submitted a written question to the Commission on 2 July on this subject, to which the Commission did not reply within the deadline. The subject was therefore referred to the parliamentary committee. Among the major concerns are the conflicts between the application of US law and the application of European law, namely the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). "Where the Americans say 'American first', we should say 'GDPR first, Europeans first'", said the Dutch MP. Tania Schroeter, in charge of the case at the European Commission, tried to reassure. The CLOUD Act only allows data to be requested from companies with links to the United States, which are registered in the United States, for example, she explained. "Eu-Lisa has confirmed to us that no direct suppliers are registered in the United States", she said. In addition, contracts with companies contain strict confidentiality requirements that prohibit them from disclosing this data to the US authorities. [Back to the Top.](#)

Digital: Final step in negotiations between European Parliament and EU Council on copyright, P2B and sales contracts

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - The timetable is becoming clearer for digital files for which interinstitutional negotiations are ongoing in the EU. With regard to the very significant reform of the European copyright framework, which provides for the creation of a neighbouring right for newspaper publishers and clarifies the tasks of platforms when publishing protected content, the co-legislators are planning a triologue on 21 January. The Council's working group will discuss this on 9 January. Regarding the proposal for a regulation on unfair practices in platform-to-business (P2B) relations, which requires platform intermediaries and search engines to be transparent about ranking parameters and to strengthen the possibilities for an aggrieved company to redress, the next European Parliament-Council-Commission meetings are scheduled for 28 January and 12 February. Lastly, on the legislative package on sales contracts, the co-legislators are expected to meet on 21 and 29 January to conclude the draft Directive on the provision of digital content and the draft Directive on the sale of tangible goods. [Back to the Top.](#)

Apple moves Denmark from cows to clouds

EUObserver (COPENHAGEN, 7. JAN) - Foulum is a rural village of just 173 inhabitants, near Viborg in mid-Jutland, Denmark. Apart from the local football field, not much happens in Foulum, where farming has provided people with a livelihood for as long as anyone can remember. But soon Foulum will become a key hub in the global data infrastructure. California-based technology giant Apple will open its first data centre outside the US in the village in 2019, and turn it into the physical location for storage of millions upon millions of Apple users' data. Between cows and pigs in Foulum, data from iPhones, iTunes music, Apple's voice assistant Siri, iCloud and other Apple services will be stored and distributed. The first servers are expected to start routing data via Foulum in 2019 and when the centre reaches full capacity it will be one of the biggest in the world. Still under construction, six large halls will be full of computer servers, requiring huge amounts of electricity. It will produce surplus heat, and also need high-security protection. Denmark was chosen due to its stability, both geographical and political (no earthquakes or foreseeable societal upheaval), but above all because of its electricity infrastructure, which is "crazy good and reliable," one source close to Apple told EUobserver. "The Nordic area, and in particular Denmark, also has an attractive climate with, normally, not very high temperatures," he said. [Back to the Top](#).

EU Member States

Latvia: Latvia's president nominates MEP as prime minister

Politico Europe (Jan 7) - Latvia's president on Monday nominated an MEP as the country's next prime minister. Krišjānis Kariņš, a former economy minister and member of the center-right New Unity party, is expected to present a government to be voted on this month, President Raimonds Vējonis told reporters, Bloomberg reported. It will be the third attempt at forming a coalition since the election. The first two candidates put forward — from the populist KPV LV and the anti-corruption New Conservative parties — both failed to form a government. "The main question is sorting out the state's financial sector," Kariņš said, according to Bloomberg. The Russia-friendly Harmony party garnered the most support in the election. In the past, other parties have worked together to prevent Harmony from entering a governing coalition. [Back to the Top](#).

Italy: Italy's Di Maio urges Yellow Jackets to not give up

Politico Europe (Jan 7) - Italian Deputy Prime Minister Luigi Di Maio told Yellow Jacket protesters in France to "not give up," and said Italy has been following their "battle from the day you first appeared." The Yellow Jackets movement started in November in protest against rising fuel prices and a planned fuel tax, which the French government has since abandoned, and has spread to other countries, including Belgium. Writing in a blog posted on the website of the 5Star Movement on Monday, Di Maio said that in both France and Italy "politics has become deaf to the needs of citizens who have been kept out of the most important decisions affecting the people." He added that "the cry that rises strongly from the French squares is ultimately one of 'let us participate!'" He urged the protestors to continue, noting that the 5Star Movement entered the Italian parliament less than four years after its birth, "despite the insults and sneers," adding that "those who teased us [in the past have] today disappeared from the political scene." Di Maio also offered his party's support if needed, offering the protestors "to use some of the functions of our software, for instance calls for actions to organise meetings or voting system to ... pick candidates for elections." [Back to the Top](#).

Poland: Poland to increase number of lobbyists in Brussels

EurActiv (Jan 7) - Warsaw announced to create a lobbying centre for Polish entrepreneurs in Brussels to help them exert a greater influence on EU legislation. EURACTIV Poland reports. According to the Polish ministry of enterprise and technology, it is estimated that over 70% of EU law has an impact on the activities of Polish companies, and in comparison with German or French companies, they have a negligible contribution to the creation of this EU legislation. "This is meant to be an impulse for more activity and the presence of Polish entrepreneurs in Brussels. It is about creating an instrument, thanks to which Polish companies will be able to more effectively protect their interests and gain new development opportunities," deputy minister of entrepreneurship and technology, Marcin Ociepa said. The resort counts on the fact that formalities regarding the registration of the organisation that will run Business Poland House will be finalised within a few weeks. Then, more companies will be able to join the initiating companies of the project. "Polish entrepreneurs should see a more active presence in the EU, also in the lobbying dimension. The stronger the representation of Polish companies in the capital of the EU, the better their voice will be heard," Ociepa told Polish press agency PAP. [Back to the Top](#).

EP 2019 Elections

National Rally chooses Jordan Bardella as head of list for European elections

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - The voice of L'Europe des Nations in France for the European elections is now known. The executive board of the far-right French party, the Rassemblement national (RN), appointed Jordan Bardella as the head of the list for the elections on 26 May on Sunday 6 January. This choice was confirmed by the National Office on Monday 7 January. The RN has focused on youth. At just 23 years of age, the party's spokesman and regional councillor for Ile-de-France could become one of the youngest MEPs. Beyond his young age, he would also represent, according to several party members, this generation that no longer believes in the "beautiful promises" of the technocratic European Union. "Jordan Bardella represents a generation that no longer believes, can no longer believe, in the lies of the European Union", said David Rachline, member of the executive board, in an article published on Monday. While in France all polls place the RN in the lead, with 20 to 24% of voting intentions, well ahead of The Republic on the march, the party also counts on its nationalist allies in Europe with whom it hopes to form a blocking minority in the European Parliament. Marine Le Pen will officially launch her party's campaign and unveil its complete list on Sunday 13 January, at a "grand convention" in Paris. She should be in an ineligible position. [Back to the Top](#).

Italy and Poland in talks on anti-EU league

EUObserver (BRUSSELS, 7. JAN) - Poland and Italy's right-wing rulers are to cement their "special relations" at a meeting in Warsaw, in what could make a new anti-EU league a major force in the next European Parliament (EP). The meeting, between Polish ruling party chief, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, and Italian interior minister and deputy prime minister Matteo Salvini, on Wednesday (9 January) is to discuss Poland's membership in Salvini's new EP group, according to Italian daily La Repubblica. "It's a meeting at the highest level. If [party] president Kaczynski meets another politician, it's a sign of a certain special relationship, which is how we're treating it," Polish foreign minister Jacek Czaputowicz also told Polish radio station RMF on Saturday. "We have to discuss matters related to the European Parliament," Czaputowicz added. Jacek Sasin, an MP from Kaczynski's ruling Law and Justice (PiS) party, said it was "uncertain" whether the meeting would "deliver a certain objective, an agreement". But Salvini and Kaczynski would "exchange ideas ... on how the

European Union should function", he said. "There are definitely different points of view between us and Mr Matteo Salvini ... but that doesn't mean we don't have some ideas in common on how the [European] project should be modified," he added. Kaczynski's party currently sits in the right-wing European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR) group, which has 73 deputies. But the ECR is likely to collapse when its British Conservative party members leave after Brexit, leaving PiS homeless in Brussels. The main group, the centre-right European People's Party (EPP), already has a Kaczynski-type member, Hungary's nationalist leader Viktor Orban, whom it has kept in its club to try to contain him. But the EPP is also home to Poland's main opposition party, the Civic Platform, ruling out PiS membership. [Back to the Top](#).

EU Institutions

EU Commission: 'Delivery, Destiny and Democracy' will be European Commission's main triptych for 2019

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - "Delivery, Destiny and Democracy" will be the three watchwords that will guide the European Commission's steps until the end of its mandate, said Margaritis Schinas, Chief Spokesperson of the Commission, at the opening of the midday press conference on Monday 7 January. Thus, with regard to the "Delivery", the current Commission has made it a priority to complete all the proposals currently on the table before the end of its mandate. In practical terms, nearly 240 proposals have yet to be adopted, although only about 300 days remain before the end of the Commission's financial year. Mr Schinas assured that the Commission would work hard to ensure that as many of these proposals as possible would be adopted. Mr Schinas then announced that 2019 will be the year in which Europe must take its destiny into its own hands, as Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, had called for in his last State of the Union address (see EUROPE 12094). According to the Commission's Chief Spokesperson, the European Summit, scheduled for 9 May in Sibiu, Romania, will pave the way for a stronger, more united and more democratic Europe, thus ushering in a new era. Lastly, Mr Schinas recalled that, two weeks after the Sibiu Summit, citizens will be called upon to participate in the European elections from 23 to 26 May. An event that he described as a "chance", not only for European citizens, who can thus have their say on "the kind of European Union they want", but also for all European parties,

who can use this event to put forward their ideas for the future of the Union. [Back to the Top.](#)

Development & Aid

EU's ESSN programme for refugees in Turkey has benefited 1.5 million people

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - The Emergency Social Safety Net (ESSN) programme, the largest humanitarian programme ever deployed by the EU, has helped 1.5 million refugees in Turkey, the European Commission announced on Monday 7 January. The visit to Turkey of the European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, provided the opportunity. Launched in September 2016, this programme is funded by the Refugee Facility for Turkey (see EUROPE 11619). It allows the most vulnerable refugees to provide for their day-to-day needs (accommodation, food, medicines, education of children) through debit cards powered by cash transfers (€30 per month per person). With these cards, refugees can purchase supplies from the local market or withdraw cash. "With Turkey, we will continue to provide this assistance", the Commissioner said in a statement. Humanitarian funds planned for 2019 amount to €640 million, including €80 million to support education in emergencies. The Turkey Refugee Facility, which was endowed with €3 billion for 2016-2017, has €500 million for 2018 out of the €3 billion planned for 2018-2019 (second tranche). The Court of Auditors has just drawn up a mixed assessment. The Emergency Social Safety Net is implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Turkish Red Crescent, in consultation with the Turkish authorities. [Back to the Top.](#)

Security & Defense

Trump struggles to replace Mattis as Pentagon chief

Politico Europe (Jan 7) - WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is having a tough time hiring a Pentagon chief after the abrupt departure of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis late last month. Jon Kyl, the retired Arizona Republican senator, became the second person to wave off Trump's overtures last week, telling the White House he is not interested in the job. Retired General Jack Keane also turned down the job shortly after Mattis' resignation. (Keane, who frequently advises Trump, had refused

the position once before, during the 2016 presidential transition.) The refusals are particularly striking given that the top Pentagon job is historically among the Cabinet's most prestigious and powerful, and coveted by national security veterans. But Mattis' resignation — announced in a letter indicating that Trump had disregarded his advice on fundamental issues — has reinforced the image of a commander in chief unafraid to buck his top military advisers. Both Kyl and Keane declined to comment. Mattis' deputy, Patrick Shanahan, took over for him on January 1 in an acting capacity, and Trump has said the former Boeing executive could run the Pentagon "for a long time." But the White House has quietly ramped up a search effort for a permanent replacement. Kyl, a longtime national security expert, served three terms in the Senate before retiring in 2012, and was appointed again briefly last year after the passing of Senator John McCain. He helped guide Trump's last Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, through his confirmation battle. Mattis stepped down in late December, partly in protest over the president's decision to pull American troops out of Syria but also, he wrote in a stinging public letter, because Trump does not share his views about the importance of American "alliances and partnerships" abroad. [Back to the Top](#).

Ukraine

Ukraine Orthodox Church obtains independence from Moscow

EurActiv (Jan 7) - The spiritual leader of Orthodox Christians worldwide on Sunday (6 January) presented the head of the Ukrainian church with a decree granting it independence from Moscow, a historic split strongly opposed by Russia. Ukraine sees the break as vital to its security and independence, but it is bound to aggravate the wider conflict between the two countries. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, who signed the autocephaly decree on Saturday, handed the document to Ukrainian Metropolitan Epifaniy at St George's Cathedral in Istanbul after a mass to mark the feast of Epiphany. "Unity has been restored. Now we are united," Epifaniy told the congregation, standing with Bartholomew at the front of the crowded church, both wearing ceremonial robes and holding staffs. The 39-year-old Epifaniy was chosen to head the new church last month. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, who also attended the event, compared the development to Ukraine's referendum for independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. Russia bitterly opposes the split, comparing it to the Great Schism of 1054 that divided western and eastern

Christianity. President Vladimir Putin has warned of possible bloodshed. [Back to the Top.](#)

DRC

Pressure mounts on DR Congo over election outcome

EurActiv with AFP (Jan 7) - Public and diplomatic pressure mounted Monday (8 January) on the Democratic Republic of Congo to announce the outcome of 30 December elections to replace long-term leader Joseph Kabila. More than a week after the crucial poll, the volatile central African country's electoral commission has not set a date for the results announcement, already postponed once. The count is taking place in a climate of deep suspicion in a country that has never had a peaceful transition of power since independence from Belgium in 1960. DR Congo to vote in end-of-an-era poll: Democratic Republic of Congo goes to the polls this week in elections which could see the country emerge from 17 years of conflict-ridden rule under controversial President Joseph Kabila. On Sunday, election commission head Corneille Nangaa said just over half of ballots had been counted. He appealed to the public "to remain patient for the time it will take to consolidate all our data." But on Monday, the foreign minister of Belgium — a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council — urged haste. "The important thing today is to publish the results of the elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo even if they do not please the powers that be," Didier Reynders told Belgium's RTBF broadcaster. "We hope for an announcement in the coming days." For its part, the CLC collective of Congolese Catholic laypeople which coordinated anti-Kabila protests in 2017 and 2018, bemoaned what it described as "collusion" between the country's ruling FCC coalition and the CENI election commission. It accused the FCC (Common Front for Congo) and CENI of levelling "aggressive and unjustified" criticism against the country's powerful Catholic Church, and said this "confirms, in everyone's eyes, their collusion" and revealed "a hidden agenda." [Back to the Top.](#)

Food, Agriculture & Fisheries

GMOs: Testbiotech accuses Commission of authorising a Monsanto/Bayer maize despite incomplete risk assessment

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - For public health reasons, the NGO Testbiotech requested on Friday 4 January that the European Commission withdraw the authorisation it gave on 19 December to import into the EU a genetically modified maize from Monsanto/Bayer for use as food and feed (see EUROPE 12163). The NGO claims that the authorisation was given despite potential health risks that were not taken into account or duly assessed by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). This transgenic corn produces six Bt toxins. However, according to Testbiotech, recent scientific discoveries indicate that Bt toxins pose substantial risks to the immune system. The NGO states that it has recently provided the Commission with evidence that EFSA has not properly assessed the risks to the immune system from the ingestion of Bt toxins, which can, inter alia, cause allergies. In addition, the combined effects of these toxins with herbicide residues have not been assessed, even though these combined effects may lead to higher toxicity than individually, the NGO says in a statement. Similar to Monsanto's GMOs called "SmartStax", this maize nevertheless has a higher resistance to glyphosate. It can therefore be sprayed with high doses of herbicides that can lead to a higher residue load. However, according to EFSA itself, there is not enough data to draw conclusions on the safety of these residues. [Back to the Top](#).

Agriculture: Milk market situation is considered to be relatively balanced

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - The market situation for milk and milk products is considered to be relatively balanced, with reasonable growth in world production and a satisfactory trend in demand. This is indicated in the EU experts' report published after the last meeting of the European Dairy Market Observatory on 13 December. The report indicates that EU milk production, which has been on the rise overall since early 2018, started to decline in October and high farm prices are expected in the coming months. EU milk collection increased by 1.2% over the period January-October 2018, but started to decline by 0.4% last October, with France, the Netherlands, Italy and Germany being the main contributors to this decline. However, in some Member States, production continues to increase, especially in Ireland (+111,000 tonnes, or +20% in October) and Poland (+26,000 tonnes). Over the period, skimmed milk powder production was 1.5% lower than last year, butter production increased by 1.6% and cheese production by 0.4%. Average farmgate milk prices in the EU have improved over the past five months, reaching 35.8 cents/kg in October, 3.7% higher than the five-year average. "Firm

prices are expected in the coming months", experts predict. Protein-based dairy products experienced an "impressive increase in 2018": +27% for whey powder and +16% for skimmed milk powder. Prices of fat products also improved, but at a slower pace (+2% for butter and whole milk powder). Cheese prices, on the other hand, fell slightly. Worldwide, milk production increased by 1.3% in January-September 2018, with the EU providing half of the additional milk. [Back to the Top](#).

Animal Health: Management of wild boar populations is a priority to contain African swine fever

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - The European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Vytenis Andriukaitis, confirmed on 19 December 2018 in Brussels that the fight against and eradication of African swine fever is an absolute priority for the EU. At this informal meeting of EU Agriculture Ministers on African swine fever, the Commissioner focused on the long-term management of wild boar populations. In several parts of Europe, these populations have developed "in an uncontrolled way; this plays an important role in the spread and persistence of the disease", he stressed. He also indicated that African swine fever cannot be controlled "without considering the long-term management of wild boars in areas not yet affected by the disease". Ministers and Chief Veterinary Officers of the Member States have called for the "development of a common strategy" to manage wild boar populations. In this context, hunters have a key role to play, the Commissioner stressed. The European Commission and the European Federation for Hunting and Conservation (FACE) will organise a workshop on this issue on 30 January in Dortmund. The Commissioner acknowledged that recent developments in Romania "are a major concern". More than 1,100 outbreaks have been discovered in domestic pigs since June 2018. [Back to the Top](#).

Fisheries: Public consultation on revision of Eel Regulation

Brussels, 07/01/2019 (Agence Europe) - The European Commission launched a public stakeholder consultation on the implementation of the 2007 Eel Regulation from 14 December 2018 to 8 March 2019. The stock of European eels is in critical condition, the Commission recalls, adding that "recruitment is at an all-time low and exploitation of the stock is currently unsustainable". Due to the ineffectiveness of the Eel Regulation, the EU had to adopt fishing restrictions this year and last year to save the eel stock. These measures were taken within the framework of the

regulations on total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas. The decline in eel stock has numerous causes, including fisheries (commercial or recreational), hydropower turbines and pumps, pollution, habitat modification and the creation of obstacles to eel migrations. "It is important to avoid further deterioration in the state of the stock", says the Commission. The current Regulation 1100/2007 provides for national plans including measures to ensure a long-term escapement of at least 40% of adult eels. The results of this consultation and the evaluation may be used to inform decisions on whether the Eel Regulation and/or the implementation measures need to be reviewed. [Back to the Top](#).

German MEP: Politicians should trust EFSA, set aside their personal views

EurActiv (Jan 7) - EU politicians should show trust in the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and put their personal opinions on food safety assessments on hold, centre-right MEP Peter Jahr told EURACTIV Germany in an interview. Jahr, an EU lawmaker of the centre-right European People's Party (EPP) group of the European Parliament, called on politicians to stick to their political role and let EFSA, the EU food safety watchdog, get its job done. "We should not make any political gut decisions but instead be guided by the scientific findings provided to us by EFSA, which is responsible for risk assessment," he said. "But doing it this way also means sometimes putting your personal opinion on hold," he added. The German MEP also backed the re-approval of the world's most commonly used weedkiller, glyphosate, which sparked an intense debate in the EU last year and was actually the reason why the European Commission came up with new proposals on food safety transparency rules. Jahr, who is also a member of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Committee on Petitions, supported the decision to ban neonicotinoid pesticides, which according to EFSA threaten bees. "I stand by the EFSA's recommendation for glyphosate as much as by its recommendation for neonicotinoids, where a ban was recommended," he said. "In my view, it isn't fair when some colleagues heap praise on the EFSA when it is in line with their gut feeling and who then attack it when it isn't," he emphasised. Both cases triggered reactions among stakeholders in Brussels. The industry praised the Commission and EFSA over the glyphosate re-authorisation while environmentalists and civil society organisations questioned the transparency of the decision. On the other hand, the industry disagreed with the method used by EFSA to assess neonicotinoids while NGOs praised the EU institutions for their decision to ban them. "Some of the same

campaign groups who attacked EFSA’s credibility over glyphosate applauded our work on neonicotinoids,” EFSA director Bernhard Url told EURACTIV.com in September 2018. [Back to the Top](#).

To subscribe to the USEU Newswire Highlights, please email useupressteam@state.gov. Find the [U.S. Ambassador to the EU on Twitter](#) and USEU on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitter](#) and on its [Website](#). You can also subscribe to USEU Today (SBU) by emailing the USEU Political team (USEUpolitical@state.gov).

(b)(6)

Press Specialist

U.S. Mission to the EU

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UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)gsondland	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Meeting with Zelensky
Date:	Sat, 18 May 2019 14:51:46 +0000

The USA only meeting with Zelensky nailed down for Monday? Is this intended to be

(b)(5)



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Ambassador of the United States of America

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Pres Duda. Pres Zelensky
Date:	Wed, 22 May 2019 08:44:40 +0000

In addition to the other foreign leaders, they are now both confirmed in Brussels for June 4 and are looking forward to seeing S. Turning into quite the event



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(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Lord, Ellen M HON OSD OUSD A-S (USA) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: [Non-DoD Source] June 4
Date:	Mon, 27 May 2019 02:27:59 +0000

Thanks Ellen. Have a great Memorial day.



Gordon D. Sondland

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 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Lord, Ellen M HON OSD OUSD A-S (USA) (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, May 26, 2019 7:18:07 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: Re: [Non-DoD Source] June 4

Gordon-

(b)(5)

Ellen

Ellen M. Lord

USD(A&S)

Pentagon (b)(6)

(b)(6)

NIPR: (b)(6)

SIPR: (b)(6)

On May 26, 2019, at 11:34 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

(b)(6)

wrote:

Ellen,

(b)(5)

Attending: Mogherini, Juncker, Pres Tajani Sec Perry, Pres Zelensky (Ukraine) Pres Duda (Poland) PM Dancila Romania. PM Bahktadze Georgia. Sec Gen Stoltenberg. Either Pompeo or Kushner Jay Leno, CEO of Qatar Oil & a few others.



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(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Lord, Ellen M HON OSD OUSD A-S (USA)	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Amb Sondland's press engagements
Date:	Mon, 29 Jul 2019 10:09:47 +0000

Thanks!



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2019 10:03:10 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Amb Sondland's press engagements

Yes, we'll see what we can do tomorrow.

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2019 8:44:56 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Amb Sondland's press engagements

Can you run them through translation so we can send to S? Thx



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2019 7:48:45 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: USEU-FO-DL <USEU-FO-DL@state.gov>; USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
Subject: Fwd: Amb Sondland's press engagements

Sir: Coverage of your media engagements in Ukraine. We'll do some amplification of these on our social media properties over the next few days.

From: (b)(6) (Kyiv) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2019 4:25 PM
To: USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL; (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)
Cc: Kyiv IOs; (b)(6) (Kyiv)
Subject: Amb Sondland's press engagements

Hi USEU Team,

Below are links to videos and articles from Amb Sondland's media engagements in Kyiv. Both exclusive interviews have been published, and the RFE/RL one has been picked up by lots of other outlets, focusing especially on Amb Sondland's comments about the positive interaction between Presidents Trump and Zelenskyy.

Coverage from Ambassador Sondland's Exclusive Interviews:

UATV full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW8pad9RDCQ>

<https://www.facebook.com/UATVEN/>

Facebook post reads as follows and links to the YouTube link above: U.S. President Donald Trump congratulated his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky on his parliamentary victory. They spoke by phone on July 25 to discuss ways to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Ukraine, including energy and economic cooperation. Kurt Volker, the U.S. special peace envoy to Ukraine, traveled to Kyiv this week with U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland. Mr. Sondland is joining us to discuss US-Ukraine relations.

<https://twitter.com/KariOdermann/status/1154816134895550464>

Also retweeted on https://twitter.com/uatv_en?lang=en

Ukrainian RFE/RL video (dubbed into Ukrainian) on how Zelenskyy handled the ship incident (about one minute of video) <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/30077643.html>

Ukrainian RFE/RL text articles:

- U.S. Ambassador to the EU spoke about the conversation between Zelenskyy and Trump (<https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/news-rozмова-trampa-i-zelenskoho/30077577.html>)
- U.S. Ambassador to the EU described Zelenskyy as a rock star, discussed the Russian tanker, and his Kyiv roots (<https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/posol-ameryky-v-es-sondorland-interview/30077678.html>)

Additional articles covering Sondland's remarks to RFE/RL (generally focusing on how President Trump and President Zelenskyy hit it off during their phone call): [Obovsem](#), [Gordon](#), [Antikor](#), [Ukrinform](#), [NewsOne](#), [Liga](#), [Depo](#), [Espresso](#)

Additional media coverage of the visit (not based on the two exclusive interviews):

[European Pravda](#), [Telegraf](#), [Zik](#), Reports quoting Amb. Sondland's tweet about meeting with Zelenskyy

[Censor.net](#): Zelenskyy discussed with Volker and Sondland the current situation in the Joint Forces Operation zone (based on Zelenskyy's readout)

[Crimea Realities](#): Zelenskyy and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbas (based on Embassy tweet; while Sondland is not in the headline, he is mentioned in the article)

Odd visit-related articles (one from Ukraine, one from Russia) — we will translate these tomorrow. It's not unusual to get a bit of propaganda-like coverage of major visits here.

- [112](#): Why Volker and a sponsor of Trump came to Kyiv
- [Gazeta.ru](#): Volker flew to Kyiv regarding compromising information on Biden, media reported

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)	(USEU) <(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> USEU-PRESS TEAM-DL (b)(6) (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage
Date:	Mon, 29 Jul 2019 12:50:47 +0000

Send to Lisa as an FYI



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
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1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 2:44:56 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6); Witmer, Kami A (USEU)
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS TEAM-DL
 <USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
Subject: FW: Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage

Ambassador, here is a summary of your press in the Ukrainian media (including some translations) prepared by (b)(6)

(b)(6) and the Hub team also ran a scan through their Russian media search tool and found 700+ articles since Friday mentioning your trip to Ukraine. They range from news reporting on the fact of the trip, with a focus on Volker (the majority of the coverage), to coverage of your interviews, to articles speculating about what the “real purpose of the presence of the U.S. Ambassador to the EU on a trip to Ukraine.” The latter articles focus on commentary by pundits that says “Volker isn’t in President Trump’s circle of trust” and so “Sondland is curating the dialogue with Kyiv,” as well as alleging that you want to ensure “the Biden affair”—an investigation into former VP Biden’s ties through his son to an energy company in Ukraine—stays on track.

(b)(5)

Thanks

(b)(6)



Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage July 29, 2019

- **UATV Interview**
- **Ukrainian RFE/RL TV Interview**
- **US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the relationship between Zelensky and Trump (Ukrainian RFE/RL - Google translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU about Zelensky as a rock star, Russian tanker and their Kiev roots (Ukrainian RFE/RL – Google Translation)**
- **Trump, Ukraine's Zelenskiy Outline Pending Meeting During Phone Call (RFE/RL)**
- **U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland has stated that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States found a common language (Ukrinform)**
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- **Zelensky discussed with Volker and Sundland the current situation in the area of environmental protection (Censor – Google Translation)**
- **The US ambassador to the EU commented on a meeting with Zelensky (Zik – Google Translation)**
- **Zelensky and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbass (Crimea realities – Google Translation)**

UATV Interview

UATV full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW8pad9RDCQ>

Ukrainian RFE/RL TV Interview

Ukrainian RFE/RL video (dubbed into Ukrainian) on how Zelenskyy handled the ship incident: <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/30077643.html>

US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the relationship between Zelensky and Trump (Ukrainian RFE/RL - Google translation)

Ukrainian RFE/RL (July 26, 2019) - "The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," - says Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland

"The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," - says Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland

US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States have found a common language. The American diplomat said this about Radio Liberty after meeting on July 26 in Kyiv with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked with President Trump for a long time (telephone - Ed.), They met. I communicated with both before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House within a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

Volodymyr Zelensky met with Gordon Sondland and Kurt Volcker, US Special Envoy for Ukraine , on July 26 in Kyiv.

Gordon Sondland informed Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

The Office of the Ukrainian President announced on the eve of the telephone conversation of Vladimir Zelensky and his American colleague Donald Trump.

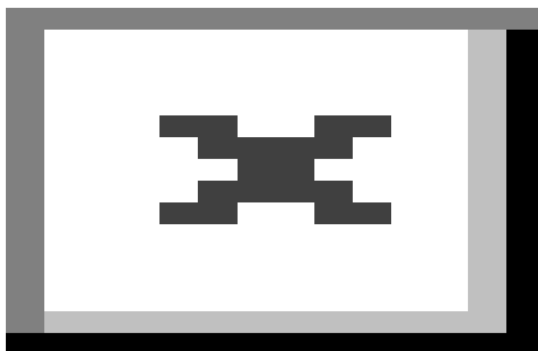
According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "discuss substantively the practical issues of Ukrainian-American cooperation" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Earlier, then Ukrainian Ambassador to the US Valery Chaly announced two possible dates for Zelensky's visit to the United States: either in August (when the President of Ukraine will visit only Washington) or September (when this visit will be combined with the participation in the debate at the UN General Assembly session).

On June 25, US Charge d'Affaires in Ukraine William Taylor said that the date of the visit of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky to the United States for a meeting with the President of this country Donald Trump has not yet been determined , but the United States is very interested in determining the date and the agenda as soon as possible.

US Ambassador to the EU about Zelensky as a rock star, Russian tanker and their Kiev roots (Ukrainian RFE/RL – Google Translation)



US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland. Kyiv, July 26, 2019

Oksana Dumskaya

Ukrainian RFE/RL (July 27, 2019) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, arrived in Kyiv to meet with Ukrainian politicians, including President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky. He spoke about his expectations from the Ukrainian authorities, how the United States helps the new team to find a common language with Ukraine's neighbors in the West and about the roots of his family in Kyiv in an interview with Radio Liberty.

- On July 26, you met with President Zelensky. Have you discussed at this meeting the recent conversation between Presidents Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelensky and the possible future visit of the President of Ukraine to the United States?

The telephone conversation was very good. They quickly found a common language

- Yes, President Zelensky and President Trump had a fairly long conversation. They met. I spoke with Donald Trump, and with Volodymyr Zelensky before and after a telephone conversation. The telephone conversation was very good. They quickly found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Volodymyr Zelensky to meet at the White House in a convenient time for both parties in the near future.

- What did you discuss with President Zelensky during the meeting?

- We have a whole list of issues we are working on. There is a team that was assembled by President Trump: Ambassador Taylor, who is our main contact with the Ukrainian authorities, Special Representative Volker. There is also a group that we call "three amigos", which includes me, Spokeswoman Volcker and Energy Minister Rick Perry. And our job is to make sure that American power is focused on Ukraine and is ready to respond quickly to Ukrainian issues.

- What particular questions did you raise during the meeting?

- They talked about energy, security, war, the team that President Zelensky collects, the rule of law, Naftogaz, about everything in the world.

- What is your position regarding the SBU detained a Russian tanker that was involved in the incident in the Kerch Strait in November? How close to the country are they approaching a serious escalation this time?

- President Zelensky perfectly coped with the situation. He immediately released the sailors, because they were not involved in the seizure that the Russians carried out in November. He had the right to detain the tanker as soon as he left the international waters that he actually did. Volodymyr Zelensky demonstrates to the Russians that he can not be offended. He shows that he is ready to answer. We believe that his actions were very and very responsible.

- How do you see the situation with Russia's militarization of the annexed Crimea, the buildup of Russia's military power in the Black Sea? How will Washington and NATO react to it?

- We believe that Russians should return to Russia and leave Ukraine alone. Ukraine is rooted in Western values, in the Western rule of law. Russians belong to Russia, and Ukrainians to Ukraine. Both the United States and all our friends in Europe share this opinion.

- A difficult issue for Ukraine concerns the "North Stream-2". You are an adversary in the erection of this lawn. How would you comment on Russia and Germany's willingness to implement this project? Will American sanctions be imposed against companies involved in the project? When?

- We are disappointed with the behavior of our friends in Germany, who support the completion of the construction of the North Stream 2. We think that it is not in the interests of Europe to be completely energy dependent on Russia. There are many other sources of energy other than, in particular, the United States. You can also receive energy from the Middle East or from the countries of the South. We want Europe to be free to make political decisions without interference from Russians who have already shut off gas at the worst moment.

- What should Ukraine do in this situation?

- I think Ukraine does what it should do. Led by President Zelenskiy Ukraine works fast and persistently, looking for other energy sources. And he also seeks to never give Russia the opportunity to influence its political future.

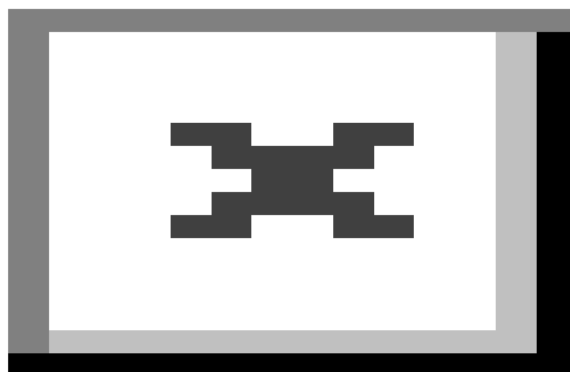
- How does the US see Ukraine's relations, sometimes very difficult, with its western neighbors, in particular, Poland and Hungary? Can Washington help establish this relationship, since such conflicts distract Kiev against Russia's aggression in the east?

- We made a small step forward in this direction a few weeks ago, on the day of President Zelensky's inauguration. I invited him to Brussels and arranged for him a small party, attended by the leaders of Poland, Romania and leaders of several other countries, as well as representatives of the White House. We wanted to give him the opportunity to establish contacts during informal communication. Today (July 26 - ed.), We talked with President Zelensky and realized that relations are beginning to be settled.

- How can you assess the visit of President Zelensky to Brussels, which took place a few weeks ago?

- I can evaluate only those events in which I participated. President Zelensky proved to be beautiful, as for one of the first international meetings. He was like a rock star.

- Fifth President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko met with US Special Representative Kurt Volker on the eve.



Fifth President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko (right) during a conversation with US Special Representative Kurt Volker (left). Kiev, July 25, 2019

He spoke with him about Ukraine's MAP (NATO Membership Action Plan - Ed.), And also called on the United States to raise this issue during the NATO summit in December. How quickly Ukraine can get the MAP and what is the US position on this issue?

- This is not a decision of the United States. This is NATO's decision. NATO has specific procedures for potential members. I believe that Ukraine will be a good candidate, but it must follow all NATO protocols and procedures.

- Ukraine has elected a new parliament, which will form a government. Two months ago, Ukraine chose a new president, and the leaders in the main institutions of the European Union changed. Will this affect the relations between Ukraine and the European Union?

One of the main issues will be - how to communicate very clearly and very clearly to our Russian friends that Ukraine remains pro-Western

- I believe that relations between Ukraine and the European Union are already very good. The United States and the EU are cooperating very closely to support Ukraine in many of the issues that I have described to you. We will meet with the new head of the European Commission, Ursula von der Lie, on Monday. We already had a telephone conversation and one of the main questions will be - how to communicate very clearly and very clearly to our friends from Russia that Ukraine remains pro-Western.

- President Zelensky proposed to expand the "Norman format" and involve the United States and Great Britain. How is it possible and if this will help move from the implementation of the Minsk Agreements?

- I do not want to assume this before meeting in the Norman format. I do not want to put anyone in an awkward position, including President Zelensky. I want them to solve problems during meetings. Therefore, I will not make any assumptions.

- The United States supports Ukraine in many spheres. What are the next steps for bilateral cooperation?

We will increase our support when Ukraine starts reform

- We have supported and will support Ukraine. We will increase our support when Ukraine starts implementing reforms as promised. Volodymyr Zelensky was elected president with a great mandate, because more than 70% of Ukrainian voters voted for him. Representatives of the United States government, such as Minister of Energy Perry, I, Special Representative Volker, not to mention the US ambassador to Ukraine, we have a whole team in Washington, the State Department and the White House, which focused on various Ukrainian issues - military , energy, economic, political, all.

- What other reforms should be implemented in Ukraine?

- There is a long list of reforms. But the good news is that in many cases they are simple. They need political will. I believe that President Zelensky is the person who not only has political will, but will also embody reforms. Execution is key. Talking is good, but doing is better.

- Mr. Ambassador, tell your parents who, it turns out, come from Kiev?

I am proud that my parents were born here in Kiev. I would like to know which street, and in what house

- I am proud that my parents were born here in Kyiv. I would like to know on what street and in what building. I could stay here. But I can not. They obviously spoke in Ukrainian, Russian, and German and Spanish. Because they lived in Uruguay. Unfortunately, my parents died. But there were some family records. So, during one of my upcoming visits to Kyiv, I plan to do a little research and maybe find where they were born.

Trump, Ukraine's Zelenskiy Outline Pending Meeting During Phone Call (RFE/RL)

Radio Free Europe (July 26, 2019) - WASHINGTON -- U.S. President Donald Trump congratulated Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskiy on his parliamentary victory as the leaders discussed the agenda of their first tet-a-tet.

Trump and Zelenskiy spoke by phone on July 25 to discuss "ways to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Ukraine, including energy and economic cooperation," the White House said in a statement.

No date has yet set for their first meeting, which will take place in Washington most likely before the end of the summer.

Zelenskiy will come to the White House with a strong mandate for change after his Servant of the People party swept a majority of the seats in parliament during the July 21 election, the first party in the history of independent Ukraine to control the Rada.

Trump congratulated Zelenskiy for his party's success, the White House said.

Zelenskiy's office said in a statement that Trump voiced confidence the new Ukrainian government could improve the nation's image and complete the investigation of corruption cases that have "held back U.S.-Ukrainian cooperation."

The U.S. has repeatedly called on Ukraine to tackle corruption and weaken the influence of business tycoons that control power behind the scenes.

Zelenskiy, a former comic who played a fictitious history teacher on TV who is accidentally elected president, won a landslide presidential election in April amid popular frustration over endemic corruption and low living standards.

His party repeated the feat on July 21, garnering 254 seats, more than 60 percent of those in the legislature, as citizens gave him a green light to reform the political system.

The Ukrainian president's office said that Trump expressed U.S. support for the country's large-scale reform program as well as its territorial integrity.

Zelenskiy thanked Trump for keeping and strengthening sanctions against Russia, which annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and backed separatists in eastern Ukraine, kicking off a five-year war that has killed more than 13,000 people.

Ukraine and the United States have held high-level talks over the past few weeks in preparation for the meeting. Ivan Bakanov, first deputy chief of Ukraine's Security Service, presidential assistant Andriy Yermak, and potential prime minister Oleksandr Danylyuk have traveled to Washington for meetings.

Kurt Volker, the U.S. special peace envoy to Ukraine, traveled to Kyiv this week with U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland.

During his trip to Washington, Zelenskiy will also meet with members of Congress, where Ukraine has received greater support than it has from the White House during the Trump presidency.

The Ukrainian Congressional Caucus has asked House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to invite Zelenskiy to address both chambers during his visit to Washington. Pelosi has yet to answer.

U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland has stated that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States found a common language (Ukrinform)

Ukrinform (July 26) - "Yesterday, President Zelensky had quite a long [telephone] conversation with President Trump, they got acquainted. I spoke with both of them before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful. They found a common language immediately. President Trump invited Zelensky to visit the White House in the timeline suitable for both parties in the near future," the American diplomat told Radio Liberty after a meeting with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky on July 26 in Kyiv.

On July 26, President Zelensky met in Kyiv with Gordon Sondland and U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker.

Gordon Sondland told Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, energy security issues, the situation in the NJSC Naftogaz of Ukraine, the rule of law.

A team with the participation of U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the U.S. Department of State currently works at the initiative of US President Donald Trump focusing on various aspects of relations with Ukraine, Sondland added.

Yesterday, the Presidential Office reported that President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky and US President Donald Trump held a telephone conversation.

According to the report, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss the practical issues of US-Ukraine cooperation" during Zelensky's visit to the United States.

Zelensky, U.S. administration reps hope ceasefire regime introduced in Donbas on July 21 to be comprehensive, permanent (Interfax)

KYIV. July 26 (Interfax-Ukraine) - President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky has met with U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker and U.S. Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland to discuss the current situation in the area of the Joint Forces Operation (JFO), in particular, the process of disengagement of forces and equipment near Stanytsia Luhanska.

"The parties voiced a hope that the ceasefire regime, which was agreed on July 21, would be comprehensive and permanent and that any armed provocations on the part of the occupied territories would be permanently discontinued," the presidential press service said on Friday.

During the meeting, the necessity of taking steps by the occupation authorities, which will allow successfully complete the process of disengagement of forces and improvement of the humanitarian situation on the contact line, was noted.

Zelensky thanked the U.S. side for its consistent support of Ukraine and the U.S. efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement to conflict in Donbas.

Ukrainian president, US envoys meet to discuss Donbass (BBC)

BBC Monitoring Ukraine & Baltics (July 26) - Today President Volodymyr Zelensky has discussed the pull-back of troops near Stanytsya Luhanska and the situation at the frontline in general with American guests - US special representative for Ukraine Kurt Volker and US Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

The Ukrainian president thanked the USA for its consistent support and assistance in bringing peace to Donbass. Both sides stressed that the occupying authorities must adhere to agreements that will make it possible to complete the pull-back of troops and improve the humanitarian situation at the line of contact.

Trump invited Zelensky to the White House (Obovsem – Google Translation)

Obovsem (July 26) - Presidents Vladimir Zelensky and the United States Donald Trump found a common language during a telephone conversation. According to the US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, according to Radio Liberty.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky spoke with the President for a long time. They talked to us before and after this conversation, the conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," said Sundland.

According to him, one of the consequences of this conversation was the invitation of the President of Ukraine for a visit to Washington. "President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House on a date suitable for both parties in the near future," the diplomat said.

The exact date of Zelensky's visit to the United States is currently unknown, but this may occur in August or September. In the first case, the Ukrainian will remain only in the US capital, in the second he can also be combined with participation in debates at the UN General Assembly in New York.

The President of the United States congratulated Ukraine on successful parliamentary elections and expressed his conviction that the new government would quickly stop investigating the problems of corruption that had stopped interaction between the countries. Then, when the President of Ukraine thanked his colleague for maintaining the sanctions against Russia.

US Ambassador to the EU talking about Trump and Zelensky: They immediately found a common language (Gordon – Google Translation)

Gordon (July 27) - The first telephone conversation between US President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky was quite lengthy, said US Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

US Permanent Representative to the EU, Gordon Sondland, in a commentary to Radio Liberty on July 26, said that the first telephone conversation between President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky and US President Donald Trump was successful.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked with President Trump for a long time, they met." I talked to both before and after the conversation. "The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language, and President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House at the end of the term, which suitable for both parties in the near future, "said Sondland.

He also said that, at the initiative of Trump in the United States, a working group has been set up, which focuses on various aspects of cooperation with Ukraine. The group includes, among others, US Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, US Special Envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker and Charge d'Affaires of Ukraine William Taylor, said Sondland.

Zelensky met with Sondland and Volcker on July 26, they discussed the current situation in the Donbass, in particular issues related to the allocation of forces and facilities in Stanitsa Lugansk.

The exact date of the meeting between Zelensky and Trump is still unknown. Deputy Head of the Office of the President Vadim Prystaiko did not deny that the presidents will meet on September 1 in Poland, where the Ukrainian head of state will go on invitation of Polish President Andrzej Duda.

The Ambassador declared the details of the telephone talk of Zelensky and Trump (NewsOne - Google Translation)

NewsOne (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland told how the conversation between the Presidents of Ukraine and the USA, Vladimir Zelensky and Donald Trump, was held.

It is reported by Radio Liberty.

So, Sondland assured that the heads of state found a common language.

"President Zelensky talked for a long time on the phone with President Trump, they got to know each other. I spoke with both before and after this conversation. The conversation went very successfully, they immediately found a common language," the ambassador noted.

He also said that at the end of the conversation Trump invited Zelensky to Washington.

"President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House for a time that is suitable for both parties in the near future," Sondland summed up.

As reported earlier NEWSONE, the Ukrainian head of state Vladimir Zelensky held a telephone conversation with US President Donald Trump.

US ambassador to the EU about Trump's conversation with Zelensky: Found a common language (Liga - Google Translation)

President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House

Liga (July 27) - Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States have found a common language. An American diplomat said this after a meeting on July 26 in Kiev with President Vladimir Zelensky, Radio Liberty reports .

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked for a long time with President Trump, they got acquainted. I talked with both before and after this conversation. The conversation went very successfully, they immediately found a common language. President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House a time that is suitable for both parties in the near future," the diplomat said.

July 25 Zelensky had a telephone conversation with Trump. The parties agreed to discuss Ukrainian-American interaction during Zelensky's visit to the States. The American president expressed confidence that the new Ukrainian government will be able to complete the investigation of corruption cases that have restrained cooperation between Ukraine and the United States. He also reaffirmed the continued support of the US sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and its readiness to promote reform.

On July 24, the US Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in the affairs of Ukraine, William Taylor, said that it is still unknown when Zelensky will meet with Trump.

Presidents of the USA and Ukraine have found a common language, Zelensky received an invitation to the White House - US representative to the EU (Depo – Google Translation)

Depo (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the US have found a common language.

The American diplomat said this about Radio Liberty after a meeting on July 26 in Kyiv with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, Depo.ua reports referring to Ukrinform.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky had been talking for a long time (telephone - Ed.) With President Trump, they met. I talked to both before and after this conversation, the conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language, and at the end of the conversation President Trump invited Zelensky to White House in a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

Volodymyr Zelensky met with Gordon Sondland and Kurt Volcker, US Special Envoy for Ukraine, on July 26 in Kyiv.

Gordon Sondland informed Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

The Office of the Ukrainian President announced on the eve of the telephone conversation with Vladimir Zelensky and his American colleague Donald Trump.

According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American engagement" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Recall that on July 25, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky talked with US President Donald Trump.

Trump and Zelensky immediately found a common language - US Ambassador to the EU on the telephone conversation of presidents (Google Translation)

Espresso (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland said that the presidents of Ukraine and the US found a common language and would soon meet. Radio Liberty reports.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky had talked for a long time (telephone - ed.) With President Trump, they met. I communicated with both before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House within a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American engagement" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Gordon Sondland said that he discussed during a meeting with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky on July 26, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the meeting with Zelensky (European Pravda – Google Translation)

European Pravda (July 26) - The US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, after meeting with the President of Ukraine, said that the security of Europe depends on the security of Ukraine.

"I had the honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, the manipulation of Ukraine's energy and the detention of military personnel. Secure Ukraine = Safe Europe" Twitter.

Zelensky met on July 26 in Kiev with Sundland and US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker. One of the leading themes was the situation in the conflict zone in eastern Ukraine.

On the eve of Sondland and Volker met with the head of the supervisory board of the state concern "Ukroboronprom" Aivaras Abromavicius. They exchanged views on the prospects for reforming Ukraine and cooperation in the defense industry.

US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine (Telegraph – Google Translation)

US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine

Telegraf (July 26) - Gordon Sondland after meeting with Vladimir Zelensky said that the US and the EU should unite to support Ukraine.

The United States Ambassador to the European Union, Gordon Sundland, explained the importance of supporting Ukraine by the international community.

This is stated in the message of the US Embassy in Ukraine in the microblog Twitter.

Ambassador Sondland: I had the honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU have united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of

Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, the manipulation of Ukraine's energy sector and the detention of servicemen. Safe Ukraine - Safe Europe ", - it is said in the message.

As previously reported, Zelensky discussed with the US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland the current situation in the zone of operation of the combined forces, in particular the process of breeding forces and equipment near the Village of Lugansk.

Zelensky discussed with Volker and Sundland the current situation in the area of environmental protection (Censor – Google Translation)

Censor.net (July 26) - President Vladimir Zelensky met with US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sundland.

As informs Tsenzor.NET, reported the press service of the President.

The head of state thanked the American side for the consistent support of Ukraine and the efforts of the United States to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Donbas.

Zelensky discussed with representatives of the US administration the current situation in the zone of the Operation of the combined forces, in particular the process of breeding forces and assets around the Village of Lugansk.

During the meeting, it was noted that the occupation authorities had previously agreed upon mutual steps by the parties that would successfully complete the process of separation of forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the demarcation line.

The parties expressed the hope that the ceasefire imposed on July 21 would be comprehensive and sustainable, and any armed provocations by the occupied territories would be permanently stopped.

The US ambassador to the EU commented on a meeting with Zelensky (Zik – Google Translation)

Zik (July 26) - US Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland highly appreciated the meeting with President Vladimir Zelensky.

He wrote about it on Twitter.

"It was an honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of the Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, manipulation of the energy sector of Ukraine, and the arrest of servicemen. Safe Ukraine - Safe Europe, "wrote Sondland.

Let's add, today, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky met with the United States Special Representative for Ukraine, Kurt Volcker, and US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland.

Zelensky and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbass (Crimea realities – Google Translation)

Crimea Realities (July 26, 2019) - President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenski met with Gordon Sondland, Special Representative of the US Department of State for Ukraine, Kurt Volcker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union.

Zelensky discussed with the representatives of the US administration the current situation in the area of Operation of the Joint Forces, in particular the process of raising forces and facilities around Stanislav Luhansk.

During the meeting, the parties noted the need for mutual steps by the mutually agreed parties by the Russian-backed militants that would successfully complete the process of dividing forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the line of separation.

The US Embassy in Ukraine reported that Volker and Sondland discussed cooperation between Ukraine and the United States and expressed solid support from the United States for democracy, security and prosperity in Ukraine.

On June 26, Ukrainian troops departed from one of the positions in front of the KPVB in Stanislav Luhansk. In the group supported by Russia, "LNR" also announced the breeding of forces in Stanitsa Luhansk and added that this process could take up to three days. The

The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission stated that the militants announced the completion of the separation of forces near Stanitsa Lugansk.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
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CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage
Date:	Mon, 29 Jul 2019 12:51:31 +0000

Remind recipients it is awkwardly translated from Ukrainian.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 2:44:56 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Witmer, Kami A (USEU)
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 <USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
Subject: FW: Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage

Ambassador, here is a summary of your press in the Ukrainian media (including some translations) prepared by (b)(6)

(b)(6) and the Hub team also ran a scan through their Russian media search tool and found 700+ articles since Friday mentioning your trip to Ukraine. They range from news reporting on the fact of the trip, with a focus on Volker (the majority of the coverage), to coverage of your interviews, to articles speculating about what the “real purpose of the presence of the U.S. Ambassador to the EU on a trip to Ukraine.” The latter articles focus on commentary by pundits that says “Volker isn’t in President Trump’s circle of trust” and so “Sondland is curating the dialogue with Kyiv,” as well as alleging that you want to ensure “the Biden affair”—an investigation into former VP Biden’s ties through his son to an energy company in Ukraine—stays on track.

(b)(5)

Thanks

(b)(6)



Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage July 29, 2019

- **UATV Interview**
- **Ukrainian RFE/RL TV Interview**
- **US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the relationship between Zelensky and Trump (Ukrainian RFE/RL - Google translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU about Zelensky as a rock star, Russian tanker and their Kiev roots (Ukrainian RFE/RL – Google Translation)**
- **Trump, Ukraine's Zelenskiy Outline Pending Meeting During Phone Call (RFE/RL)**
- **U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland has stated that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States found a common language (Ukrinform)**
- **Zelensky, U.S. administration reps hope ceasefire regime introduced in Donbas on July 21 to be comprehensive, permanent (Interfax)**
- **Ukrainian president, US envoys meet to discuss Donbass (BBC)**
- **Trump invited Zelensky to the White House (Obovsem – Google Translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU talking about Trump and Zelensky: They immediately found a common language (Gordon – Google Translation)**
- **The Ambassador declared the details of the telephone talk of Zelensky and Trump (NewsOne - Google Translation)**
- **US ambassador to the EU about Trump's conversation with Zelensky: Found a common language (Liga - Google Translation)**
- **Presidents of the USA and Ukraine have found a common language, Zelensky received an invitation to the White House - US representative to the EU (Depo – Google Translation)**
- **Trump and Zelensky immediately found a common language - US Ambassador to the EU on the telephone conversation of presidents (Google Translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the meeting with Zelensky (European Pravda – Google Translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine (Telegraph – Google Translation)**
- **Zelensky discussed with Volker and Sundland the current situation in the area of environmental protection (Censor – Google Translation)**
- **The US ambassador to the EU commented on a meeting with Zelensky (Zik – Google Translation)**
- **Zelensky and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbass (Crimea realities – Google Translation)**

UATV Interview

UATV full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW8pad9RDCQ>

Ukrainian RFE/RL TV Interview

Ukrainian RFE/RL video (dubbed into Ukrainian) on how Zelenskyy handled the ship incident: <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/30077643.html>

US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the relationship between Zelensky and Trump (Ukrainian RFE/RL - Google translation)

Ukrainian RFE/RL (July 26, 2019) - "The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," - says Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland

"The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," - says Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland

US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States have found a common language. The American diplomat said this about Radio Liberty after meeting on July 26 in Kyiv with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked with President Trump for a long time (telephone - Ed.), They met. I communicated with both before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House within a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

Volodymyr Zelensky met with Gordon Sondland and Kurt Volcker, US Special Envoy for Ukraine , on July 26 in Kyiv.

Gordon Sondland informed Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

The Office of the Ukrainian President announced on the eve of the telephone conversation of Vladimir Zelensky and his American colleague Donald Trump.

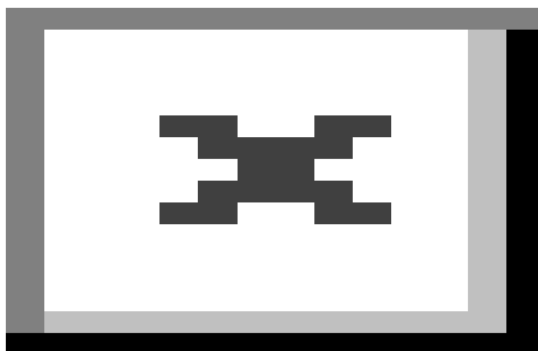
According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "discuss substantively the practical issues of Ukrainian-American cooperation" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Earlier, then Ukrainian Ambassador to the US Valery Chaly announced two possible dates for Zelensky's visit to the United States: either in August (when the President of Ukraine will visit only Washington) or September (when this visit will be combined with the participation in the debate at the UN General Assembly session).

On June 25, US Charge d'Affaires in Ukraine William Taylor said that the date of the visit of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky to the United States for a meeting with the President of this country Donald Trump has not yet been determined , but the United States is very interested in determining the date and the agenda as soon as possible.

US Ambassador to the EU about Zelensky as a rock star, Russian tanker and their Kiev roots (Ukrainian RFE/RL – Google Translation)



US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland. Kyiv, July 26, 2019

Oksana Dumskaya

Ukrainian RFE/RL (July 27, 2019) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, arrived in Kyiv to meet with Ukrainian politicians, including President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky. He spoke about his expectations from the Ukrainian authorities, how the United States helps the new team to find a common language with Ukraine's neighbors in the West and about the roots of his family in Kyiv in an interview with Radio Liberty.

- On July 26, you met with President Zelensky. Have you discussed at this meeting the recent conversation between Presidents Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelensky and the possible future visit of the President of Ukraine to the United States?

The telephone conversation was very good. They quickly found a common language

- Yes, President Zelensky and President Trump had a fairly long conversation. They met. I spoke with Donald Trump, and with Volodymyr Zelensky before and after a telephone conversation. The telephone conversation was very good. They quickly found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Volodymyr Zelensky to meet at the White House in a convenient time for both parties in the near future.

- What did you discuss with President Zelensky during the meeting?

- We have a whole list of issues we are working on. There is a team that was assembled by President Trump: Ambassador Taylor, who is our main contact with the Ukrainian authorities, Special Representative Volker. There is also a group that we call "three amigos", which includes me, Spokeswoman Volcker and Energy Minister Rick Perry. And our job is to make sure that American power is focused on Ukraine and is ready to respond quickly to Ukrainian issues.

- What particular questions did you raise during the meeting?

- They talked about energy, security, war, the team that President Zelensky collects, the rule of law, Naftogaz, about everything in the world.

- What is your position regarding the SBU detained a Russian tanker that was involved in the incident in the Kerch Strait in November? How close to the country are they approaching a serious escalation this time?

- President Zelensky perfectly coped with the situation. He immediately released the sailors, because they were not involved in the seizure that the Russians carried out in November. He had the right to detain the tanker as soon as he left the international waters that he actually did. Volodymyr Zelensky demonstrates to the Russians that he can not be offended. He shows that he is ready to answer. We believe that his actions were very and very responsible.

- How do you see the situation with Russia's militarization of the annexed Crimea, the buildup of Russia's military power in the Black Sea? How will Washington and NATO react to it?

- We believe that Russians should return to Russia and leave Ukraine alone. Ukraine is rooted in Western values, in the Western rule of law. Russians belong to Russia, and Ukrainians to Ukraine. Both the United States and all our friends in Europe share this opinion.

- A difficult issue for Ukraine concerns the "North Stream-2". You are an adversary in the erection of this lawn. How would you comment on Russia and Germany's willingness to implement this project? Will American sanctions be imposed against companies involved in the project? When?

- We are disappointed with the behavior of our friends in Germany, who support the completion of the construction of the North Stream 2. We think that it is not in the interests of Europe to be completely energy dependent on Russia. There are many other sources of energy other than, in particular, the United States. You can also receive energy from the Middle East or from the countries of the South. We want Europe to be free to make political decisions without interference from Russians who have already shut off gas at the worst moment.

- What should Ukraine do in this situation?

- I think Ukraine does what it should do. Led by President Zelenskiy Ukraine works fast and persistently, looking for other energy sources. And he also seeks to never give Russia the opportunity to influence its political future.

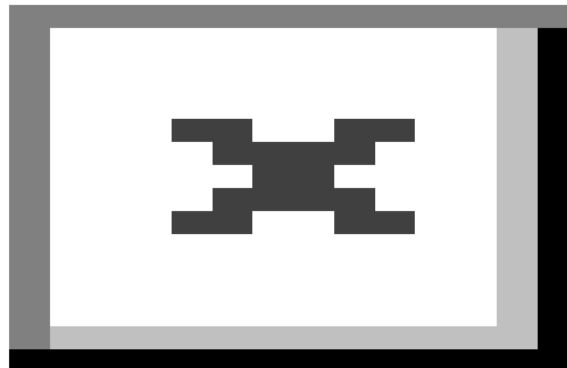
- How does the US see Ukraine's relations, sometimes very difficult, with its western neighbors, in particular, Poland and Hungary? Can Washington help establish this relationship, since such conflicts distract Kiev against Russia's aggression in the east?

- We made a small step forward in this direction a few weeks ago, on the day of President Zelensky's inauguration. I invited him to Brussels and arranged for him a small party, attended by the leaders of Poland, Romania and leaders of several other countries, as well as representatives of the White House. We wanted to give him the opportunity to establish contacts during informal communication. Today (July 26 - ed.), We talked with President Zelensky and realized that relations are beginning to be settled.

- How can you assess the visit of President Zelensky to Brussels, which took place a few weeks ago?

- I can evaluate only those events in which I participated. President Zelensky proved to be beautiful, as for one of the first international meetings. He was like a rock star.

- Fifth President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko met with US Special Representative Kurt Volker on the eve.



Fifth President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko (right) during a conversation with US Special Representative Kurt Volker (left). Kiev, July 25, 2019

He spoke with him about Ukraine's MAP (NATO Membership Action Plan - Ed.), And also called on the United States to raise this issue during the NATO summit in December. How quickly Ukraine can get the MAP and what is the US position on this issue?

- This is not a decision of the United States. This is NATO's decision. NATO has specific procedures for potential members. I believe that Ukraine will be a good candidate, but it must follow all NATO protocols and procedures.

- Ukraine has elected a new parliament, which will form a government. Two months ago, Ukraine chose a new president, and the leaders in the main institutions of the European Union changed. Will this affect the relations between Ukraine and the European Union?

One of the main issues will be - how to communicate very clearly and very clearly to our Russian friends that Ukraine remains pro-Western

- I believe that relations between Ukraine and the European Union are already very good. The United States and the EU are cooperating very closely to support Ukraine in many of the issues that I have described to you. We will meet with the new head of the European Commission, Ursula von der Lie, on Monday. We already had a telephone conversation and one of the main questions will be - how to communicate very clearly and very clearly to our friends from Russia that Ukraine remains pro-Western.

- President Zelensky proposed to expand the "Norman format" and involve the United States and Great Britain. How is it possible and if this will help move from the implementation of the Minsk Agreements?

- I do not want to assume this before meeting in the Norman format. I do not want to put anyone in an awkward position, including President Zelensky. I want them to solve problems during meetings. Therefore, I will not make any assumptions.

- The United States supports Ukraine in many spheres. What are the next steps for bilateral cooperation?

We will increase our support when Ukraine starts reform

- We have supported and will support Ukraine. We will increase our support when Ukraine starts implementing reforms as promised. Volodymyr Zelensky was elected president with a great mandate, because more than 70% of Ukrainian voters voted for him. Representatives of the United States government, such as Minister of Energy Perry, I, Special Representative Volker, not to mention the US ambassador to Ukraine, we have a whole team in Washington, the State Department and the White House, which focused on various Ukrainian issues - military , energy, economic, political, all.

- What other reforms should be implemented in Ukraine?

- There is a long list of reforms. But the good news is that in many cases they are simple. They need political will. I believe that President Zelensky is the person who not only has political will, but will also embody reforms. Execution is key. Talking is good, but doing is better.

- Mr. Ambassador, tell your parents who, it turns out, come from Kiev?

I am proud that my parents were born here in Kiev. I would like to know which street, and in what house

- I am proud that my parents were born here in Kyiv. I would like to know on what street and in what building. I could stay here. But I can not. They obviously spoke in Ukrainian, Russian, and German and Spanish. Because they lived in Uruguay. Unfortunately, my parents died. But there were some family records. So, during one of my upcoming visits to Kyiv, I plan to do a little research and maybe find where they were born.

Trump, Ukraine's Zelenskiy Outline Pending Meeting During Phone Call (RFE/RL)

Radio Free Europe (July 26, 2019) - WASHINGTON -- U.S. President Donald Trump congratulated Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskiy on his parliamentary victory as the leaders discussed the agenda of their first tet-a-tet.

Trump and Zelenskiy spoke by phone on July 25 to discuss "ways to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Ukraine, including energy and economic cooperation," the White House said in a statement.

No date has yet set for their first meeting, which will take place in Washington most likely before the end of the summer.

Zelenskiy will come to the White House with a strong mandate for change after his Servant of the People party swept a majority of the seats in parliament during the July 21 election, the first party in the history of independent Ukraine to control the Rada.

Trump congratulated Zelenskiy for his party's success, the White House said.

Zelenskiy's office said in a statement that Trump voiced confidence the new Ukrainian government could improve the nation's image and complete the investigation of corruption cases that have "held back U.S.-Ukrainian cooperation."

The U.S. has repeatedly called on Ukraine to tackle corruption and weaken the influence of business tycoons that control power behind the scenes.

Zelenskiy, a former comic who played a fictitious history teacher on TV who is accidentally elected president, won a landslide presidential election in April amid popular frustration over endemic corruption and low living standards.

His party repeated the feat on July 21, garnering 254 seats, more than 60 percent of those in the legislature, as citizens gave him a green light to reform the political system.

The Ukrainian president's office said that Trump expressed U.S. support for the country's large-scale reform program as well as its territorial integrity.

Zelenskiy thanked Trump for keeping and strengthening sanctions against Russia, which annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and backed separatists in eastern Ukraine, kicking off a five-year war that has killed more than 13,000 people.

Ukraine and the United States have held high-level talks over the past few weeks in preparation for the meeting. Ivan Bakanov, first deputy chief of Ukraine's Security Service, presidential assistant Andriy Yermak, and potential prime minister Oleksandr Danylyuk have traveled to Washington for meetings.

Kurt Volker, the U.S. special peace envoy to Ukraine, traveled to Kyiv this week with U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland.

During his trip to Washington, Zelenskiy will also meet with members of Congress, where Ukraine has received greater support than it has from the White House during the Trump presidency.

The Ukrainian Congressional Caucus has asked House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to invite Zelenskiy to address both chambers during his visit to Washington. Pelosi has yet to answer.

U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland has stated that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States found a common language (Ukrinform)

Ukrinform (July 26) - "Yesterday, President Zelensky had quite a long [telephone] conversation with President Trump, they got acquainted. I spoke with both of them before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful. They found a common language immediately. President Trump invited Zelensky to visit the White House in the timeline suitable for both parties in the near future," the American diplomat told Radio Liberty after a meeting with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky on July 26 in Kyiv.

On July 26, President Zelensky met in Kyiv with Gordon Sondland and U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker.

Gordon Sondland told Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, energy security issues, the situation in the NJSC Naftogaz of Ukraine, the rule of law.

A team with the participation of U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the U.S. Department of State currently works at the initiative of US President Donald Trump focusing on various aspects of relations with Ukraine, Sondland added.

Yesterday, the Presidential Office reported that President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky and US President Donald Trump held a telephone conversation.

According to the report, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss the practical issues of US-Ukraine cooperation" during Zelensky's visit to the United States.

Zelensky, U.S. administration reps hope ceasefire regime introduced in Donbas on July 21 to be comprehensive, permanent (Interfax)

KYIV. July 26 (Interfax-Ukraine) - President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky has met with U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker and U.S. Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland to discuss the current situation in the area of the Joint Forces Operation (JFO), in particular, the process of disengagement of forces and equipment near Stanytsia Luhanska.

"The parties voiced a hope that the ceasefire regime, which was agreed on July 21, would be comprehensive and permanent and that any armed provocations on the part of the occupied territories would be permanently discontinued," the presidential press service said on Friday.

During the meeting, the necessity of taking steps by the occupation authorities, which will allow successfully complete the process of disengagement of forces and improvement of the humanitarian situation on the contact line, was noted.

Zelensky thanked the U.S. side for its consistent support of Ukraine and the U.S. efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement to conflict in Donbas.

Ukrainian president, US envoys meet to discuss Donbass (BBC)

BBC Monitoring Ukraine & Baltics (July 26) - Today President Volodymyr Zelensky has discussed the pull-back of troops near Stanytsya Luhanska and the situation at the frontline in general with American guests - US special representative for Ukraine Kurt Volker and US Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

The Ukrainian president thanked the USA for its consistent support and assistance in bringing peace to Donbass. Both sides stressed that the occupying authorities must adhere to agreements that will make it possible to complete the pull-back of troops and improve the humanitarian situation at the line of contact.

Trump invited Zelensky to the White House (Obovsem – Google Translation)

Obovsem (July 26) - Presidents Vladimir Zelensky and the United States Donald Trump found a common language during a telephone conversation. According to the US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, according to Radio Liberty.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky spoke with the President for a long time. They talked to us before and after this conversation, the conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," said Sundland.

According to him, one of the consequences of this conversation was the invitation of the President of Ukraine for a visit to Washington. "President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House on a date suitable for both parties in the near future," the diplomat said.

The exact date of Zelensky's visit to the United States is currently unknown, but this may occur in August or September. In the first case, the Ukrainian will remain only in the US capital, in the second he can also be combined with participation in debates at the UN General Assembly in New York.

The President of the United States congratulated Ukraine on successful parliamentary elections and expressed his conviction that the new government would quickly stop investigating the problems of corruption that had stopped interaction between the countries. Then, when the President of Ukraine thanked his colleague for maintaining the sanctions against Russia.

US Ambassador to the EU talking about Trump and Zelensky: They immediately found a common language (Gordon – Google Translation)

Gordon (July 27) - The first telephone conversation between US President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky was quite lengthy, said US Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

US Permanent Representative to the EU, Gordon Sondland, in a commentary to Radio Liberty on July 26, said that the first telephone conversation between President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky and US President Donald Trump was successful.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked with President Trump for a long time, they met." I talked to both before and after the conversation. "The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language, and President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House at the end of the term, which suitable for both parties in the near future, "said Sondland.

He also said that, at the initiative of Trump in the United States, a working group has been set up, which focuses on various aspects of cooperation with Ukraine. The group includes, among others, US Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, US Special Envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker and Charge d'Affaires of Ukraine William Taylor, said Sondland.

Zelensky met with Sondland and Volcker on July 26, they discussed the current situation in the Donbass, in particular issues related to the allocation of forces and facilities in Stanitsa Lugansk.

The exact date of the meeting between Zelensky and Trump is still unknown. Deputy Head of the Office of the President Vadim Prystaiko did not deny that the presidents will meet on September 1 in Poland, where the Ukrainian head of state will go on invitation of Polish President Andrzej Duda.

The Ambassador declared the details of the telephone talk of Zelensky and Trump (NewsOne - Google Translation)

NewsOne (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland told how the conversation between the Presidents of Ukraine and the USA, Vladimir Zelensky and Donald Trump, was held.

It is reported by Radio Liberty.

So, Sondland assured that the heads of state found a common language.

"President Zelensky talked for a long time on the phone with President Trump, they got to know each other. I spoke with both before and after this conversation. The conversation went very successfully, they immediately found a common language," the ambassador noted.

He also said that at the end of the conversation Trump invited Zelensky to Washington.

"President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House for a time that is suitable for both parties in the near future," Sondland summed up.

As reported earlier NEWSONE, the Ukrainian head of state Vladimir Zelensky held a telephone conversation with US President Donald Trump.

US ambassador to the EU about Trump's conversation with Zelensky: Found a common language (Liga - Google Translation)

President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House

Liga (July 27) - Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States have found a common language. An American diplomat said this after a meeting on July 26 in Kiev with President Vladimir Zelensky, Radio Liberty reports .

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked for a long time with President Trump, they got acquainted. I talked with both before and after this conversation. The conversation went very successfully, they immediately found a common language. President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House a time that is suitable for both parties in the near future," the diplomat said.

July 25 Zelensky had a telephone conversation with Trump. The parties agreed to discuss Ukrainian-American interaction during Zelensky's visit to the States. The American president expressed confidence that the new Ukrainian government will be able to complete the investigation of corruption cases that have restrained cooperation between Ukraine and the United States. He also reaffirmed the continued support of the US sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and its readiness to promote reform.

On July 24, the US Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in the affairs of Ukraine, William Taylor, said that it is still unknown when Zelensky will meet with Trump.

Presidents of the USA and Ukraine have found a common language, Zelensky received an invitation to the White House - US representative to the EU (Depo – Google Translation)

Depo (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the US have found a common language.

The American diplomat said this about Radio Liberty after a meeting on July 26 in Kyiv with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, Depo.ua reports referring to Ukrinform.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky had been talking for a long time (telephone - Ed.) With President Trump, they met. I talked to both before and after this conversation, the conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language, and at the end of the conversation President Trump invited Zelensky to White House in a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

Volodymyr Zelensky met with Gordon Sondland and Kurt Volcker, US Special Envoy for Ukraine, on July 26 in Kyiv.

Gordon Sondland informed Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

The Office of the Ukrainian President announced on the eve of the telephone conversation with Vladimir Zelensky and his American colleague Donald Trump.

According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American engagement" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Recall that on July 25, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky talked with US President Donald Trump.

Trump and Zelensky immediately found a common language - US Ambassador to the EU on the telephone conversation of presidents (Google Translation)

Espresso (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland said that the presidents of Ukraine and the US found a common language and would soon meet. Radio Liberty reports.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky had talked for a long time (telephone - ed.) With President Trump, they met. I communicated with both before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House within a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American engagement" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Gordon Sondland said that he discussed during a meeting with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky on July 26, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the meeting with Zelensky (European Pravda – Google Translation)

European Pravda (July 26) - The US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, after meeting with the President of Ukraine, said that the security of Europe depends on the security of Ukraine.

"I had the honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, the manipulation of Ukraine's energy and the detention of military personnel. Secure Ukraine = Safe Europe" Twitter.

Zelensky met on July 26 in Kiev with Sundland and US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker. One of the leading themes was the situation in the conflict zone in eastern Ukraine.

On the eve of Sondland and Volker met with the head of the supervisory board of the state concern "Ukroboronprom" Aivaras Abromavicius. They exchanged views on the prospects for reforming Ukraine and cooperation in the defense industry.

US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine (Telegraph – Google Translation)

US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine

Telegraf (July 26) - Gordon Sondland after meeting with Vladimir Zelensky said that the US and the EU should unite to support Ukraine.

The United States Ambassador to the European Union, Gordon Sundland, explained the importance of supporting Ukraine by the international community.

This is stated in the message of the US Embassy in Ukraine in the microblog Twitter.

Ambassador Sondland: I had the honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU have united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of

Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, the manipulation of Ukraine's energy sector and the detention of servicemen. Safe Ukraine - Safe Europe ", - it is said in the message.

As previously reported, Zelensky discussed with the US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland the current situation in the zone of operation of the combined forces, in particular the process of breeding forces and equipment near the Village of Lugansk.

Zelensky discussed with Volker and Sundland the current situation in the area of environmental protection (Censor – Google Translation)

Censor.net (July 26) - President Vladimir Zelensky met with US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sundland.

As informs Tsensor.NET, reported the press service of the President.

The head of state thanked the American side for the consistent support of Ukraine and the efforts of the United States to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Donbas.

Zelensky discussed with representatives of the US administration the current situation in the zone of the Operation of the combined forces, in particular the process of breeding forces and assets around the Village of Lugansk.

During the meeting, it was noted that the occupation authorities had previously agreed upon mutual steps by the parties that would successfully complete the process of separation of forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the demarcation line.

The parties expressed the hope that the ceasefire imposed on July 21 would be comprehensive and sustainable, and any armed provocations by the occupied territories would be permanently stopped.

The US ambassador to the EU commented on a meeting with Zelensky (Zik – Google Translation)

Zik (July 26) - US Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland highly appreciated the meeting with President Vladimir Zelensky.

He wrote about it on Twitter.

"It was an honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of the Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, manipulation of the energy sector of Ukraine, and the arrest of servicemen. Safe Ukraine - Safe Europe, "wrote Sondland.

Let's add, today, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky met with the United States Special Representative for Ukraine, Kurt Volcker, and US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland.

Zelensky and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbass (Crimea realities – Google Translation)

Crimea Realities (July 26, 2019) - President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenski met with Gordon Sondland, Special Representative of the US Department of State for Ukraine, Kurt Volcker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union.

Zelensky discussed with the representatives of the US administration the current situation in the area of Operation of the Joint Forces, in particular the process of raising forces and facilities around Stanislav Luhansk.

During the meeting, the parties noted the need for mutual steps by the mutually agreed parties by the Russian-backed militants that would successfully complete the process of dividing forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the line of separation.

The US Embassy in Ukraine reported that Volker and Sondland discussed cooperation between Ukraine and the United States and expressed solid support from the United States for democracy, security and prosperity in Ukraine.

On June 26, Ukrainian troops departed from one of the positions in front of the KPVB in Stanislav Luhansk. In the group supported by Russia, "LNR" also announced the breeding of forces in Stanitsa Luhansk and added that this process could take up to three days. The

The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission stated that the militants announced the completion of the separation of forces near Stanitsa Lugansk.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(5)
Recipient:	(b)(5) (USEU) (b)(5) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(5) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(5) (USEU) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL <USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL@state.gov>; (b)(5) (Brussels) (b)(5)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Pre ss Coverage
Date:	Mon, 29 Jul 2019 14:05:53 +0000

Where is the conspiracy article?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2019 2:44:56 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU)
 <(b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL
 <USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
Subject: FW: Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage

Ambassador, here is a summary of your press in the Ukrainian media (including some translations)
 prepared by (b)(6)

(b)(6) and the Hub team also ran a scan through their Russian media search tool and found 700+ articles since Friday mentioning your trip to Ukraine. They range from news reporting on the fact of the trip, with a focus on Volker (the majority of the coverage), to coverage of your interviews, to articles speculating about what the “real purpose of the presence of the U.S. Ambassador to the EU on a trip to Ukraine.” The latter articles focus on commentary by pundits that says “Volker isn’t in President Trump’s circle of trust” and so “Sondland is curating the dialogue with Kyiv,” as well as alleging that you want to ensure “the Biden affair”—an investigation into former VP Biden’s ties through his son to an energy company in Ukraine—stays on track.

(b)(5)

Thanks

(b)(6)



Ambassador Sondland Visit to Kyiv – Press Coverage July 29, 2019

- **UATV Interview**
- **Ukrainian RFE/RL TV Interview**
- **US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the relationship between Zelensky and Trump (Ukrainian RFE/RL - Google translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU about Zelensky as a rock star, Russian tanker and their Kiev roots (Ukrainian RFE/RL – Google Translation)**
- **Trump, Ukraine's Zelenskiy Outline Pending Meeting During Phone Call (RFE/RL)**
- **U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland has stated that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States found a common language (Ukrinform)**
- **Zelensky, U.S. administration reps hope ceasefire regime introduced in Donbas on July 21 to be comprehensive, permanent (Interfax)**
- **Ukrainian president, US envoys meet to discuss Donbass (BBC)**
- **Trump invited Zelensky to the White House (Obovsem – Google Translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU talking about Trump and Zelensky: They immediately found a common language (Gordon – Google Translation)**
- **The Ambassador declared the details of the telephone talk of Zelensky and Trump (NewsOne - Google Translation)**
- **US ambassador to the EU about Trump's conversation with Zelensky: Found a common language (Liga - Google Translation)**
- **Presidents of the USA and Ukraine have found a common language, Zelensky received an invitation to the White House - US representative to the EU (Depo – Google Translation)**
- **Trump and Zelensky immediately found a common language - US Ambassador to the EU on the telephone conversation of presidents (Google Translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the meeting with Zelensky (European Pravda – Google Translation)**
- **US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine (Telegraph – Google Translation)**
- **Zelensky discussed with Volker and Sundland the current situation in the area of environmental protection (Censor – Google Translation)**
- **The US ambassador to the EU commented on a meeting with Zelensky (Zik – Google Translation)**
- **Zelensky and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbass (Crimea realities – Google Translation)**

UATV Interview

UATV full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zW8pad9RDCQ>

Ukrainian RFE/RL TV Interview

Ukrainian RFE/RL video (dubbed into Ukrainian) on how Zelenskyy handled the ship incident: <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/30077643.html>

US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the relationship between Zelensky and Trump (Ukrainian RFE/RL - Google translation)

Ukrainian RFE/RL (July 26, 2019) - "The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," - says Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland

"The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," - says Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland

US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States have found a common language. The American diplomat said this about Radio Liberty after meeting on July 26 in Kyiv with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked with President Trump for a long time (telephone - Ed.), They met. I communicated with both before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House within a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

Volodymyr Zelensky met with Gordon Sondland and Kurt Volcker, US Special Envoy for Ukraine , on July 26 in Kyiv.

Gordon Sondland informed Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

The Office of the Ukrainian President announced on the eve of the telephone conversation of Vladimir Zelensky and his American colleague Donald Trump.

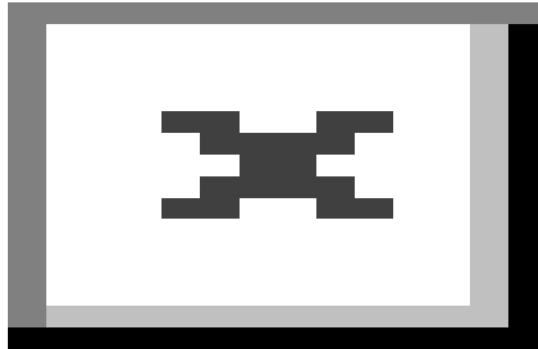
According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "discuss substantively the practical issues of Ukrainian-American cooperation" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Earlier, then Ukrainian Ambassador to the US Valery Chaly announced two possible dates for Zelensky's visit to the United States: either in August (when the President of Ukraine will visit only Washington) or September (when this visit will be combined with the participation in the debate at the UN General Assembly session).

On June 25, US Charge d'Affaires in Ukraine William Taylor said that the date of the visit of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky to the United States for a meeting with the President of this country Donald Trump has not yet been determined , but the United States is very interested in determining the date and the agenda as soon as possible.

US Ambassador to the EU about Zelensky as a rock star, Russian tanker and their Kiev roots (Ukrainian RFE/RL – Google Translation)



US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland. Kyiv, July 26, 2019

Oksana Dumskaya

Ukrainian RFE/RL (July 27, 2019) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, arrived in Kyiv to meet with Ukrainian politicians, including President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky. He spoke about his expectations from the Ukrainian authorities, how the United States helps the new team to find a common language with Ukraine's neighbors in the West and about the roots of his family in Kyiv in an interview with Radio Liberty.

- On July 26, you met with President Zelensky. Have you discussed at this meeting the recent conversation between Presidents Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelensky and the possible future visit of the President of Ukraine to the United States?

The telephone conversation was very good. They quickly found a common language

- Yes, President Zelensky and President Trump had a fairly long conversation. They met. I spoke with Donald Trump, and with Volodymyr Zelensky before and after a telephone conversation. The telephone conversation was very good. They quickly found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Volodymyr Zelensky to meet at the White House in a convenient time for both parties in the near future.

- What did you discuss with President Zelensky during the meeting?

- We have a whole list of issues we are working on. There is a team that was assembled by President Trump: Ambassador Taylor, who is our main contact with the Ukrainian authorities, Special Representative Volker. There is also a group that we call "three amigos", which includes me, Spokeswoman Volcker and Energy Minister Rick Perry. And our job is to

make sure that American power is focused on Ukraine and is ready to respond quickly to Ukrainian issues.

- What particular questions did you raise during the meeting?

- They talked about energy, security, war, the team that President Zelensky collects, the rule of law, Naftogaz, about everything in the world.

- What is your position regarding the SBU detained a Russian tanker that was involved in the incident in the Kerch Strait in November? How close to the country are they approaching a serious escalation this time?

- President Zelensky perfectly coped with the situation. He immediately released the sailors, because they were not involved in the seizure that the Russians carried out in November. He had the right to detain the tanker as soon as he left the international waters that he actually did. Volodymyr Zelensky demonstrates to the Russians that he can not be offended. He shows that he is ready to answer. We believe that his actions were very and very responsible.

- How do you see the situation with Russia's militarization of the annexed Crimea, the buildup of Russia's military power in the Black Sea? How will Washington and NATO react to it?

- We believe that Russians should return to Russia and leave Ukraine alone. Ukraine is rooted in Western values, in the Western rule of law. Russians belong to Russia, and Ukrainians to Ukraine. Both the United States and all our friends in Europe share this opinion.

- A difficult issue for Ukraine concerns the "North Stream-2". You are an adversary in the erection of this lawn. How would you comment on Russia and Germany's willingness to implement this project? Will American sanctions be imposed against companies involved in the project? When?

- We are disappointed with the behavior of our friends in Germany, who support the completion of the construction of the North Stream 2. We think that it is not in the interests of Europe to be completely energy dependent on Russia. There are many other sources of energy other than, in particular, the United States. You can also receive energy from the Middle East or from the countries of the South. We want Europe to be free to make political decisions without interference from Russians who have already shut off gas at the worst moment.

- What should Ukraine do in this situation?

- I think Ukraine does what it should do. Led by President Zelenskiy Ukraine works fast and persistently, looking for other energy sources. And he also seeks to never give Russia the opportunity to influence its political future.

- How does the US see Ukraine's relations, sometimes very difficult, with its western neighbors, in particular, Poland and Hungary? Can Washington help establish this relationship, since such conflicts distract Kiev against Russia's aggression in the east?

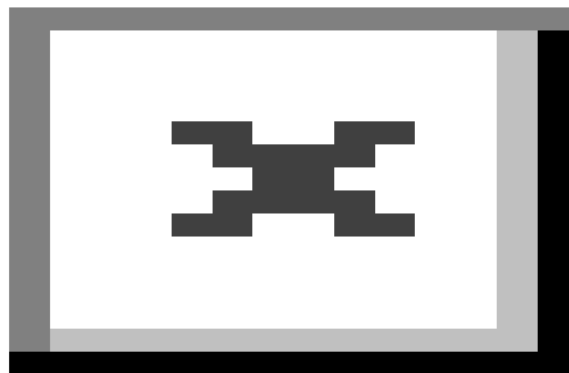
- We made a small step forward in this direction a few weeks ago, on the day of President Zelensky's inauguration. I invited him to Brussels and arranged for him a small party,

attended by the leaders of Poland, Romania and leaders of several other countries, as well as representatives of the White House. We wanted to give him the opportunity to establish contacts during informal communication. Today (July 26 - ed.), We talked with President Zelensky and realized that relations are beginning to be settled.

- How can you assess the visit of President Zelensky to Brussels, which took place a few weeks ago?

- I can evaluate only those events in which I participated. President Zelensky proved to be beautiful, as for one of the first international meetings. He was like a rock star.

- Fifth President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko met with US Special Representative Kurt Volker on the eve.



Fifth President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko (right) during a conversation with US Special Representative Kurt Volker (left). Kiev, July 25, 2019

He spoke with him about Ukraine's MAP (NATO Membership Action Plan - Ed.), And also called on the United States to raise this issue during the NATO summit in December. How quickly Ukraine can get the MAP and what is the US position on this issue?

- This is not a decision of the United States. This is NATO's decision. NATO has specific procedures for potential members. I believe that Ukraine will be a good candidate, but it must follow all NATO protocols and procedures.

- Ukraine has elected a new parliament, which will form a government. Two months ago, Ukraine chose a new president, and the leaders in the main institutions of the European Union changed. Will this affect the relations between Ukraine and the European Union?

One of the main issues will be - how to communicate very clearly and very clearly to our Russian friends that Ukraine remains pro-Western

- I believe that relations between Ukraine and the European Union are already very good. The United States and the EU are cooperating very closely to support Ukraine in many of the issues that I have described to you. We will meet with the new head of the European Commission, Ursula von der Lie, on Monday. We already had a telephone conversation and one of the main questions will be - how to communicate very clearly and very clearly to our friends from Russia that Ukraine remains pro-Western.

- President Zelensky proposed to expand the "Norman format" and involve the United States and Great Britain. How is it possible and if this will help move from the implementation of the Minsk Agreements?

- I do not want to assume this before meeting in the Norman format. I do not want to put anyone in an awkward position, including President Zelensky. I want them to solve problems during meetings. Therefore, I will not make any assumptions.

- The United States supports Ukraine in many spheres. What are the next steps for bilateral cooperation?

We will increase our support when Ukraine starts reform

- We have supported and will support Ukraine. We will increase our support when Ukraine starts implementing reforms as promised. Volodymyr Zelensky was elected president with a great mandate, because more than 70% of Ukrainian voters voted for him. Representatives of the United States government, such as Minister of Energy Perry, I, Special Representative Volker, not to mention the US ambassador to Ukraine, we have a whole team in Washington, the State Department and the White House, which focused on various Ukrainian issues - military , energy, economic, political, all.

- What other reforms should be implemented in Ukraine?

- There is a long list of reforms. But the good news is that in many cases they are simple. They need political will. I believe that President Zelensky is the person who not only has political will, but will also embody reforms. Execution is key. Talking is good, but doing is better.

- Mr. Ambassador, tell your parents who, it turns out, come from Kiev?

I am proud that my parents were born here in Kiev. I would like to know which street, and in what house

- I am proud that my parents were born here in Kyiv. I would like to know on what street and in what building. I could stay here. But I can not. They obviously spoke in Ukrainian, Russian, and German and Spanish. Because they lived in Uruguay. Unfortunately, my parents died. But there were some family records. So, during one of my upcoming visits to Kyiv, I plan to do a little research and maybe find where they were born.

Trump, Ukraine's Zelenskiy Outline Pending Meeting During Phone Call (RFE/RL)

Radio Free Europe (July 26, 2019) - WASHINGTON -- U.S. President Donald Trump congratulated Ukrainian counterparty Volodymyr Zelenskiy on his parliamentary victory as the leaders discussed the agenda of their first tet-a-tet.

Trump and Zelenskiy spoke by phone on July 25 to discuss "ways to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Ukraine, including energy and economic cooperation," the White House said in a statement.

No date has yet set for their first meeting, which will take place in Washington most likely before the end of the summer.

Zelenskiy will come to the White House with a strong mandate for change after his Servant of the People party swept a majority of the seats in parliament during the July 21 election, the first party in the history of independent Ukraine to control the Rada.

Trump congratulated Zelenskiy for his party's success, the White House said.

Zelenskiy's office said in a statement that Trump voiced confidence the new Ukrainian government could improve the nation's image and complete the investigation of corruption cases that have "held back U.S.-Ukrainian cooperation."

The U.S. has repeatedly called on Ukraine to tackle corruption and weaken the influence of business tycoons that control power behind the scenes.

Zelenskiy, a former comic who played a fictitious history teacher on TV who is accidentally elected president, won a landslide presidential election in April amid popular frustration over endemic corruption and low living standards.

His party repeated the feat on July 21, garnering 254 seats, more than 60 percent of those in the legislature, as citizens gave him a green light to reform the political system.

The Ukrainian president's office said that Trump expressed U.S. support for the country's large-scale reform program as well as its territorial integrity.

Zelenskiy thanked Trump for keeping and strengthening sanctions against Russia, which annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula and backed separatists in eastern Ukraine, kicking off a five-year war that has killed more than 13,000 people.

Ukraine and the United States have held high-level talks over the past few weeks in preparation for the meeting. Ivan Bakanov, first deputy chief of Ukraine's Security Service, presidential assistant Andriy Yermak, and potential prime minister Oleksandr Danylyuk have traveled to Washington for meetings.

Kurt Volker, the U.S. special peace envoy to Ukraine, traveled to Kyiv this week with U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland.

During his trip to Washington, Zelenskiy will also meet with members of Congress, where Ukraine has received greater support than it has from the White House during the Trump presidency.

The Ukrainian Congressional Caucus has asked House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to invite Zelenskiy to address both chambers during his visit to Washington. Pelosi has yet to answer.

U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland has stated that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States found a common language (Ukrinform)

Ukrinform (July 26) - "Yesterday, President Zelensky had quite a long [telephone] conversation with President Trump, they got acquainted. I spoke with both of them before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful. They found a common language immediately. President Trump invited Zelensky to visit the White House in the timeline suitable for both parties in the near future," the American diplomat told Radio Liberty after a meeting with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky on July 26 in Kyiv.

On July 26, President Zelensky met in Kyiv with Gordon Sondland and U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker.

Gordon Sondland told Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, energy security issues, the situation in the NJSC Naftogaz of Ukraine, the rule of law.

A team with the participation of U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the U.S. Department of State currently works at the initiative of US President Donald Trump focusing on various aspects of relations with Ukraine, Sondland added.

Yesterday, the Presidential Office reported that President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky and US President Donald Trump held a telephone conversation.

According to the report, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss the practical issues of US-Ukraine cooperation" during Zelensky's visit to the United States.

Zelensky, U.S. administration reps hope ceasefire regime introduced in Donbas on July 21 to be comprehensive, permanent (Interfax)

KYIV. July 26 (Interfax-Ukraine) - President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky has met with U.S. Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations Kurt Volker and U.S. Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland to discuss the current situation in the area of the Joint Forces Operation (JFO), in particular, the process of disengagement of forces and equipment near Stanytsia Luhanska.

"The parties voiced a hope that the ceasefire regime, which was agreed on July 21, would be comprehensive and permanent and that any armed provocations on the part of the occupied territories would be permanently discontinued," the presidential press service said on Friday.

During the meeting, the necessity of taking steps by the occupation authorities, which will allow successfully complete the process of disengagement of forces and improvement of the humanitarian situation on the contact line, was noted.

Zelensky thanked the U.S. side for its consistent support of Ukraine and the U.S. efforts aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement to conflict in Donbas.

Ukrainian president, US envoys meet to discuss Donbass (BBC)

BBC Monitoring Ukraine & Baltics (July 26) - Today President Volodymyr Zelensky has discussed the pull-back of troops near Stanytsya Luhanska and the situation at the frontline in general with American guests - US special representative for Ukraine Kurt Volker and US Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

The Ukrainian president thanked the USA for its consistent support and assistance in bringing peace to Donbass. Both sides stressed that the occupying authorities must adhere to agreements that will make it possible to complete the pull-back of troops and improve the humanitarian situation at the line of contact.

Trump invited Zelensky to the White House (Obovsem – Google Translation)

Obovsem (July 26) - Presidents Vladimir Zelensky and the United States Donald Trump found a common language during a telephone conversation. According to the US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, according to Radio Liberty.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky spoke with the President for a long time. They talked to us before and after this conversation, the conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language," said Sundland.

According to him, one of the consequences of this conversation was the invitation of the President of Ukraine for a visit to Washington. "President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House on a date suitable for both parties in the near future," the diplomat said.

The exact date of Zelensky's visit to the United States is currently unknown, but this may occur in August or September. In the first case, the Ukrainian will remain only in the US capital, in the second he can also be combined with participation in debates at the UN General Assembly in New York.

The President of the United States congratulated Ukraine on successful parliamentary elections and expressed his conviction that the new government would quickly stop investigating the problems of corruption that had stopped interaction between the countries. Then, when the President of Ukraine thanked his colleague for maintaining the sanctions against Russia.

US Ambassador to the EU talking about Trump and Zelensky: They immediately found a common language (Gordon – Google Translation)

Gordon (July 27) - The first telephone conversation between US President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky was quite lengthy, said US Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland.

US Permanent Representative to the EU, Gordon Sondland, in a commentary to Radio Liberty on July 26, said that the first telephone conversation between President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky and US President Donald Trump was successful.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked with President Trump for a long time, they met." I talked to both before and after the conversation. "The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language, and President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House at the end of the term, which suitable for both parties in the near future," said Sondland.

He also said that, at the initiative of Trump in the United States, a working group has been set up, which focuses on various aspects of cooperation with Ukraine. The group includes, among others, US Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, US Special Envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker and Charge d'Affaires of Ukraine William Taylor, said Sonland.

Zelensky met with Sondland and Volcker on July 26, they discussed the current situation in the Donbass, in particular issues related to the allocation of forces and facilities in Stanitsa Lugansk.

The exact date of the meeting between Zelensky and Trump is still unknown. Deputy Head of the Office of the President Vadim Prystaiko did not deny that the presidents will meet on September 1 in Poland, where the Ukrainian head of state will go on invitation of Polish President Andrzej Duda.

The Ambassador declared the details of the telephone talk of Zelensky and Trump (NewsOne - Google Translation)

NewsOne (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland told how the conversation between the Presidents of Ukraine and the USA, Vladimir Zelensky and Donald Trump, was held.

It is reported by Radio Liberty.

So, Sondland assured that the heads of state found a common language.

"President Zelensky talked for a long time on the phone with President Trump, they got to know each other. I spoke with both before and after this conversation. The conversation went very successfully, they immediately found a common language," the ambassador noted.

He also said that at the end of the conversation Trump invited Zelensky to Washington.

"President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House for a time that is suitable for both parties in the near future," Sondland summed up.

As reported earlier NEWSONE, the Ukrainian head of state Vladimir Zelensky held a telephone conversation with US President Donald Trump.

US ambassador to the EU about Trump's conversation with Zelensky: Found a common language (Liga - Google Translation)

President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House

Liga (July 27) - Permanent Representative of the United States to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the United States have found a common language. An American diplomat said this after a meeting on July 26 in Kiev with President Vladimir Zelensky, Radio Liberty reports .

"Yesterday, President Zelensky talked for a long time with President Trump, they got acquainted. I talked with both before and after this conversation. The conversation went very successfully, they immediately found a common language. President Trump at the end of the conversation invited Zelensky to the White House a time that is suitable for both parties in the near future," the diplomat said.

July 25 Zelensky had a telephone conversation with Trump. The parties agreed to discuss Ukrainian-American interaction during Zelensky's visit to the States. The American president expressed confidence that the new Ukrainian government will be able to complete the investigation of corruption cases that have restrained cooperation between Ukraine and the United States. He also reaffirmed the continued support of the US sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and its readiness to promote reform.

On July 24, the US Chargé d'Affaires ad interim in the affairs of Ukraine, William Taylor, said that it is still unknown when Zelensky will meet with Trump.

Presidents of the USA and Ukraine have found a common language, Zelensky received an invitation to the White House - US representative to the EU (Depo - Google Translation)

Depo (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland believes that the presidents of Ukraine and the US have found a common language.

The American diplomat said this about Radio Liberty after a meeting on July 26 in Kyiv with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, Depo.ua reports referring to Ukrinform.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky had been talking for a long time (telephone - Ed.) With President Trump, they met. I talked to both before and after this conversation, the conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language, and at the end of the conversation President Trump invited Zelensky to White House in a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

Volodymyr Zelensky met with Gordon Sondland and Kurt Volcker, US Special Envoy for Ukraine, on July 26 in Kyiv.

Gordon Sondland informed Radio Liberty that they discussed, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

The Office of the Ukrainian President announced on the eve of the telephone conversation with Vladimir Zelensky and his American colleague Donald Trump.

According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American engagement" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Recall that on July 25, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky talked with US President Donald Trump.

Trump and Zelensky immediately found a common language - US Ambassador to the EU on the telephone conversation of presidents (Google Translation)

Espresso (July 26) - US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland said that the presidents of Ukraine and the US found a common language and would soon meet. Radio Liberty reports.

"Yesterday, President Zelensky had talked for a long time (telephone - ed.) With President Trump, they met. I communicated with both before and after this conversation. The conversation was very successful, they immediately found a common language. At the end of the conversation, President Trump invited Zelensky to the White House within a term suitable for both sides in the near future, "the diplomat said.

According to reports, the presidents, in particular, agreed to "substantively discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American engagement" during the visit of Zelensky to the United States.

The exact date of the visit of Vladimir Zelensky to the US is not known at this time.

Gordon Sondland said that he discussed during a meeting with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky on July 26, among other things, the war, the issue of energy security, the situation in Naftogaz, the rule of law.

According to him, now on the initiative of US President Donald Trump, there is a team with the participation of Energy Minister Rick Perry, ambassadors Kurt Volker and William Taylor, and other representatives of the US State Department, which focuses on various aspects of relations with Ukraine.

US Ambassador to the EU spoke about the meeting with Zelensky (European Pravda – Google Translation)

European Pravda (July 26) - The US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland, after meeting with the President of Ukraine, said that the security of Europe depends on the security of Ukraine.

"I had the honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, the manipulation of Ukraine's energy and the detention of military personnel. Secure Ukraine = Safe Europe" Twitter.

Zelensky met on July 26 in Kiev with Sundland and US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker. One of the leading themes was the situation in the conflict zone in eastern Ukraine.

On the eve of Sondland and Volker met with the head of the supervisory board of the state concern "Ukroboronprom" Aivaras Abromavicius. They exchanged views on the prospects for reforming Ukraine and cooperation in the defense industry.

US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine (Telegraph – Google Translation)

US Ambassador to the EU - the importance of supporting Ukraine

Telegraf (July 26) - Gordon Sondland after meeting with Vladimir Zelensky said that the US and the EU should unite to support Ukraine.

The United States Ambassador to the European Union, Gordon Sundland, explained the importance of supporting Ukraine by the international community.

This is stated in the message of the US Embassy in Ukraine in the microblog Twitter.

Ambassador Sondland: I had the honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU have united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, the manipulation of Ukraine's energy sector and the detention of servicemen. Safe Ukraine - Safe Europe ", - it is said in the message.

As previously reported, Zelensky discussed with the US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sondland the

current situation in the zone of operation of the combined forces, in particular the process of breeding forces and equipment near the Village of Lugansk.

Zelensky discussed with Volker and Sundland the current situation in the area of environmental protection (Censor – Google Translation)

Censor.net (July 26) - President Vladimir Zelensky met with US Special Representative for Ukraine Kurt Walker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union Gordon Sundland.

As informs Tsenzor.NET, reported the press service of the President.

The head of state thanked the American side for the consistent support of Ukraine and the efforts of the United States to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Donbas.

Zelensky discussed with representatives of the US administration the current situation in the zone of the Operation of the combined forces, in particular the process of breeding forces and assets around the Village of Lugansk.

During the meeting, it was noted that the occupation authorities had previously agreed upon mutual steps by the parties that would successfully complete the process of separation of forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the demarcation line.

The parties expressed the hope that the ceasefire imposed on July 21 would be comprehensive and sustainable, and any armed provocations by the occupied territories would be permanently stopped.

The US ambassador to the EU commented on a meeting with Zelensky (Zik – Google Translation)

Zik (July 26) - US Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland highly appreciated the meeting with President Vladimir Zelensky.

He wrote about it on Twitter.

"It was an honor to meet with my good friend Vladimir Zelensky. The United States and the EU united to support Ukraine and oppose the occupation of the Crimea by Russia, its aggression in the east, manipulation of the energy sector of Ukraine, and the arrest of servicemen. Safe Ukraine - Safe Europe, "wrote Sondland.

Let's add, today, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky met with the United States Special Representative for Ukraine, Kurt Volcker, and US Permanent Representative to the European Union, Gordon Sondland.

Zelensky and Volker discussed the situation in the Donbass (Crimea realities – Google Translation)

Crimea Realities (July 26, 2019) - President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenski met with Gordon Sondland, Special Representative of the US Department of State for Ukraine, Kurt Volcker and US Permanent Representative to the European Union.

Zelensky discussed with the representatives of the US administration the current situation in the area of Operation of the Joint Forces, in particular the process of raising forces and facilities around Stanislav Luhansk.

During the meeting, the parties noted the need for mutual steps by the mutually agreed parties by the Russian-backed militants that would successfully complete the process of dividing forces and improve the humanitarian situation on the line of separation.

The US Embassy in Ukraine reported that Volker and Sondland discussed cooperation between Ukraine and the United States and expressed solid support from the United States for democracy, security and prosperity in Ukraine.

On June 26, Ukrainian troops departed from one of the positions in front of the KPVB in Stanislau Luhansk. In the group supported by Russia, "LNR" also announced the breeding of forces in Stanitsa Luhansk and added that this process could take up to three days. The

The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission stated that the militants announced the completion of the separation of forces near Stanitsa Lugansk.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)	(USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	McCormack, (b)(6) Kurt Volker (b)(6)
CC:	Buchan, Samuel (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: an early draft readout // not for distribution
Date:	Fri, 28 Jun 2019 08:39:48 +0000

I would add something to the end of the second paragraph like:

(b)(5)

(FEEL FREE TO EDIT)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: McCormack, Brian (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2019 9:41:17 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU); Kurt Volker
Cc: Buchan, Samuel
Subject: an early draft readout // not for distribution

Gentlemen,

Please see below a draft (b)(5)
(b)(5) (b)(5)
(b)(5)

Draft:

(b)(5)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)	
Recipient:	McCormack, Brian	(b)(6)	
	Kurt Volker	(b)(6)	
	Buchan, Samuel	(b)(6)	

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Atlantik Brucke - negative article re Amb Grenell
Date:	Fri, 16 Aug 2019 18:43:24 +0000

Discussed at length today with Grenell. Call me



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Friday, August 16, 2019 8:38:31 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)>; Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)>
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6)
 (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Bustamante, Michael (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Subject: Atlantik Brücke - negative article re Amb Grenell

Ambassador—given your September 5 speech at Atlantik Brücke, I wanted to flag this article from Spiegel Online today that alleges Ambassador Grenell lobbied against former FM Gabriel becoming the head of AB. I reached out to the press section in Berlin, who said the Ambassador says it is not true and they'd denied the story on background. They also said many didn't see Gabriel as the right choice but he was selected.

Gabriel has offered you a courtesy call before your speech.

Lobby organization

US ambassador wanted to prevent Gabriel as head of Atlantic Brücke

Sigmar Gabriel as head of a German-American lobby organization? This personality did not suit Richard Grenell. The US Ambassador intervened according to SPIEGEL information at the Atlantik-Brücke - without success.

Paul Zinken / DPA

Ex-SPD leader Sigmar Gabriel: "We would actually need an American ambassador who mediates"

Friday, 16.08.2019 13:16

US Ambassador Richard Grenell intervened before the election of Sigmar Gabriel as the new chairman of the Atlantik-Brücke last June to explain his disapproval. Grenell did not want to comment to SPIEGEL's request on the process. Gabriel took the lead in the German-American lobby organization after the longtime chairman Friedrich Merz (CDU).

According to the former German Foreign Minister, in the SPIEGEL, Grenell does not contribute to an improvement of the German-American relationship. "We would actually need an American ambassador who mediates, who explains to the Americans, even if he does not share our position, why we are doing things," said Gabriel.

The head of the Atlantik-Brücke also expressed concern about the German-American relationship overall. He worries that "it has become popular even in the leading German business community to say goodbye to America ," said Gabriel .

SALVATORE DI NOLFI / EPA

US Ambassador Richard Grenell: Personal Intervention

Former US Ambassador to NATO, Nicholas Burns, was also concerned about the transatlantic relationship. "We are experiencing a crisis in German-American relations, which I wouldn't have thought possible," said Burns, who advises the Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden on foreign policy issues.

Burns also criticized Grenell, who had threatened indirectly with a withdrawal of US troops from Germany, if Germany did not increase its military spending. "It would be a betrayal of our alliance with Germany," said Burns to the SPIEGEL and added: "In Congress, there is not even close to a majority for endangering or even destroying relations with Germany."

The federal government, meanwhile, has blocked another career project by Sigmar Gabriel. As can be seen from a response to a request by the left-wing MP Lorenz Gösta Beutin, the SPD politician may not start a supervisory board mandate at Kulczyk Holding for the time being.

Because of threatened interference with public interests, Gabriel must comply with a waiting period of twelve months, the letter goes on to say. The decision was made at the end of 2018, but was not known so far.

The company of Polish multimillionaire Jan Kulczyk, who died in 2015, is based in the tax haven of Luxembourg, while Gabriel had sharply criticized such tax optimization practices during his time as vice-chancellor.

Gabriel himself informs that he has already canceled Kulczyk Holding, while the Federal Government was still examining the possible side job.

Parliamentarian Beutin criticizes Gabriel for allowing himself to talk to such a company. "Especially for a longtime SPD chairman, who has dedicated himself to the fight for social justice, the switch to the side of big money is a shameless behavior."

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Tomlinson, Christina (USEU)	(b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU)	(b)(6)
	Witmer, Kami A (USEU)	
	(b)(6) (USEU)	(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU)	
	Haggard, Henry R (USEU)	
	Bustamante, Michael (USEU)	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Brussels July 10-12
Date:	Sun, 7 Jul 2019 00:05:33 +0000

Thanks Phil. Means a lot coming from you.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Reeker, Philip T
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 1:52:44 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

I read your interview in "Parliament" (I think that's what it's called) Magazine. Really good.

Safe travels.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 4:52 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

Thanks Phil. We are in touch. I will be in DC when Elliott visits.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Reeker, Philip T
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 1:49:52 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU)
Subject: Fw: Brussels July 10-12

Gordon,
Not to steal Elliott's own outreach to you -- but Fyi.

I'm en route to Vienna overnight. Covering OSCE Ministerial Mon-Tues; stop in Budapest, then London (Media Freedom Ministerial Conference, etc) Back July 14.

Best, Phil

P.s.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 12:07 PM
To: Reeker, Philip T; Fisher, Julie D; (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Brussels July 10-12

Right—I'll email him.

From: Reeker, Philip T (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 11:18 AM
To: Fisher, Julie D (b)(6) Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: Brussels July 10-12

Elliott,
I'm not sure if he'll be in town then, but if you have a chance

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Save travels.

Phil

From: Fisher, Julie D (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:39 AM

To: Abrams, Elliott <(b)(6)> Reeker, Philip T <(b)(6)>
(b)(6)

Subject: Re: Brussels July 10-12

Of course! We'll circle back with a name.

From: Abrams, Elliott <(b)(6)>

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 10:27

To: Reeker, Philip T; Fisher, Julie D; <(b)(6)>

Subject: Brussels July 10-12

There's a big (Canadian-led) Venezuela conference in Brussels on July 11 and I will attend.

I am figuring on going over the night of the 9th, returning the 12th.

Can you help me let Embassy Brussels know this, and get me a control officer?

Many thanks,

Elliott

Elliott Abrams

Special Representative for Venezuela

U.S. Department of State

2201 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20520

Tel: <(b)(6)>

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
Recipient:	Reeker, Philip T <(b)(6)> Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets
Date:	Fri, 26 Jul 2019 04:34:50 +0000

Ok



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 7:34:02 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6); USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6)

(b)(6); Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

Sir - reflagging these for your clearance please.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Hope the trip is going well. Thanks.

(b)(6)

From: Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 6:07 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL

Subject: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

Good evening sir,

PA would like to recommend the following two tweets:

(All cleared by PA Kyiv)

(b)(5)

Respectfully,



Michael Bustamante

Deputy Spokesperson

U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6) (cell)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) <(b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) <(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
CC:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets
Date:	Fri, 26 Jul 2019 04:35:34 +0000

Actually, (b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 7:34:02 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6); USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

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(b)(5)

(b)(5)

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(b)(6)

From: Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 6:07 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL

Subject: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

Good evening sir,

PA would like to recommend the following two tweets:

(All cleared by PA Kyiv)

1. (b)(5)

2.

Respectfully,



Michael Bustamante

Deputy Spokesperson

U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6) (cell)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL <USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL@state.gov>; Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets
Date:	Fri, 26 Jul 2019 04:44:49 +0000

Second one



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 7:36:24 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6)
 (b)(6); Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

On the first one right? Thanks.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 6:35:34 AM

To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6)

(b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

Actually, (b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 26, 2019 7:34:02 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6)

(b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

Sir - reflagging these for your clearance please.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Hope the trip is going well. Thanks.

(b)(6)

From: Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 6:07 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL

Subject: Clearance: Kyiv Tweets

Good evening sir,

PA would like to recommend the following two tweets:

(All cleared by PA Kyiv)

1. (b)(5)

2.

Respectfully,



Michael Bustamante

Deputy Spokesperson

U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6) (cell)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) Bustamante, Michael (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) USEU-Staff-Aide DL <USEU-Staff-Aide@state.gov>
Subject:	Re: Email to Amb Mossbacher
Date:	Wed, 8 May 2019 06:49:34 +0000

Call me



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 8:49:14 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); USEU-Staff-Aide DL
Subject: RE: Email to Amb Mossbacher

Not yet, but appears likely. Will put (t) by non-confirmed folks.

Regards,

Henry

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 8:48 AM
To: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6); USEU-Staff-Aide DL (b)(6)
Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Email to Amb Mossbacher

Have we received confirm from Juncker?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 8:46:20 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); USEU-Staff-Aide DL; Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: Email to Amb Mossbacher

Ambassador,

Per your request, the VVIP list for the June 4 events (reception and dinner) below. Note that not all of the below would attend the VVIP dinner since Whitlock holds only 18.

Regards,
Henry

VVIPs Attending USEU Independence Day Events June 4

- Secretary Pompeo
- Commission President Juncker (t)
- HRVP Mogherini
- European Parliament President Tajani
- EU VP Timmermans (t)
- Romanian President Iohannis
- Ukrainian President-elect Zelensky (t)
- Polish President or PM (t)
- NATO SYG Stoltenberg (t)
- SACEUR Wolters (t)
- Vice Prime Minister of Romania Ana Birchall
- Competition Commissioner Margrethe Vestager
- Security Commissioner Julian King
- Energy Commissioner Canete
- Trade Commissioner Malmstrom (t)
- Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen (SG of the Council)
- EU Brexit Negotiator Michel Barnier
- Belgian FM or DefMin (t)
- Other DC VIPs TBD

Henry Haggard
Political Counselor
United States Mission to the EU

(b)(6)

Cell - (b)(6)
Office

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)	
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)	
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)	
	USEU-Staff-Aide DL (b)(6)	

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: For S
Date:	Sun, 5 May 2019 06:24:46 +0000

Lisa,

Update on 6/4

Mogherini is asking Juncker to join her.

Iohannis is coming

PM Bahktadze is coming

Pres Elect Zelensky likely

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2019 12:41:51 AM

To: Kenna, Lisa D

Subject: Re: For S

Thanks. On the ground by 6-6:30 should work.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

At least three heads of state/govt

are coming in addition to the EU.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 1:08:35 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: For S

Yes, the travel is a bear, but we are working on it. He needs to wheels down in Brussels at what time?

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 6:43 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Re: For S

Thanks Lisa. Did you get my note about deconflicting the dinner portion of 6/4?



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 12:26:18 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: For S

Gordon,

(b)(5)

Lisa

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2019 1:29 AM

To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

Subject: For S

IRELAND (b)(5)

Mike,

(b)(5)

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D <(b)(6)>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Takats, Sarah O (USEU)
Subject:	Re: Hi from NY - urgent request re: Sondland
Date:	Wed, 25 Sep 2019 11:30:59 +0000

Run it by Morgan.

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 7:04:30 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)>; Takats, Sarah O (USEU)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Hi from NY - urgent request re: Sondland

Sir — see backgrounder request from David Herszenhorn on Ukraine.

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Get Outlook for iOS

From: David Herszenhorn <(b)(6)>
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 12:53 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU)
Subject: Hi from NY - urgent request re: Sondland

Hi (b)(6) from New York.

(Full disclosure – have been chatting informally with ambo about Javanka dinner with Charles Michel et al. Playbook missed the twitter photo I had sent, but we'll have a full story up shortly that will clarify everything)

I've been asked to write a piece about DC and Ukraine ... given I spent a lot of time in both Kiev and Washington. And now of course I am in Brussels with Ambassador Sondland and where Ambasssador Volker used to be based at NATO.

I think it would be a good idea to chat with Ambassador Sondland, on background, to make sure I've got things well-clarified, given accounts that USEU was being briefed by Rudy Giuliani (my ex-mayor, who `I covered in City Hall) on what he was up to.

Things get messy whenever Ukraine is involved. When WH says that European allies have not always been consistent in their support, there is core truth.

(See this piece: <https://www.politico.eu/article/the-eu-broke-ukraine-with-help-from-russia/>)

Anyway, I think it would be helpful to organize a phone call at the very least on background and at the soonest interval, to clarify where USEU comes into this, and make sure the coverage

remains grounded in hard facts.

Thanks for your help. I am on whatsapp with Belgian number + (b)(6) or US voice number + (b)(6)

Bests, David

David M. Herszenhorn

Chief Brussels Correspondent | **POLITICO**

P: (b)(6)

(b)(6) @herszenhorn

Rue de la Loi 62, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Lally, Michael (Dept of Commerce) <michael.lally@trade.gov>
CC:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Mullins, Michael C (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Introduction
Date:	Sun, 28 Jul 2019 07:58:28 +0000

Michael,

Welcome! I look forward to working with you.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Michael Lally <Michael.Lally@trade.gov>
Sent: Sunday, July 28, 2019 8:42:47 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: Pelzer, Katherine E (USEU) <(b)(6)>; Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce) <John.Breidenstine@trade.gov>; Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6); Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6); Mullins, Michael C <(b)(6)>
Subject: Introduction

Mr. Ambassador:

It was good to meet you briefly during your May visit to Kyiv for the inauguration of President Zelenskyy. While I was unfortunately out of Kyiv during your visit last week, I know your level of engagement is deeply appreciated here by the President and his Administration.

As I transition to my USEU assignment, I provide a brief personal introduction in the attached letter.

I look forward to working for you and contributing to the Country Team.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Lally
 Minister Counselor (Designate)
 for Commercial Affairs – Europe
 U.S. Commercial Service
 U.S.Mission to the European Union
 Brussels, Belgium
[Connect on LinkedIn](#)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
Recipient:	Lally, Michael (Dept of Commerce) <michael.lally@trade.gov>; (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce) <John.Breidenstine@trade.gov>; Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)> Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Mullins, Michael C <(b)(6)>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Katy Durant <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: June Travel - Add Select USA?
Date:	Wed, 15 May 2019 16:40:46 +0000

Oops



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Katy Durant (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 12:23:50 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: Re: June Travel - Add Select USA?

You know you emailed me, not Henry....

- Katherine J. Durant

(b)(6) Direct line
 Mobile



On May 15, 2019, at 10:09 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6) wrote:

[EXTERNAL SENDER]
 Yes to select if I have a role



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Katy Durant <(b)(6)>
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 11:54:04 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: Re: June Travel - Add Select USA?

I will be in DC on the 10th for the Pappy dinner.

Katherine J. Durant
(b)(6) Direct line
(b)(6) Mobile



On May 15, 2019, at 9:32 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
(b)(6) wrote:

[EXTERNAL SENDER]



Gordon D. Sondland
Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 11:21:08 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: June Travel - Add Select USA?

Ambassador,

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- **May 31:** Helsinki
- June 1: Kyiv for Zelensky Inauguration
- **June 3-4:** Independence Day Events, Brussels
- June 5: Three Seas, Slovenia [GES in The Hague also June 5]
- **June 6:** D-Day 75th Anniversary, Normandy
- *June 10-11 (T): Amb travel to Select USA Summit, Washington DC*
- **June 17:** Paris Air Show, then ert London to catch June 18 London flight to DC
- June 18: S-Mogherini Bilat in Washington, D.C. (Amb to join) ñ
- **June 26:** Amb travel to Madrid Concordia Europe – AmChamSpain Forum ñ
- June 27-29: Brussels Forum

SELECT USA Rundown:

- Moderate a panel of U.S. Ambassadors from European markets in a discussion on transatlantic business investment in the U.S. would be ideal.
- Confirmed US Ambassadors to European capitals include:

Amb. Cornstein	Hungary
Amb. Duke Buchan	Spain
Amb. Ed McMullen	Switzerland and Lichtenstein
Amb. Eisenberg	Italy
Amb. Geoff Pyatt	Greece
Amb. Hans Klemm	Romania
Amb. Traina	Austria

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Katy Durant (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Katy Durant (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: June Travel - Add Select USA?
Date:	Wed, 15 May 2019 16:09:04 +0000

Yes to select if I have a role



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

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 (b)(6) Mobile



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Gordon D. Sondland

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 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

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Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 11:21:08 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU);

(b)(6) (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)

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Official
UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
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To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: June Travel - Add Select USA?
Date:	Wed, 15 May 2019 16:29:09 +0000

Yes to Select if I have a relevant role



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 11:21:08 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: June Travel - Add Select USA?

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Amb. Eisenberg	Italy
Amb. Geoff Pyatt	Greece
Amb. Hans Klemm	Romania
Amb. Traina	Austria

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU)
Subject:	Re: just checking
Date:	Thu, 26 Sep 2019 16:23:40 +0000

Ok



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 11:56:40 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU)
(b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: just checking

Sir, I just wanted to let you know about this in case Steve also tried to reach you directly. We will politely refer him to the White House, as well as let PA know about the various inquiries we've received.

Regards

(b)(6)

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Erlanger, Steven <(b)(6)>

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 5:46 PM

To: (b)(6) (USEU)

Subject: just checking

dear (b)(6)

just to ask whether ambassador sondland would like to make any comment on the whistleblower document and the reference to his conversations with kurt volker and zelensky about how to handle president trump and his requests.

allbest, steven

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: kind request for comment
Date:	Fri, 27 Sep 2019 11:41:56 +0000

Got to her her something for tenacity!



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2019 7:39:10 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: kind request for comment

Ambassador, we will refer her to the White House. By the way, this is the third separate request from Reuters.

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Baczynska, Gabriela (Reuters) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2019 1:25 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: kind request for comment

Dear Ambassador Sondland,

My name is Gabriela Baczynska, I am a correspondent with Reuters here in Brussels and I am reaching out to kindly ask your comment on the whistleblower report released on Thursday in the United States, which relates to President Donald Trump's contacts with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy.

Your name, as well as that of Ambassador Kurt Volker, appears twice in the text and I was wondering if you would agree to discuss that. Beyond any official comment, I was also hoping we could arrange a meeting at a time of your convenience to have a more informal conversation on the matter when you are back in Brussels.

I hope to hear back from you soon and I am also copying Mrs. Tomlinson on this email.

Yours sincerely,
Gabriela Baczynska

.....
Gabriela Baczynska
Senior Correspondent
Brussels
Reuters

Mobile: (b)(6)

Direct: +

(b)(6)

Sensitivity: Confidential

This e-mail is for the sole use of the intended recipient and contains information that may be privileged and/or confidential. If you are not an intended recipient, please notify the sender by return e-mail and delete this e-mail and any attachments. Certain required legal entity disclosures can be accessed on our website.

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)	(USEU) <(b)(6)>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Kyiv News Bullets – Wednesday, May 22, 2019
Date:	Wed, 22 May 2019 11:58:02 +0000

Way ahead of you. ☐ Talked to her late last night and will again today.
Maros and I are calling Zelensky about Bohdan tomorrow.

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2019 1:43:14 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)
Subject: FW: Kyiv News Bullets – Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Very bad news - Andrii Bohdan, known to be Zelenskyy's friend and legal advisor as well as Ihor Kolomoisky's personal lawyer, was appointed Head of the Presidential Administration.

Zerkal - Media report that Zerkal, who is a current Deputy Foreign Minister, only gave consent to be a special representative in international courts in Ukraine's litigation against Russia, not a Deputy Head of Administration

From: (b)(6) (Kyiv)" (b)(6)
Date: May 22, 2019 at 11:57:13 AM GMT+2
To: Undisclosed recipients;;
Subject: Kyiv News Bullets – Wednesday, May 22, 2019

Political News:

Note: The Political News in the Kyiv News Bullets is a summary of prominent narratives in the Ukrainian media, rather than Embassy Kyiv's analysis of current political developments.

Rada Updates: On May 21, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy convened consultations with Rada factions and suggested that Rada, at an extraordinary session, make amendments to the parliamentary election law. The amendments would include removing the single-

mandate constituency, thereby switching to a proportional system, and also lowering the threshold for parties to be in parliament from 5% to 3% of the vote. Later in the day, a presidential decree was issued on the dissolution of the current Rada and the date for holding the next parliamentary elections on July 21. Zelenskyy also officially requested that Speaker Andriy Parubiy convene an extraordinary Rada session for amending the election law. Parubiy complied, calling an extraordinary session for May 22 at noon. Media report that Parubiy later made a statement on Facebook indicating that Zelenskyy started his presidency off with a gross violation of the Constitution. ([UkrPravda](#), [Interfax](#), [112](#), [UkrPravda](#))

Presidential Appointments: According to media reports, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced his first presidential appointments on May 21. General Ruslan Khomchak was appointed Chief of General Staff / Commander of the Armed Forces, replacing Viktor Muzhenko ([UkrPravda](#), [Studio 1+1 TSN](#)). Andrii Bohdan, known to be Zelenskyy's friend and legal advisor as well as Ihor Kolomoisky's personal lawyer, was appointed Head of the Presidential Administration. Media note that this appointment came despite Bohdan falling under the lustration law's prohibition on officials of the Viktor Yanukovich administration holding public office until 2024. Another presidential decree appointed Serhii Trofimov First Deputy Head of the Administration, and Ruslan Ryaboshapka, Olena Zerkal, Kyrylo Tymoshenko, and Yurii Kostyuk as Deputy Heads of the Administration. Media report that Zerkal, who is a current Deputy Foreign Minister, only gave consent to be a special representative in international courts in Ukraine's litigation against Russia, not a Deputy Head of Administration. Trofimov, Kostyuk, and Serhii Shefir, appointed First Aide to the President, are known to be affiliated with Studio Kvartal 95, having been either its co-owners and/or creative staffers. Ruslan Stefanchuk became the President's advisor and his representative in the Rada. ([UNN](#), [UkrPravda](#), [112](#))

Andrii Bohdan's Interview: Media report that shortly after his appointment as Head of the Presidential Administration was announced on May 21, Andrii Bohdan did an interview with 112 TV channel. In the interview, he defended the presidential decree on the dissolution of the Rada as fully compliant with the Constitution. He discussed the proposed amendments to the election law, expressed hope that the Rada will pass them, but said that the Rada is not ready to support open party lists in the proportional system. Bohdan argued that application of the lustration law to him as a former Viktor Yanukovich government official is not justified, and therefore his new appointment is legitimate. He promised to suspend his own legal practice while he serves in public office. Bohdan also discussed ways to end the military conflict in the East through negotiations; specifically, that it is not useful to come to the negotiation table with pre-conceived red lines. At the same time, he ruled out the possibility of Ukraine sacrificing any of its territories. He said that an agreement with Russia to end hostilities may be put to a vote via a national referendum. ([112](#))

Donbas Conflict Updates:

MoD update as of 12:30, May 22, 2019:

- De-escalation at the LOC. 5 RLF attacks, RLF did not use Minsk-proscribed heavy weapons;
- Luhansk sector: 4 RLF attacks in Vodian, Pavlopil, Hnutove;
- Donetsk sector: 1 short RLF attack in Shumy;

- UAF truck was temporarily misplaced and accidentally crossed the LOC, 8 UAF personnel captured by the RLF. JFO HQ is investigating the incident.
- UAF combat losses in the past 24 hours: 0 KIA, 3 WIA;

Map not released as of 12:35pm.

Economic News:

IMF Visit to Ukraine Started May 20. The IMF Representative Office in Ukraine announced that an IMF Mission had arrived in Ukraine on May 20 for two weeks of meetings with the Government of Ukraine to evaluate the current stand-by arrangement program with Ukraine and consultations on the Article IV of the IMF Charter. Some media sources erroneously reported yesterday that the Mission revised its schedule due to the dismissal of the Parliament and returned to Washington, D.C.

Currency Rate: The exchange rate averaged **UAH 26.30/USD 1** at Bloomberg Markets as of 12:45 pm on **May 22, 2019**.

Western Media Roundup:

Please see the attached Word document for the full text of the following Western media articles relating to Ukraine and the surrounding region.

- Putin, Merkel and Macron discuss Ukraine in phone call: Kremlin ([Reuters](#))
- Ukraine president appoints lawyer linked to PrivatBank tycoon as administration chief ([Reuters](#))
- Volodymyr Zelensky hires oligarch's lawyer as chief of staff ([FT](#))
- Ukraine parliament election may happen on July 21: presidential adviser ([Reuters](#))
- International loan an option for Ukraine's winter fuel needs: U.S. secretary Perry ([Reuters](#))
- Ukraine's new president replaces Chief of the General Staff: decree ([Reuters](#))
- Ukraine's New Leader Sets Snap Parliamentary Election for July ([Bloomberg](#))
- Ukraine Lawmakers To Discuss Changes To Electoral Law In Emergency Session ([RFE/RL](#))
- UN Security Council Rejects Russian Request For Ukraine Meeting ([RFE/RL](#))
- 'Your Move': Graffiti On Putin Mural In Crimea Taunts FSB ([RFE/RL](#))
- Ukraine's New President Signs Decree to Dissolve Parliament and Calls for Snap Election ([Time](#))
- Canada hopeful for Ukraine's actor-turned-president ([Toronto Star](#))
- New Ukraine Leader Calls Snap Election ([WSJ](#))
- Kremlin Warns Ukraine's New Leader Against Calls for More Russia Sanctions ([VOA News](#))

Ukrainian Social Media Commentary:

Ukrainian social media users are discussing the first officials appointed by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Andriy Bohdan was appointed Head of the Presidential Administration, but commentators note that his appointment may be illegitimate because, as a former official under ex-President Viktor Yanukovich, Bohdan is banned from government positions until 2024. Ruslan Khomchak is the new Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. Khomchak is known as the General who headed the failed Ilovaisk

operation, in which Ukraine lost with at least 366 men killed, 429 injured, and nearly 300 wounded.

Journalist Ariana Gic wrote, “Bohdan represents [oligarch Ihor] Koloimoisky's interests in PrivatBank cases ... The oligarchic revanche in full swing.” MP Hanna Hopro shared Tetiana Kozachenko’s post, in which she wrote, “According to publicly available information, Andriy Bohdan does not have the right to assume the position of the PA Head ... Issuing a Presidential Decree that contradicts the law means that the President considers himself above the law, and demonstrates his true attitude to the Rule of Law.”

Blogger Dmytro Vovnyanko posted nine controversial questions for the new Commander-in-Chief Khomchak. Some of the questions ask how Khomchak is connected to Privat Group, how the attack on Ilovaisk was carried out, and why there is no record of the order to attack. Blogger Anton Hodza noted that after the Ilovaisk operation, Khomchak successfully served in the Army command for several years. Journalist Yuriy Butusov described the decision to appoint Khomchak as “weighted and professional,” and suggested a list of objectives for Khomchak to work on.

Journalist Vitalii Moroz summarized the reaction of many social media users to the appointments: “First two appointments – and it’s already a shame. [Zelenskyy] surpassed Yanukovich on the first day.”

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: New Yorker magazine request
Date:	Wed, 25 Sep 2019 19:12:55 +0000

I have had nothing to do with discussions about Amos Hochstein. Cant speak to the others. Give them that on the record



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 2:33:46 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6); Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: New Yorker magazine request

Ambassador—we received the following inquiry from Adam Entous at the New Yorker.

Per Morgan's previous guidance I again recommend (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Thank you.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 8:15 PM

To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU)

Subject: Fwd: New Yorker magazine request

(b)(6)

Here is the New Yorker's request.

(b)(6)

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Adam Entous <(b)(6)>

Date: 25 September 2019 at 19:34:28 GMT+2

Subject: Fwd: New Yorker magazine request

To: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Sorry to bother you. I was hoping to speak with Ambassador Sondland. I am working on a story related to Ukraine. Specifically, I was told that Sondland (and Secretary Perry) has been privately urging Ukrainian officials to remove Amos Hochstein, a former Obama/Biden administration official, from the Supervisory Board of Naftogaz. I just wanted to get a sense of why this was a priority for the ambassador and the Trump administration.

Adam

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
Recipient:	<div> <div>(b)(6)</div> <div>(USEU)</div> <div>(b)(6)</div> </div> <div> <div>Takats, Sarah O (USEU)</div> <div>(b)(6)</div> </div> <div> <div>Libby, Mark W (USEU) <</div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div>(b)(6)</div> <div>(USEU) <</div> </div>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Abrams, Elliott (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Next week
Date:	Sun, 7 Jul 2019 21:12:28 +0000

Henry, pls make sure that Amb. Abrams and I find some time to meet before I leave DC.

Thanks.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Abrams, Elliott

Sent: Sunday, July 7, 2019 12:53:41 PM

To: Haggard, Henry R (USEU); Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Next week

The meeting in Brussels is off. Because round three of Oslo (this time in Barbados) starts Monday (b)(5)

(b)(5)

I very much appreciate your assistance and regret that it did not work out.

But I do hope it will be possible to get on Amb. Sondland's schedule this week in Washington.

Elliott Abrams

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Date: July 5, 2019 at 2:36:06 PM EDT
To: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6), Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6), (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Next week

Ambassador Abrams,

Our team will (b)(5)
(b)(5)

Regards,
Henry

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Abrams, Elliott
Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 7:20:25 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: RE: Next week

For sure—let's talk the following week.

Henry, I appreciate your help in finding out who's around then and worth seeing.

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 1:11 PM

To: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)

Cc: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Subject: Re: Next week

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

disappointed that I will miss your visit. Lets download by phone after?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Abrams, Elliott

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 9:58:08 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Subject: RE: Next week

(b)(5)

From: Abrams, Elliott

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 12:44 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Next week

Our schedules conflict: I leave the morning you return. Unfortunate.

Should I (b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 12:35 PM

To: Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Next week

Elliott, I will be in DC on 10 & 11 for White House/Potus meetings, returning to Brussels early morning on the 12th. If you are still there, I can meet you that morning.

On other fronts, (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Meeting Vecchio in DC nxt week.

Hope this helps a little and let me know how we can connect.

All the best,

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Abrams, Elliott

Sent: Friday, July 5, 2019 9:09:36 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Subject: Next week

Dear Gordon,

The Canadians appear to be hosting a meeting on Venezuela next Thursday 7/11 in Brussels, and if it happens I will attend. I am planning to arrive Wednesday 7/10 and if you are available would appreciate seeing you.

Many thanks,

Elliott

Elliott Abrams

Special Representative for Venezuela

United States Department of State

2201 C Street N.W.,

Washington D.C. 20520

Tel: (b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	<p>Abrams, Elliott (b)(6)</p> <p>Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)</p> <p>Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6)</p> <p>(b)(6) (USEU) < (b)(6)</p> <p>(b)(6) < (b)(6)</p>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Olena Zerkal
Date:	Wed, 29 May 2019 16:47:17 +0000

Call me



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:46:22 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)
Subject: RE: Olena Zerkal

Ambassador,

(b)(5)

Ok to go ahead w the invites?

Thanks,
 Henry

June 4 Transatlantic Dinner Guest List

1. Secretary Pompeo
2. Secretary Perry
3. White House Senior Advisor Kushner
4. Counselor Brechbuhl
5. EUR AAS Reeker
6. Perry CoS McCormack
7. Ambassador Sondland
8. Ambassador Gidwitz

9. Ambassador Mosbacher
10. Belgian Interior Minister Pieter De Crem/Belgian PM Michel
11. HRVP Mogherini
12. Commissioner Canete
13. Commissioner Vestager
14. Romanian Prime Minister Dancila
15. Romanian Vice Prime Minister Birchall
16. Polish President Duda
17. Ukrainian President Zelenskyy
18. Georgian Prime Minister Bakhtadze
19. President Tajani
20. Commissioner Jourova (t)
21. EU VP Ansip (t)
22. Kami Witmer (back bench notetaker)
23. Ukrainian Dep Head of Pres Admin Olena Zerkal (t)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 6:42 PM
To: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Olena Zerkal

Do you have her attending with Zelensky?



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
CC:	USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL (b)(6) Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Proposed tweet ahead of Kyiv travel
Date:	Sun, 19 May 2019 11:21:02 +0000

Go



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)
Sent: Sunday, May 19, 2019 2:18:24 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL; Libby, Mark W (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: Re: Proposed tweet ahead of Kyiv travel

(b)(5) Here's what it looks like now:

(b)(5)

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Sent: Sunday, May 19, 2019 12:54 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU)
Cc: USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL; Libby, Mark W (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: Re: Proposed tweet ahead of Kyiv travel

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)
Sent: Sunday, May 19, 2019 1:13:30 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL; Libby, Mark W (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Subject: Proposed tweet ahead of Kyiv travel

Ambassador-

We suggest (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(6)



Kurt Volker (@SpecRepUkraine)

5/18/19, 23:37

Returning to Kyiv tomorrow as part of delegation headed by @SecretaryPerry to represent the U.S. at the inauguration. I look forward to thanking @poroshenko for close cooperation between the US & Ukraine and to working w/President @ZelenskyyUa to further that cooperation. pic.twitter.com/Rv2sdQJ80n

Sender: "Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)

Recipient:	(b)(6)	USEU	(b)(6)
	USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL	(b)(6)	
	Libby, Mark W (USEU)	(b)(6)	
	Haggard, Henry R (USEU)	(b)(6)	

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker
Date:	Fri, 27 Sep 2019 13:45:09 +0000

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2019 9:41:29 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: FW: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Sir - Morgan's deputy in GPA tells us that State (b)(5)
 (b)(5) We'll need to refer the New Yorker to the White House.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 3:04 PM
To: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Send it to him on a sep chain — I'll see him in 30 and can discuss if there's any concern.

Sent from a mobile device; please excuse any brevity, typos, or autocorrect misfires.

From: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 9:01 AM
To: (b)(6) (USEU)
Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)
Subject: Re: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Looks good. Please let Amb see.

Mark W. Libby
Deputy Chief of Mission
U.S. Mission to the EU
Brussels

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 2:58:51 PM
To: Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) (USEU)
(b)(6)
Subject: FW: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Mark,

Here is a one line response we drafted in response to the New Yorker, in line with Cale Brown's suggestion below. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Thank you,

(b)(6)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 2:52 PM

To: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Subject: FW: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: Brown, Cale (b)(6)

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2019 1:36 AM

To: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Webster, Elizabeth W (b)(6)

Subject: RE: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

(b)(6)

Morgan talked to AMB Sondland.

(b)(5)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 5:19 PM

To: Brown, Cale (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Cale - just so you know, (b)(5)
(b)(5)

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From: (b)(6) (USEU)

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 11:04:11 PM

To: Brown, Cale (b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6) (b)(6) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Re: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Cale, Completely understood. Thanks. I just spoke with Ruben. I (b)(5)
(b)(5)

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From: Brown, Cale (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:54 PM

To: (b)(6) (USEU)

Cc: (b)(6)

Subject: FW: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

(b)(6)

(b)(5) Call me if
there is an issue.

All best,

Cale Brown

Deputy Spokesperson

(b)(6)

From: Webster, Elizabeth W <(b)(6)>

Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 4:08 PM

To: (b)(6) Brown, Cale (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Fysa- (b)(5)

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Date: September 25, 2019 at 4:06:16 PM EDT

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

To: Hynes, Shaylyn <(b)(6)>

Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) <(b)(6)>, Webster, Elizabeth W

<(b)(6)> <(b)(6)> (USEU) <(b)(6)> Love,

Kelly <(b)(6)>, Vande Beek, Dirk <(b)(6)>

Thanks Shaylyn. (b)(5)

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From: Hynes, Shaylyn (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, September 25, 2019 10:03:53 PM
To: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) Webster, Elizabeth W
(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Love, Kelly
(b)(6) Vande Beek, Dirk (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Hi there- Thanks for reaching out. This is the statement we will be responding to the New Yorker with (b)(5)
(b)(5) Available at
(b)(6) if you would like to discuss. Thanks!

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Date: Wednesday, Sep 25, 2019, 3:56 PM
To: Hynes, Shaylyn <(b)(6)>
Cc: Takats, Sarah O (USEU) <(b)(6)>, Webster, Elizabeth W
(b)(6), (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Statement to New Yorker

Dear Shaylyn

I'm the PAO at the US mission to the EU and work with ambassador Sondland. I believe we've been in contact for previous visits of Secretary Perry to Brussels.

(b)(5)

I would be grateful to see the statement and your guidance on how we could get this done.

I can call you any time or you can reach me by email or phone at

(b)(6)

Thanks

(b)(6)

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SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> Liddy, Mark W (USEU) Takats, Sarah O (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>	

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce) (b)(6) (b)(6) (Brussels) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: S Call Points
Date:	Mon, 27 May 2019 13:25:43 +0000

Excellent. Thanks



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)

Sent: Monday, May 27, 2019 6:21:55 AM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)

Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); Haggard, Henry R (USEU); Witmer, Kami A (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU);

Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce); (b)(6) Brussels)

Subject: S Call Points

Ambassador,

Points for your S call below. Kami sent you EP outreach points separately.

Regards,

Henry

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

June Schedule

- June 3-4 Independence Day
- **June 5-6 Three Seas, Ljubljana**
- June 7-8 Globsec[plus Vienna mtgs (if new Chancellor in place)]
- **June 11-12 Helsinki**
- June 14 All Hands
- **June 15-16 Art Basel**
- June 17 Paris Air Show plus London dinner
- **June 18 HRVP in DC**
- June 25-26 Concordia Speech, Madrid
- **June 27-29 Brussels Forum**

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)
	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)
	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)
	Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)

	Breidenstine, John (Dept of Commerce)	(b)(6)
	(b)(6)	(Brussels) (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D	(b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Summary for S	
Date:	Mon, 8 Jul 2019 13:31:33 +0000	

Thanks Lisa



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Saturday, July 6, 2019 7:30:42 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: Re: Summary for S

Thank you, Gordon. I'll print and pass to him tomorrow morning. Best, Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 6, 2019, at 11:59 AM, Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) wrote:

(b)(6)

SBU

Mike,

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D	(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	USEU-Staff-Aide DL <USEU-Staff-Aide@state.gov>; USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL <USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL@state.gov>; Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Tweet clearance: Meeting with Ukraine DFM Olena Zerkal
Date:	Tue, 7 May 2019 14:30:27 +0000

Ok



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2019 4:09:46 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: USEU-Staff-Aide DL; USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL; Libby, Mark W (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU); (b)(6) (USEU)
Subject: Tweet clearance: Meeting with Ukraine DFM Olena Zerkal

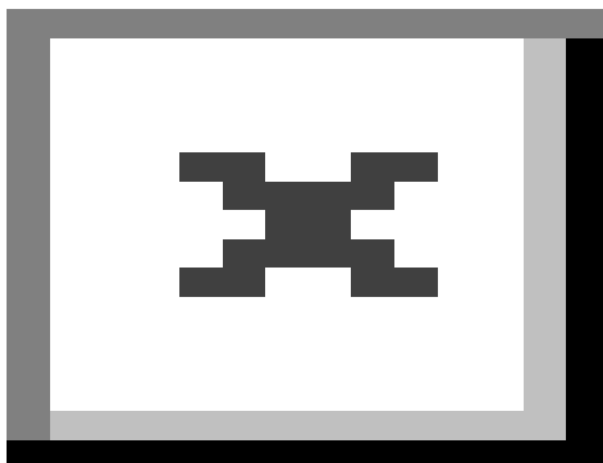
Dear Ambassador,

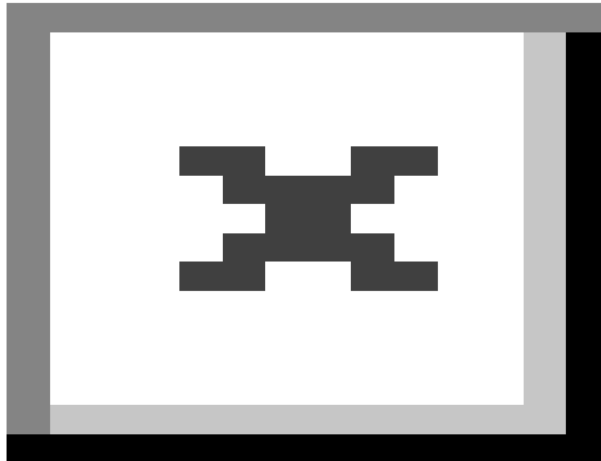
Here is a tweet suggestion (b)(5)

(b)(5) (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Photos:





Kind regards,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Social Media Coordinator
U.S. Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels

(b)(6)

Twitter: @US2EU

(b)(6)

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> USEU-Staff-Aide DL <(b)(6)> USEU-PRESS_TEAM-DL <(b)(6)> Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	Kenna, Lisa D <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Ukraine
Date:	Mon, 1 Apr 2019 12:35:34 +0000

Understood. Thanks.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Monday, April 1, 2019 4:43:28 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Ukraine

Gordon,

(b)(5)

Best, Lisa

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2019 11:21 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D <(b)(6)>
Subject: Ukraine

For S:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Let me know. At your disposal.

Gordon



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America

United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Ukraine Inaug
Date:	Thu, 16 May 2019 13:08:40 +0000

Great. (b)(5) I am on the west coast.



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Kenna, Lisa D
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 5:45:37 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Ukraine Inaug

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Lisa

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:14 AM
To: Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)
Subject: Ukraine Inaug

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Thx!



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Kenna, Lisa D (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
CC:	Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Ukraine trip updates - Zelenskyy and the East on Friday
Date:	Wed, 24 Jul 2019 19:00:47 +0000

Is Zelensky going on helo?

Zyrkal away till Sunday



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 7:45:26 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)> Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> Tomlinson, Christina (USEU) <(b)(6)> Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject: Ukraine trip updates - Zelenskyy and the East on Friday

Ambassador,

I'm attaching the latest Kyiv schedule, with the portion for your participation pasted below. We're looking at a confirmed dinner with Danylyuk on Thursday evening (we may go directly from the airport)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Kurt Volker will go onward to Stanytsia-Luhanska in the East, traveling via helicopter. He'll visit the line of contact and do press.

Open questions:

- Friday breakfast is still open on the schedule. (b)(5)
(b)(5) Or do you have another preference?

•

(b)(5)

Embassy Kyiv tells us this is still very much in flux,

(b)(5)

Tara

1900 **Dinner with NSDC Secretary Oleksandr Danylyuk** *(2 hours, Confirmed)*
Location: Ohota Na Ovets (*reservation under "Ivanna"*)
USG Participants: Amb Sondland, Amb Volker, CDA Taylor, Catherine Croft, Tara Maher, Michael Kreidler (notetaker)
External Participants:
No translation required

2100 *Depart Ohota Na Ovets ert Hyatt via motorpool*
Police escort

2115 *Arrive at Hyatt*

RON Hyatt Regency

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6) (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 5:57 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
 (b)(6); Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Ukraine trip status

Ambassador,

(b)(5)

Tara

From: (b)(6) (USEU)
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 3:34 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6); Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
 (b)(6); Libby, Mark W (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Ukraine trip status

Ambassador,

Embassy Kyiv is working on scheduling the Zelenskyy meeting for Thursday. We may not know until late tonight or even tomorrow what time the meeting will take place (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Best case scenario, we hope they can schedule the meeting for Thursday evening, which would allow you to travel as scheduled and participate in the meeting. In that case, you could overnight Thursday,

(b)(5) then depart Kyiv Friday morning/midday.

(b)(5)

Tara

Tara E. F. Maher
 Political Officer
 U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) Witmer, Kami A (USEU) (b)(6) Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

	Libby, Mark W (USEU)	(b)(6)	
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From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
CC:	Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)> Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: WaPo inquiry
Date:	Tue, 8 Oct 2019 17:18:14 +0000

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 1:16:15 PM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Cc: Libby, Mark W (USEU) <(b)(6)>; Takats, Sarah O (USEU) (b)(6)
 (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: WaPo inquiry

Sir,

I received a phone call from Michael Birnbaum at the Washington Post today. Michael asked several questions that I did not / could not answer and have relayed to EUR/Press. (b)(5)

(b)(5) For your reference, here are his questions:

- Whether USEU had approached its EU counterparts to urge them to provide more assistance to Ukraine. (b)(5)
 (b)(5)
 (b)(5)
- To what extent you solicit and heed the advice of members of the Mission, and to what extent Mission staff were aware of the full content of your engagements on Ukraine. Birnbaum noted that he had spoken with an individual who was until recently an American ambassador in Europe and who said that political appointee ambassadors frequently disregard the advice of their staff.

- Whether USEU could confirm that the CMR and/or the Chancery are under renovation. If so, for what reasons (e.g. security, aesthetic, etc.). And whether you had directed that these renovations take place in spite of reservations by USEU staff.

(b)(5)

(b)(6)

Deputy Public Affairs Officer
U.S. Mission to the European Union

(b)(6)



UNCLASSIFIED

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>	
Recipient:	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)	
	Libby, Mark W (USEU)	
	Takats, Sarah O (USEU) <(b)(6)>	
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)	

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
CC:	Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)>
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)
	(b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)>
	(b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Re: Ze not available July 26
Date:	Wed, 24 Jul 2019 04:47:27 +0000

Hold line. (b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:33:05 PM

To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) <(b)(6)>

Cc: Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU)

(b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6)

(USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (Brussels) (b)(6)

(b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Subject: Fwd: Ze not available July 26

Ambassador,

Would you be open to (b)(5)
(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Regards,

Henry

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6) (Kyiv) (b)(6)

Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2019 7:16:15 PM

To: (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6)

Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)

Cc: Holmes, David A (Kyiv) (b)(6); Kelly, Matthew A (Kyiv)

(b)(6) (b)(6) (Kyiv) (b)(6)

Subject: Ze not available July 26

Colleagues -

The Presidential Office just contacted me to say Zelenskyy is NOT available to meet July 26 (b)(5) (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(6) I understand you are departing soon - happy to discuss options over the phone if you are available.

Best,

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6); Witmer, Kami A (USEU) <(b)(6)> (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (USEU) (b)(6) (b)(6) (Brussels) <(b)(6)> Zimmer, Christopher T (USEU) <ZimmerCT@state.gov>

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Zelensky
Date:	Thu, 16 May 2019 15:48:02 +0000

(b)(5)



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 7:26:36 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Subject: RE: Zelensky

Understood. Will have more on the del by 1900 Bxl time.

Regards,
 Henry

From: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU) (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 3:52 PM
To: Haggard, Henry R (USEU) (b)(6)
Subject: Zelensky

Please hold the Delta/KLM PDX-AMS-KYIV flight in business and a suite at the Hyatt Regency. Lmk asap if there is a delegation issue. I have many things to alter if I go



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union

Rue Zinner 13

1000 Brussels, Belgium

(b)(6)

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"(b)(6)
Recipient:	Haggard, Henry R (USEU)(b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" <(b)(6)>
To:	(b)(6) gsondland <(b)(6)>
Subject:	FW: Remarks by President Trump Before Marine One Departure re: Ukraine
Date:	Sun, 13 Oct 2019 13:22:20 +0000

Released in Part



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
United States Mission to the European Union
Rue Zinner 13
1000 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2811-5550

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Morrison, Timothy A. EOP/NSC <(b)(6)>
Sent: Saturday, August 10, 2019 6:53 PM
To: Kent, George P <(b)(6)>
Cc: Wilde Gavin <(b)(6)> (U) Vindman, Alexander S (Kyiv | EOP)
(b)(6); Kurt Volker <(b)(6)> Sondland, Gordon D
(USEU) <(b)(6)> Taylor, William B (Kyiv) <(b)(6)>
Subject: Re: Remarks by President Trump Before Marine One Departure re: Ukraine

Thanks, George.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 10, 2019, at 9:26 AM, Kent, George P <(b)(6)> wrote:

More complete version of the exchange with journalists on the lawn.

Q Mr. President, do you plan invite your Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky to the White House? And what would be your advice for him —

THE PRESIDENT: Who are you talking about?

Q The President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky.

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah.

Q Do you plan to invite him to the White House? And what would be your advice for him on how to communicate with Vladimir Putin to stop the conflict in Eastern Ukraine?

THE PRESIDENT: I think he's going to make a deal with President Putin, and he will be invited to the White House. And we look forward to seeing him. He's already been invited to the White House, and he wants to come. And I think he will. He's a very reasonable guy. He wants to see peace in Ukraine. And I think he will be coming very soon, actually.

Sent from Workspace ONE Boxer

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Date: August 10, 2019 at 7:24:57 AM GMT+3
Subject: Remarks by President Trump Before Marine One Departure re: Ukraine
To: (b)(6) (b)(6) Reinert, David "Mike" (Kyiv)
(b)(6) (Kyiv)
(b)(6) (Kyiv)
(b)(6) (KYIV/PCS)
(b)(6)

Warm greetings. In case you hadn't seen. Note question and response re: Trump re: Ze. Highlighted in yellow.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/remarks-president-trump-marine-one-departure-59/>

South Lawn

9:49 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: So, we're doing very well with China. We're talking to China. We're not ready to make a deal, but we'll see what happens. But, you know, we've been hurt by China for 25, 30 years. Nobody has done anything about it. And we have no choice but to do what we're doing.

It's working out very well, as you know. We called them on manipulation and they brought their numbers back, and they brought them back rapidly. And they were able to do that because they manipulate. But that's — so it's called "monetary manipulation." Not good.

But what happened and what's happening with China now — we have an open dialogue. We'll see whether or not we keep our meeting in September. If we do, that's fine. If we don't, that's fine. But it's time that somebody does what we're doing.

And I said, the American taxpayer is not paying for it. We had a big day in stock market yesterday, but the American taxpayer is not paying for it.

What China is doing is, by depressing their currency and by pouring tremendous amounts of money into their system, they're paying for it. The prices have not gone up. So when the Amer- — in fact, in some cases, they've gone down because the devaluation, plus the money supply — the amount of money that they pour in, which is a form of manipulation — has more than compensated for an increase in price.

So, as I said — and everybody questioned it — in the case of China, the tariffs have been amazing. We're taking in billions and billions of dollars. Now, China has had their worst year in 35 years now. It was in 26 years, but now it's in 35 years. I want them to do well. But as of this moment, they're having the worst year that they've

had in many, many years — in decades. And really, we're just bringing the system back into order.

We have all the cards. We're doing well. Our country is doing fantastically well. You look at Europe; they've got problems. In fact, the biggest problem we have is the fact that a lot of other — continents, frankly — but a lot of other countries are not doing well. But we're doing great, and we continue to do great. Our companies are poised. They have a lot of cash. Our system is beautiful.

Q Mr. President, the NRA has been a strong supporter and ally of yours, going all the way back to the campaign. Can you take a position at odds with the NRA on background checks?

THE PRESIDENT: I think I could, but I don't think I'll be there. I have a great relationship with the NRA. They supported me very early, and that's been a great decision they made. We have Justice Kavanaugh. We have Justice Gorsuch. And they feel very strongly about the Second Amendment.

The NRA has made a great decision in supporting me, and nobody else would have won, aside from everything else. I have a very good relationship. I'll change it: I have a great relationship with the NRA. I have a lot of respect for the people at the NRA. And I have already spoken to them on numerous occasions. Numerous occasions.

And, frankly, we need intelligent background checks, okay? This isn't a question of NRA, Republican, or Democrat. I will tell you, I spoke to Mitch McConnell yesterday. He's totally onboard. He said, "I've been waiting for your call." He is totally onboard. I spoke to senators that, in some cases, people — friends of mine — but pretty hardline senators. Hardline. And when I say that, I say that in a positive way. Hardline on the Second Amendment. And they understand.

We don't want insane people, mentally ill people, bad people, dangerous people — we don't want guns in the hands of the wrong people. I think that the Republicans are going to be great and lead the charge along with the Democrats.

I spoke yesterday to Nancy Pelosi. We had a great talk. I spoke to Chuck Schumer. We had a great talk. And Chuck Schumer, in particular, loves my China policy, as you probably know. I said, "I can't believe it. You actually like something that I'm doing." He said, "Not 'like.' Love."

So Chuck Schumer is — he's great on the China situation, which we are winning and winning big. And China wants to do something, but I'm not ready to do anything yet. Twenty-five years of abuse. I'm not ready so fast. So we'll see how that works out.

But on the background checks — on background checks, we have tremendous support for really commonsense, sensible, important background checks.

Q Mr. President, you expressed support for background checks after Parkland. Why is now different?

THE PRESIDENT: Time goes by. I don't think I'm different, but I think the Senate is different. I think other people in the House are different. I think that people that maybe had their arm up a couple of years ago, maybe they feel differently. I don't think I feel any differently.

I think with a lot of success that we have, I think I have a greater influence now over the Senate and over the House.

Q Can it get done now? Can it get done now?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we can get something really good done. I think we can have some really meaningful background checks. We don't want people that are mentally ill, people that are sick — we don't want them having guns. Who does?

Q Mr. President, but if the NRA does not support that effort, will you fight them on it?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, we'll see where the NRA will be. But we have to have meaningful background checks. You know, in the case of — in both cases, it's possible they wouldn't have been caught.

But in the one case, we also have to talk about age, because he did things that were very, very bad in Ohio, in Dayton. He did some things that were really bad. His school knew about it. When he turned 18, everything was expunged. We're going to have to get rid of that because you can't have that barrier. If they would have had that barrier, they would have been able to see. But because he was a minor, it was expunged. We're going to have to get rid of that barrier.

I think this: I think a lot of really meaningful things on background checks will take place, including red flags, including a lot of other very, very important items. And the Republicans are looking at it very seriously. And I really believe that the NRA — I've spoken to them numerous times — they're really good people. They're great patriots. They love our country. They love our country so much. And, frankly, I really think they're going to get there also.

Q Mr. President, when you talked to Wayne LaPierre — you talked to him several times — did he warn you that background checks could cost you, politically? And did you say to him, "Forget politics, we have to do something now"?

THE PRESIDENT: No. No. I had a good talk with Wayne. And I like Wayne. And, you know — as you know, they supported me very early — far earlier than anybody thought possible, especially me not being a politician. And that support has paid off. We now have two Supreme Court justices that are phenomenal — Kavanaugh and Gorsuch. And, I mean, they're phenomenal people, and they're big believers in the Second Amendment, which Wayne is also and which I am.

I mean, there's been — there's been no President that feels more strongly about the Second Amendment than I do. However, we need meaningful background checks so that sick people don't get guns.

Q Will he support you? Will Wayne support you?

THE PRESIDENT: I think, in the end — I think, in the end, Wayne and the NRA will either be there or maybe will be a little bit more neutral, and that would be okay, too.

Look — look, the NRA has, over the years, taken a very, very tough stance on everything, and I understand it. You know, it's a slippery slope. They think you'll prove one thing, and that leads to a lot of bad things. I don't agree with that.

I think we can do meaningful — very meaningful background checks. I want to see it happen.

So I've got a lot of support. And I also have the support of other people on the other side. And I think the Democrats and Republicans have a chance to really come together.

Q On Mississippi, why wasn't there a better plan in place to deal with the migrant children in Mississippi? Why was there family separation?

THE PRESIDENT: The reason is because you have to go in; you can't let anybody know. Otherwise, when you get there, nobody will be there. But a big factor is to let people outside of the country that want to come in legally — illegally into our country, where they come in in caravans where they surge the border — which, by the way, we have the numbers way down right now, if you see, because Mexico has done a fantastic job.

Mexico has 26,000 soldiers, right now, on the border. They have been fantastic — because of tariffs. But I don't care what it is, because Mexico — in fact, I'll be calling the President at a certain point. I just hope they keep it up. Because if the Democrats will change the laws — which I was thinking about putting together, as you know, with the gun situation. So we have immigration and we have, let's say, some of the things we're talking about right now — you have them together.

But I want people to know that if they come into the United States illegally, they're getting out; they're going to be brought out. And this serves as a very good deterrent. If people come into our country illegally, they're going out. They're not coming in illegally and staying. We have bad laws. They may get in — although we're being very tough — but they may get in, but it doesn't matter because they're going out. And when people see what they saw yesterday, and like they will see for a long time, they know that they're not staying here.

Q (Inaudible) black Americans give you another chance in 2020?

THE PRESIDENT: Oh, I think they really like — you know, it's really amazing because African American unemployment just came out very recently — the lowest in history. It's the best — the best numbers in history. African American employment — and Hispanic and Asian, too — have more people working today than ever worked in the history of our country.

Plus, I did criminal justice reform, which President Obama could not get approved — which the media never talks about. If President Obama got criminal justice reform done, it would be front-page stories all over the place. I got it done. I think that African Americans appreciate it.

So I got that. I have the best unemployment numbers. I have the best employment numbers for a lot of people. But for African Americans: number one that we've ever had.

One other thing we did, aside from criminal justice reform: Opportunity Zones. And they are doing unbelievably well. And you'll see that, and you've already seen it. But Opportunity Zones. And the biggest beneficiary there is African Americans.

Q (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: I think so. Yeah. I do.

Q Mr. President, do you plan invite your Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Zelensky to the White House? And what would be your advice for him —

THE PRESIDENT: Who are you talking about?

Q The President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky.

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah.

Q Do you plan to invite him to the White House? And what would be your advice for him on how to communicate with Vladimir Putin to stop the conflict in Eastern Ukraine?

THE PRESIDENT: I think he's going to make a deal with President Putin, and he will be invited to the White

House. And we look forward to seeing him. He's already been invited to the White House, and he wants to come. And I think he will. He's a very reasonable guy. He wants to see peace in Ukraine. And I think he will be coming very soon, actually.

Q Did you watch Mr. Biden's comments overnight? And does it make you want to change your own rhetoric?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, he comments — look. Look, Joe is not playing with a full deck. He made that comment. I said, "Whoa." I saw it because I was on — something; I had a television. I saw his comment. Joe Biden is not playing with a full deck. This is not somebody you can have as your President. But if he got the nomination, I'd be thrilled.

Q What are you going to do, Mr. President, to keep conservatives from being banned on Twitter?

THE PRESIDENT: We're looking at that right now. We have a lot of these companies coming in a little while, as you know.

Q What are you going to say to them?

THE PRESIDENT: We're going to be very tough with them. They're treating conservatives very unfairly.

Hollywood — I don't call them the "elites"; I think the elites are people they go after, in many cases. But Hollywood is really terrible. You talk about racist — Hollywood is racist. What they're doing, with the kind of movies they're putting out — it's actually very dangerous for our country. What Hollywood is doing is a tremendous disturbance to our country.

We have now, in a little while, all of the heads of the biggest companies coming in, and we're going to talk to them. They treat conservatives and Republicans totally different than they treat others. And they can't do that.

Q Will the Trump administration devalue the U.S. dollar?

THE PRESIDENT: No. We don't have to. We have such a strong dollar. The problem is, our dollar is at a level that it makes it hard. But the advantage to doing what we have is money is pouring in because we have the safest currency in the world. We have the standard of the world.

But because it's so strong — it's gotten so strong because other countries have problems — it makes it harder for our manufacturers.

So if we lowered the interest rate by the Federal Reserve, that would automatically bring down the dollar a little bit, and it would make it easier for Caterpillar and these companies.

But we have the greatest currency in the world. No, I wouldn't do that.

Q Are you thinking of cancelling the trade talk next month with China?

THE PRESIDENT: So, China wants to settle this deal. They've had the worst year that they've had in many, many decades. And it's getting only worse. Thousands of companies are leaving China. They would like to make a deal. I'm not ready to make a deal.

Q But are you willing to cancel the talks next month?

THE PRESIDENT: Maybe. We'll see what happens. Right now — right now the talks are scheduled in September. Whether or not we're talking about China, whether or not they're cancelled, we'll see.

Look, as I said, our people are not paying for these billions and billions of dollars that came in, \$16 billion of which I gave to the farmers because they were targeted by China. And that's just a small fraction of what we've taken in.

So they are not — because what China has been doing — they're a currency manipulator — they've manipulated the value of their currency, and that's where the money comes. And also, they put tremendous money into the system.

So if you look, prices have not risen. Our people have not paid. So all of these guys that say, "Oh, Trump, Trump, Trump..." — they don't know what they're talking about.

Now, China is unique. That doesn't mean it happens with other countries. It probably doesn't. But the prices have not gone up. In fact, we have virtually no inflation in our country. If the Federal Reserve would bring down interest rates over a period of time —

Q How much?

THE PRESIDENT: I would love to see a point or even a little bit more than that. If they would stop quantitative tightening, we have a rocket ship.

I mean, we're doing well without it, but we're being handcuffed by the Federal Reserve. If they would stop that, it would be incredible.

Q Mr. President, do you want to expand South Korea and Japan Military Information Agreement? Will you support them?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I hope that South Korea and I hope that Japan start getting along with each other. You know, they're supposed to be allies. And it puts us in a very difficult position. South Korea and Japan are fighting all the time. They've got to get along because it puts us in a very bad position.

With that being said, I got a very beautiful letter from Kim Jong Un yesterday. It was delivered — hand-delivered from —

Q What did it say?

THE PRESIDENT: It was a very positive letter.

Q What did it say?

THE PRESIDENT: I'd love to give it to you. I really would. Maybe — maybe sometime I will.

Q Kim Jong Un mention of a next meeting and a summit talk?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we'll have another meeting. He really wrote a beautiful, three-page — I mean, right from top to bottom — a really beautiful letter. And maybe I'll release the results of the letter, but it was a very positive letter.

Q Any decision on Huawei?

THE PRESIDENT: We're not going to do business with Huawei. We're not doing business with them. And I really made the decision. It's much simpler not to do any

business with Huawei. So we're not doing business with Huawei. That doesn't mean we won't agree to something if and when we make a trade deal, but we're not going to be doing business with Huawei.

Q When will you nominate someone to replace Coats? Are you looking at Maguire, Hoekstra?

THE PRESIDENT: Maguire is excellent. Admiral. Highly respected. A great leader. He's Acting right now. Sue did a great job. I like Sue Gordon very much.

I think that, over a period of time — I'm in no rush because we have a great Acting.

Q Have you interviewed Hoekstra?

THE PRESIDENT: I like Hoekstra a lot. I spoke to Senator Burr about different people. He's head of intelligence. And we're — I'm working together with Senator Burr and the whole committee. I want to get somebody that everybody can really come together with. I like Pete Hoekstra a lot. He's great. He's doing a fantastic job in the Netherlands right now.

Q You had mentioned it was down to three. Is it more than two?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I will tell you: That's a job that everybody wants. DNI. Everybody. But I'm dealing — I'm dealing with the committee. I'm dealing with, really, Senator Burr a lot. And we'll come up with somebody that's great. We have a lot of choice. A lot of people want the job.

Q Tension between Japan and South Korea, are you concerned?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, I'm concerned that they're not getting along with each other. They have to get along with each other. If they don't get along, what are we doing? They have to get along with each other. It's very important.

South Korea and Japan have to sit down and get along with each other. Otherwise, what are we all doing?

Q Are you considering moving troops from Germany to Poland?

THE PRESIDENT: So, Poland has been a great, great friend of ours. They've offered to build a military base at the cost of many billions of dollars. No money put up by the United States whatsoever. They've offered to fund our troops and lots of other things — the way it should be. Not the stupid deals that we made with all these other countries that take advantage of us.

So, Poland has been terrific. And we're going to be going to Poland very soon. I'm sure you're going to be going with us. I had a great experience in Poland the last time I went. In fact, some of you actually said the speech was one of the best ever made in Europe by an American President. Hard to believe that you actually said that. When you said that, I was, like, in a state of shock.

Q On the fundraiser tonight, did Stephen Ross say anything about potentially cancelling, given the controversy?

THE PRESIDENT: No. Stephen Ross is a great friend of mine. He's a very successful guy. We were competitors but friends in real estate, in New York, in the old days. He's a great guy. He is — by the way, I think he's probably more inclined to be a liberal, if you want to know the truth. But he likes me, he respects me. We're doing a fundraiser there. We're doing another fundraiser with

another friend of mine. And I understand the fundraiser was totally sold out, and it's very successful.

Q Your reaction to the controversy, people boycotting?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think — I think it makes Steve much hotter. I explained — I didn't speak to him yet; I'll see him in a little while. The controversy makes Steve Ross hotter. He'll figure that out in about a week. But he's very happy. He's got a very successful — a lot of people are going.

We have two fundraisers. One is Steve; one is another gentleman. And I guess they're going to raise 11 or 12 billion — million dollars. Not billion. Million.

I'm getting used to saying "billion." We're talking about a lot of money.

Q When you talked about age restrictions to buy guns, 18 months ago you supported buying long guns at the age of 25, raising the age. Are you considering bringing that back now?

THE PRESIDENT: We're not talking about anything specific. I can tell you there's tremendous goodwill for meaningful — I'm talking about "meaningful"; add that word — meaningful background checks so that sick and demented people don't carry around guns.

You have to remember — and I've said it — it's a big mental illness problem. And the gun doesn't pull a trigger. A mind — a sick mind pulls a trigger. So we want to take that out of the equation.

Q Do you support the Toomey-Manchin bill or the House bill? Will you lift your veto threat?

THE PRESIDENT: We're looking at Toomey-Manchin. Actually, if you look, there are many bills that have been put in over a period of four, five years. They went nowhere. But there's never been a President like President Trump.

Q Mr. President, will you call Congress back into session to pass (inaudible)?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think we'll need to. I may. Leadership is dealing along with me right now. By the time you call them back, they're going to be back anyway. I don't think we'll need to call them back. I think we'll have a very good package by the time they come back and they can start debating and voting on it then. So I really don't think, for the extra little time, it matters.

Leadership is doing a really good job — Mitch McConnell, Kevin, Nancy. I spoke with Nancy Pelosi yesterday. I spoke with Chuck Schumer yesterday. There's a lot of goodwill about this issue.

Q And do you think that — I mean, do you need to give a speech to do something to marshal support for this?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think so. No. No.

Q Will you lead the charge?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we have a lot of support. I mean, I'm very fortunate. In the Republican Party, I'm at 94 percent approval rating, so that helps. But I have a great relationship with the Republican senators. And I really think they're looking for me to make — give them a signal. And we're going to have great support, and I think we'll have the support from the Democrats also.

Q Mr. President, you also said this after Parkland. Why should Americans believe you now?

THE PRESIDENT: No, no. I never said what I'm saying now.

Q (Inaudible) background checks after Parkland.

THE PRESIDENT: What I'm saying — what I said, though: You have tremendous opposition from many people on both sides. I see a better feeling right now towards getting something meaningful done. Meaningful. And we did do things after Parkland, but it wasn't to the same level that I'm talking about now.

You know, we did do the Fix NICS and various other things. So we did do a lot of work after Parkland. But I think we have now a chance to do something, really, much more meaningful —

Q Support among Republicans or —

THE PRESIDENT: — having to do — having to do, as you know, with background checks.

Q Mr. President, it's almost back-to-school season. What is your message to young children and teenagers who are anxious or nervous about going back to school after these mass shootings?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, my message to young children going back to school is: Go and really study hard, and someday you'll grow up and maybe be President of the United States or do something else that's fantastic.

They have nothing to fear. They have nothing to worry about. In addition, we're in constant contact with states, with state governments. And they are really doing a great

job. We have this so much better than it was two and a half years ago. Two and a half years ago, when I came in, it was really not a good situation. I think we have a very, very good system right now. That doesn't mean that there's not going to be some crazy person, but that's what we want to do. We want to take the guns out of the hands of crazy, demented, sick people.

Q (Inaudible) assault weapons ban — will you be telling the NRA to stand down?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, we're not looking at that right now. We're really looking at very meaningful background checks. I think it's going to happen. There's great, great support. But we're looking at very, very meaningful background checks.

Q What is the advantage to having Maguire as the head of DNI versus Gordon?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, Admiral — as you know, Maguire — Admiral Maguire is a very talented man. He's a great leader. As an Admiral, was always a great leader. He is a man who is respected by everybody, and he's going to be there for a period of time. Who knows? Maybe he gets the job. But he'll be there for a period of time — maybe a longer period of time than we think. We'll see.

We're dealing with Senator Burr. We're dealing with the committee. We're dealing with probably 9 or 10 people that want the job very much. You know the name of almost every one of them. They're truly outstanding. Everybody wants DNI. Everybody wants it.

And I will say that the Admiral is such a great choice from the standpoint of now. And maybe he goes further. We'll see what happens. But we're dealing with the committee and Senator Burr. We have people, all of whom you

know — highly respected people. We'll be making a decision in the not-too-distant future.

Q Thank you, Mr. President. Are you still committed to naming Eugene Scalia Secretary of Labor? And when will you send a nomination to the Senate?

THE PRESIDENT: So, Eugene Scalia is a highly respected lawyer in Washington. His father, as you know, was the great, great, great Supreme Court Justice. Even the people with not his views would say he was a great gentleman, a great man.

Eugene Scalia — Gene Scalia — has had a fantastic career. As you know, he's our appointment for Labor Secretary. I think — so far, it's been received very well. He is a very — he's one of the finest minds and lawyers in Washington. And I will say, so far, that's been received very well.

Q On North Korea, this letter to you, did Kim Jong Un make any promises about stopping the ballistic missile testing that he's been carrying out?

THE PRESIDENT: Yeah, he gave me a great letter. I would love to give you, but, I don't know, I don't think it would be appropriate. But it was a very personal letter.

Q Talked about missile testing?

THE PRESIDENT: It was a great letter. He talked about what he's doing. He's not happy with the testing. It's a very small testing that we did. But he wasn't happy with the testing; he put that in the letter. But he also sees a great future for North Korea. And so we'll see how it all works out.

In the meantime, I say it again: There have been no nuclear tests. The missile tests have all been short-range. No ballistic missile tests. No long-range missiles. We got back, and we're getting back — as we speak, we're getting back a lot of our fallen heroes. You know that. They're coming back into and through Hawaii. And we got back our hostages.

So I thought the letter — I just got it yesterday. It was hand-delivered and it wasn't touched by anybody. They literally take it from North Korea to my office. We have a system. It's the old-fashioned system. You don't have to worry about leaks. Something nice about that system.

Q Mr. President, what do you mean that he wasn't happy with the missile tests? He carried them out. He ordered them.

THE PRESIDENT: No, he wasn't. He wasn't happy with the tests — the war games. The war games on the other side, with the United States. And as you know, I've never liked it either. I've never liked it. I've never been a fan. You know why? I don't like paying for it. We should be reimbursed for it, and I've told that to South Korea. But I don't like it either. But I said, "Do this," because this was a big test. This was a turnover of various areas to South Korea. I like that because that's what should happen.

Q Several countries issued travel warnings to United States. And Japan specifically said gunfire is potentially everywhere in the U.S. What is your reaction to that?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I can't imagine that. But if they did that, we'd just reciprocate. We are a very reciprocal nation, with me as the head. When somebody does something negative to us in terms of a country, we do it to them.

Look, our country has been taken advantage of by foreign countries, even allies — including allies, and in many cases, more than anybody else. We've been taken advantage of for many, many years, and it stops. It stopped.

Q In your view, Mr. President, should Colin Kaepernick get an opportunity to play in the NFL?

THE PRESIDENT: Only if he's good enough. Yeah, if he's good enough. Why would he play? If he's good enough. And I think if he was good enough — I know the owners. I know Bob Kraft. I know so many of the owners. If he's good enough, they'd sign him. So, if he's good enough — I know these people — they would sign him in a heartbeat. They will do anything they can to win games.

So I'd like to see it. Frankly, I'd love to see Kaepernick come in if he's good enough. But I don't want to see him come in because somebody thinks it's a good PR move. If he's good enough, he will be in.

Q Are you worried about global markets pulling back at all?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, the global markets are not as good as our market. Our market has been really good.

Q Are you worried about the effect — the (inaudible) effect to the U.S.?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, it always — it's never positive. Although, you could say it puts us in an even better position. I view it differently. I mean, most people would say that's a bad thing. I would say the fact that other countries aren't doing really well — China, in particular. China is doing horribly. Horribly. First time that anyone can remember. They are having a year like they never

had. Almost — you know, go back, 30, 40 years. They're having one of the worst years ever. The numbers are phony. They're not doing 6.2; they're doing a totally different number.

Q What do you think they're doing?

THE PRESIDENT: Maybe neutral. Maybe even —

Q Does Democrats calling you and your supporters a white nationalist, a white supremacist, help you?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't think it helps. First of all, I don't like it when they do it because I am not any of those things. I think it's a disgrace. And I think it shows how desperate the Democrats are. Look, right now, I'm working with the Democrats on meaningful background checks. That's a big thing. Hopefully, we can do something. But — so I don't want to focus too much on that.

I will say this: For them to throw out the race word again — “racist, racist, racist.” That's all they use — to anybody. They called Nancy Pelosi a racist. She's not a racist. They call anybody a “racist” when they run out of cards.

I'm winning in the polls. They're desperate. They've got lousy candidates. They've got bad candidates. I mean, I watched the debates. I mean, I look —

Q (Inaudible.)

THE PRESIDENT: I look — well, I mean, Joe Biden can't answer a simple question. Something is going wrong with him. I mean, the only — the only thing is — I mean, a lot of people think that he was the one that wanted Bob

Mueller to testify because it made Joe look intelligent.
Okay?

Q Is your base supporting background checks?

THE PRESIDENT: I think my base relies very much on common sense and they rely on me, in terms of telling them what's happening. I think meaningful background checks — I don't just say "background checks." Because we passed background checks a number of times, meaning the Democr- — but everybody knew they weren't that strong.

Q Do you want to expand the law?

THE PRESIDENT: I think meaningful background checks are a real positive. Politically, I can't tell you. You know, I don't know — good, bad, or indifferent. I don't care, politically. I don't want to have crazy people having guns.

END

10:22 A.M. EDT

Best -

(b)(6)

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Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland <(b)(6)>
Subject:	Fwd: EUR Press Final Guidance Package 08-26-19
Date:	Mon, 26 Aug 2019 21:06:48 +0000

Released in Part



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
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From: Webster, Elizabeth W <(b)(6)>
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2019 2:05:55 PM
To: EUR-Press <EUR-Press-DL@state.gov>
Subject: EUR Press Final Guidance Package 08-26-19

THERE WAS NO DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING TODAY.

FINAL MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019
 GUIDANCES

POSTED Statement - U.S. Continues to Push for Action Two Years after Rohingya Ethnic
 - Cleansing

POSTED Statement - Uruguay's National Day

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POSTED	Statement	- <u>Ukraine's Independence Day</u>
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POSTED	Media	- <u>Assistant Secretary David R. Stilwell Travels to Timor-Leste, Indonesia,</u>
	Note	- <u>Brunei, and Singapore</u>
POSTED	Media	- <u>The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations Announces the Charter</u>
	Note	- <u>Renewal for the Industry Advisory Group</u>
POSTED	Media	- <u>Deputy Secretary Sullivan and White House Advisor Ivanka Trump</u>
	Note	- <u>Travel to Colombia, Argentina, and Paraguay for W-GDP Initiative</u>
POSTED	Fact Sheet	- <u>This Week in Iran Policy, August 19–23</u>
		-
POSTED	Readout	- <u>Secretary Pompeo's Call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin</u>
		- <u>Netanyahu</u>
AF	Tanzania	- <u>U.S. Direct Hire Vehicle Accident</u>
		-
AF	Sudan	- <u>Discussions between the United States and Sudan PM Hamdok</u>
		-
EAP	Japan/RO	- <u>Liancourt Rocks Military Exercises</u>
	K	-
EUR	Poland	- <u>Proposed Sale of the F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter</u>
		-
WHA	Brazil	- <u>Fires and Deforestation</u>
		-

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 24, 2019

STATEMENT BY MORGAN ORTAGUS, SPOKESPERSON

U.S. Continues to Push for Action Two Years after Rohingya Ethnic Cleansing

Two years ago, Burma's security forces engaged in a brutal attack against hundreds of thousands of unarmed men, women, and children in a grossly disproportionate response to attacks by militants on security posts in northern Rakhine State. The Burmese military's horrific atrocities against Rohingya villagers caused an exodus of more than 740,000 Rohingya to Bangladesh in actions that constituted ethnic cleansing.

Rakhine State is not the only place in Burma where the military has committed violations of human rights against the Burmese people over the past seventy years. The lack of accountability and civilian oversight of the military means that military abuses continue today in Rakhine State, as well as Kachin and Shan States and elsewhere in Burma. We call upon all those involved to respect human rights, allow unhindered humanitarian access, and engage in political dialogue to pursue peace.

We appreciate the Government of Bangladesh's ongoing generosity in hosting these refugees. The United States is the leading contributor of humanitarian assistance in response to the Rohingya crisis, providing nearly \$542 million since the outbreak of violence in August 2017. We continue to call on others to join us in contributing to this humanitarian response.

Our thoughts are with the victims of these abuses and the more than one million refugees who have been forced to find refuge in Bangladesh. Justice and accountability are essential for Burma's efforts to build a strong, peaceful, secure, and prosperous democracy. We continue to call on others to support efforts to promote justice and facilitate conditions for voluntary return.

As August also marks the two years since the release of the Kofi Annan-led Advisory Commission on Rakhine State's report and recommendations, many of which concern the institutional discrimination against Rohingya that continues to this day. We continue to encourage the Burmese government to implement the Advisory Commission's recommendations, which offer the best path forward for Burma and all the people of Rakhine State, as well as all those who fled. We continue to work with international organizations to encourage Burma to create the conditions that would allow for the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of refugees to their places of origin or other places of their choosing.

#

Approved: EAP: A/DAS Mark Clark (ok)

Drafted: EAP: (b)(6) cell: (b)(6)

Cleared: EAP: (b)(6) (ok)
 DRL: (b)(6) (ok)
 DRL/IRF: (ok)
 GPA: (ok)
 J/GCJ: (ok)
 L/HRR: (b)(6) (ok)
 L/EAP: (b)(6) (ok)
 PRM: (b)(6) (ok)
 D: ()
 P: (ok)
 S/P (ok)
 R: (ok)
 SCA: (ok)
 J: (info by request)
 Rangoon: (ok)
 SPOX: (ok)
 S Approvers (b)(6) (ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 24, 2019

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY POMPEO

Uruguay's National Day

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I congratulate the people of Uruguay on the 194th anniversary of your independence on August 25.

The United States and Uruguay enjoy a close and enduring relationship. We look forward to expanding our cooperation to advance democracy, security, and economic prosperity for both our countries and in the region. In the years to come, the link between our nations will only grow stronger as we work together to promote these shared ideals.

As the people of Uruguay celebrate this anniversary, the United States reaffirms its commitment to our long-lasting partnership and close friendship.

###

Approved: WHA – Kevin O'Reilly, A/PDAS [KO]

Drafted by: (b)(6) ext. (b)(6)

Clearances:

WHA/FO: DPrince, acting (ok)

WHA/Press: (b)(6) (ok)

WHA/BSC: (b)(6) (ok)

S/P: (b)(6) (ok)

P: (b)(6) (ok)

D: (ok)

DRL/WHA: (b)(6) (ok)

WHA/EPSC: (b)(6) (ok)

U.S. Emb. Montevideo: JSavage (ok)

CDA: JSavage (ok)

PAO: (b)(6) (ok)

R: JHall Godfrey (ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 24, 2019

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY POMPEO

Ukraine's Independence Day

On behalf of President Trump and the American people, I congratulate all Ukrainians on the 28th anniversary of your nation's independence.

The United States remains steadfast in its support for a prosperous, democratic, and free Ukraine, secure within its internationally recognized borders including the occupied districts of the Donbas and Crimea, and resilient against Russian aggression. This year's presidential and parliamentary elections affirmed Ukrainians' desire for a peaceful, prosperous, and democratic future. As President Zelenskyy has noted, by fulfilling its potential, Ukraine can become a model for other countries in the region and beyond. The United States stands with Ukraine at this moment of historic opportunity, and we look forward to working with the new government and the people of Ukraine to advance reforms crucial to your country's success.

Best wishes for a joyous Independence Day and a peaceful and prosperous year ahead.

###

Approved: R: JHallGodfrey

EUR: Philip T. Reeker, Acting [PTR]

Drafted: EUR/EE – (b)(6) ext (b)(6) and cell: (b)(6)

Cleared: EUR/FO: McCormack, A/PDAS (ok)

EUR/FO: (b)(6) (ok)

EUR/EE (b)(6) (ok)

EUR/PD: (b)(6) (ok)

D: (b)(6)

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(ok)

S/P: (b)(6)

(ok)

Embassy Kyiv: CDA William Taylor

(ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

MEDIA NOTE

August 26, 2019

Assistant Secretary David R. Stilwell Travels to Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Brunei, and Singapore
Assistant Secretary David R. Stilwell will visit Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Brunei, and Singapore, August 27 to September 7, 2019 in his first visit to each of these countries in his new role.

Assistant Secretary Stilwell will be in Dili August 29 to 31, where he will meet with Timor-Leste President of the Republic H.E. Francisco Guterres Lu-Olo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation H.E. Dionisio Babo Soares, Minister of Defense and Interim Minister of Interior H.E. Filomeno Paixão de Jesus, and Chief Negotiator for Maritime Boundaries H.E. Xanana Gusmão to strengthen our partnership and encourage development of democratic institutions, rule of law, and economic development within Timor-Leste. On August 30 he will represent the United States at official ceremonies commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Popular Referendum, the United Nations-supervised vote that led to Timor-Leste's separation from Indonesia and eventual independence in 2002.

From September 1 to 3, Assistant Secretary Stilwell will be in Jakarta to meet with senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Maritime Affairs, as well as representatives from the offices of the President and the Vice President, to discuss a range of issues reflecting our nations' 70 years of shared values of diversity, partnership, and prosperity. While in Jakarta, Assistant Secretary Stilwell will meet with participants in the regional Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), as well as have ASEAN-related discussions regarding the future of ASEAN and its place at the heart of the free and open Indo-Pacific region.

In Bandar Seri Begawan from September 3 to 4, Assistant Secretary Stilwell will meet with senior officials from the Bruneian government, including Minister of Foreign Affairs II Dato Seri Paduka Erywan Yusof, to discuss our broad and growing bilateral relationship. The Assistant Secretary will also discuss U.S.-Brunei security cooperation and explore ways to enhance economic ties and further cultural and educational connections.

Finally, from September 5 to 6, the Assistant Secretary will be in Singapore and will meet with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan, and other senior officials to discuss our countries' relationship anchored in our indispensable security cooperation, vibrant economic ties, and shared values for sustaining a rules-based world.

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CLEARANCES:

Lead Bureau: EAP

Approved: EAP/FO: Assistant Secretary Stilwell

Drafted: (b)(6) EAP/P (b)(6)

Clearances: S/P: (b)(6) - ok
P: (b)(6) - ok
D: (b)(6) - ok
EAP/FO: (b)(6) - ok
EAP/FO: (b)(6) - ok
EAP/MTS: (b)(6) - ok
EAP/MTS: (b)(6) - ok
EAP/MLA: - ok

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 26, 2019

MEDIA NOTE

The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations
Announces the Charter Renewal for the Industry Advisory Group

The Department of State has renewed the Charter of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations' Industry Advisory Group (IAG) for an additional two-year period. The Industry Advisory Group (IAG) serves in an advisory capacity with respect to industry and academia's latest concepts, methods, best practices, innovations, and ideas related to the OBO mission of providing safe, secure, functional, and resilient facilities that represent the U.S. Government to the host nation and support our staff in the achievement of U.S. foreign policy objectives around the globe.

The IAG is comprised of leading American industry and academic professionals with extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of asset and property management, planning, acquisition, sales, leasing, design, engineering, construction, historic preservation, resiliency, natural hazards, emergency operations, program development, as well as facilities operations and maintenance.

The group meets annually in the spring at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. Procedures for registration are included with each meeting announcement, no later than fifteen business days before each meeting.

OBO provides safe, secure, functional, and resilient facilities that represent the U.S. Government to the host nation and support our staff in the achievement of U.S. foreign policy objectives. These facilities represent American values and the best in American architecture, design, engineering, technology, sustainability, art, culture, and construction execution.

For further information, please visit the OBO website at <https://overseasbuildings.state.gov/> , or contact Christine Foushee at FousheeCT@state.gov.

#

Approved: OBO/EA – C. Foushee **ok**

Drafted: OBO/EA-(b)(6)

Cleared: OBO/FO-(b)(6) ok

OBO/FO-(b)(6) ok

D: (b)(6) ok

S/P: (b)(6) ok

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BP: (b)(6) ok

M: (b)(6) ok

H/RGF: (b)(6) ok

L/M: (b)(6) ok

M/WHL: (b)(6) ok

CGFS-(b)(6) ok

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

MEDIA NOTE

August 26, 2019

Deputy Secretary Sullivan and White House Advisor Ivanka Trump Travel to Colombia, Argentina, and
Paraguay for W-GDP Initiative

Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan will travel with Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump to Colombia, Argentina, and Paraguay September 3-6. This trip will further strengthen U.S. partnerships in the region on women's economic empowerment in support of the White House's Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP). Deputy Secretary Sullivan and Advisor Ivanka Trump will engage with senior government officials and civil society stakeholders in all three countries. In events with the Department of Defense, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), and the Peace Corps, Deputy Secretary Sullivan and Advisor Ivanka Trump will underscore the United States' whole-of-government support for women's economic and political integration and empowerment.

The Deputy Secretary will also further relations on counter narcotics and citizen security, the crisis in Venezuela, and expanding economic opportunity.

Follow Deputy Secretary Sullivan's travel via @StateDept on Twitter and Advisor Ivanka Trump via @IvankaTrump. For more information visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>. Go to the Department's Flickr account for the latest trip photos, and stay connected at <https://blogs.state.gov/engage>.

Approved: WHA – Kevin O'Reilly, A/PDAS [KOR]

Drafted: WHA/PDA: (b)(6)

Cleared: WHA/FO: (b)(6) (ok)
 WHA/AND: (b)(6) (ok)
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 P: (b)(6) (ok)
 D: (b)(6) (ok)
 WHA/BSC: (b)(6) (ok)
 WHA/AND: (b)(6) (ok)
 WHA/VZ: (b)(6) (no response)
 WHA/PPC: (b)(6) (ok)
 WHA/EPSC: (b)(6) (info)
 F: (b)(6) (ok)
 EB/TPN/BTA: (b)(6) (ok)
 EB/IFD/OMA: (b)(6) (ok)
 EB/IFD/ODF: (b)(6) (ok)
 EB/FO: (b)(6) (ok)
 EB/TFS/SPI: (b)(6) (ok)
 EB/EPPD: (b)(6) (ok)
 DRL/WHA: (b)(6) (ok)
 INL/PRESS: (b)(6) (ok)
 PM/CPA: (b)(6) (ok)
 PM/RSAT: (b)(6) (ok)
 PM/GPI: (b)(6) (ok)
 PM/WRA: (b)(6) (ok)
 S/GWI: (b)(6) (ok)
 OPIC: (b)(6) (ok)
 Embassy Buenos Aires: (b)(6) (ok)

Embassy Asuncion:	(b)(6)	(ok)
Embassy Bogota:	A/DCM JWard	(ok)
R:	(b)(6)	(ok)
D:	(b)(6)	(ok)
USAID Press:	(b)(6)	(ok)
DoD:	(b)(6)	(ok)
Peace Corps		(info)
WH:	(b)(6)	(ok)
GPA:	(b)(6)	(ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 23, 2019

FACT SHEET

This Week in Iran Policy, August 19–23

“At the #UNSC today, I made clear that the U.S. will continue to act in concert with our allies and partners to bring stability and prosperity to the Middle East. By doing so, we will sustain the same things for the American people and our friends around the world.”

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 20

IRANIAN VESSEL GRACE I

“A message to all mariners – if you crew an IRGC or other FTO-affiliated ship, you jeopardize future entry to the U.S. #NotWorthIt”

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 15

- The United States assesses that the M/T Grace I, now renamed the Adrian Darya I, is assisting the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) by transporting oil from Iran to Syria. This could result in serious consequences for any individuals associated with the Grace I.
- The United States continues to work with its partners and allies and use all the tools at its disposal to deny Iran and its proxies the resources they need to engage in malign and destabilizing activities in Syria and elsewhere. This includes the full enforcement of U.S. sanctions with respect to Iran and the IRGC.
- The maritime community should be aware that the U.S. government intends to revoke visas held by members of such crews.
- Please see the full [press statement](#) for more information.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR IRAN BRIAN HOOK BRIEFING AT FOREIGN PRESS CENTER

“We very much want to see a more peaceful and stable Middle East, and for as long as Iran is moving illicit oil around the world to fund its terrorist operations, it’s important that we do something about it.”

– Special Rep for Iran Brian Hook, New York Foreign Press Center Briefing, August 20

- Special Representative for Iran Brian Hook participated in a briefing with Foreign Press Center which corresponded with Secretary of State Pompeo's participation at the UN Security Council discussion, hosted by the Polish Mission to the UN, on challenges to peace and security in the Middle East and the Administration's support for multilateral solutions.
- Please see Special Representative for Iran Brian Hook's remarks for more information.

SECRETARY OF STATE POMPEO AT UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE AND SECURITY

"The Iranian regime is the greatest ongoing threat to peace and security in the region. At the #UNSC, I condemned its testing of advanced ballistic missile systems, support to proxies in the #MiddleEast, and inexcusable sabotage and seizure of commercial vessels in the Gulf."

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 20

- Secretary Pompeo made remarks at the UN Security Council on August 20, 2019 on the challenges to peace and security in the Middle East, emphasizing the importance for greater cooperation in the Middle East.
- Secretary Pompeo also met with Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz to identify the key challenges in the region and propose solutions, naming the greatest ongoing threat to peace and security in the region as the Islamic Republic of Iran.

COUNTDOWN TO TERROR CLOCK

"The @UN arms embargo on #Iran and the travel ban on Qasem Soleimani expire in October 2020. Our #CountdownToTerror clock is tracking how long until Iran is unleashed to create new global turmoil. We must not let this happen"

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 20

- At the UN, the Secretary reminded nations that the UN arms embargo on Iran and the UN travel ban on individuals – including General Soleimani – will expire next year in October. The Security Council has a role to play to ensure that the arms embargo on the world's top sponsor of terrorism does not expire. On the State Department's Iran online page, we have a countdown clock to the expiration date of the arms embargo and the travel ban.
- Please see the Department of State website for more information.

###

Drafted:

NEA –

(b)(6)

ext.

(b)(6)

Cleared: NEA/IR: (b)(6) OK
S/IAG: (b)(6) OK
D: (b)(6) OK
P: (b)(6) OK
S/P: (b)(6) OK
IO/Press: (b)(6) OK
NSC: (b)(6) INFO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 25, 2019

READOUT

Secretary Pompeo's Call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

The below is attributable to Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus:

Secretary Pompeo spoke by phone today with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu regarding recent Israeli airstrikes in Syria. The Secretary expressed support for Israel's right to defend itself from threats posed by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and to take action to prevent imminent attacks against Israeli assets in the region. The Secretary and the Prime Minister discussed how Iran is leveraging its foothold in Syria to threaten Israel and its neighbors. The Prime Minister noted that Israel would strike IRGC targets threatening Israel, wherever they are located.

#

Clearances:

S (ok)

Spox (ok)

AF Press Guidance

August 26, 2019

Tanzania: U.S. Direct Hire Vehicle Accident

(b)(5)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

(SBU) (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Approved: AF/FO Makila James (ok)

AF/FO Elizabeth Fitzsimmons (ok)

Drafted by: Embassy Dar es Salaam/PAS: (b)(6)

POC: AF/PDPA: (b)(6) .

Clearances: AF/E: (b)(6) (ok)

L: (b)(6) (ok)

CA/:P: (b)(6) (info by request)

DS/PA: (b)(6) (ok)

Peace Corps: (b)(6) (ok)

S/P: (b)(6) (ok)

D: (b)(6) (no response)

P: (b)(6) (ok)

R: (b)(6) (ok)

M: (b)(6) (ok)

DGHR: (b)(6) (ok)

NSC: (b)(6) (no response)

Embassy Dar es Salaam/MGMT: (b)(6) (ok)

AF Press Guidance

August 26, 2019

SUDAN: Discussions between the United States and Sudan PM Hamdok

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

Background

(SBU) (b)(5)

(b)(5)

AP Interview: Sudan PM seeks end to country's pariah status

August 26, 2019

By Justin Lynch | AP

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Sudan's new prime minister said in an interview that ending his country's international pariah status and drastically cutting military spending are prerequisites for rescuing the nation's faltering economy.

Abdalla Hamdok, a respected former official with the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, told The Associated Press on Sunday that he has already talked to U.S. officials about removing Sudan from Washington's list of countries sponsoring terrorism, and portrayed their reaction as positive.

He also called for sharply reducing military spending, hoping for a "peace dividend" if current efforts to negotiate deals with armed rebels are successful. He said military spending takes up as much as 80% of the state budget.

Sudan stagnated for three decades under former President Omar al-Bashir, convulsed by a bloody civil war and rebellions in its far-flung provinces. Al-Bashir's autocratic rule ended in April when the military ousted him after mass street protests by a pro-democracy movement, which began late last year.

"For 30 years, we were isolated," Hamdok said in the interview in the capital of Khartoum. "We were treated as a pariah state. We want to tell the world we are moving away from sanctions, issues of punishment and all that, to a Sudan that is coming back to the fold of normal nations."

As Sudan begins a new chapter, getting off America's state sponsor of terror list is the "key to anything that we can do in this country," Hamdok said, adding that a "democratic Sudan is not a threat to anybody in the world."

Still, tensions between the military and civilians are expected to feature prominently in Hamdok's unruly transitional government, which is expected to last three years before general elections.

In such an environment, Hamdok faces an uphill battle to carry out ambitious economic reforms, said Jehanne Henry, a Sudan researcher at Human Rights Watch. Henry said Hamdok "has to work with the generals, who could veto things."

Although Hamdok heads the transitional Cabinet, the military leaders that ousted al-Bashir still want a large role in the transition. Sudan's top general, Abdel-Fattah

Burhan, was sworn in Wednesday as the leader of a joint military-civilian Sovereign Council. Five of its 11 members are from the military.

Hamdok said he is committed to making a partnership with the generals work.

The United States named Sudan a state sponsor of terror in 1993, and the designation stuck through the al-Bashir regime. As one of the last acts of the Obama administration, the United States began a formal process to de-list Sudan in January 2017, but this was put on hold when mass protests began in December. Moves to de-list Sudan could resume once the country's political situation has stabilized.

The U.S. State Department was not immediately available for comment Sunday.

"We appreciate and understand that there is a process, both I think in government and Congress," Hamdok said, adding he hopes it happens soon because "it has very serious implications on our situation."

Removing Sudan from the state sponsor of terror list would open the door to foreign investment and allow the country to receive a sorely needed International Monetary Fund and World Bank bailout package, Hamdok said.

Sudan is nearly \$60 billion in debt, and Hamdok said the interest on the debt payments is roughly \$3 billion.

He said his aim is economic stability and a properly managed currency, along with transparency and opportunities for foreign investors.

“If you make profit and you want to repatriate your profit, we will be open to that,” Hamdok said. “This is the last frontier. The rest of the world has finished its infrastructure projects.”

Hamdok said he wants to bring all state spending, including for the military under the control of the ministry of finance. Asked if the military budget should be smaller, Hamdok said: “Absolutely.”

Hamdok said ending the country’s rebellions would allow him to allocate no more than 20% of the budget to the military. “The rest of it should go to development issues — addressing issues of health, education and infrastructure development and reviving the economy,” he said.

The economy largely stagnated under al-Bashir and sharply deteriorated last year, leading to the protests that eventually brought him down. During his rule, al-Bashir failed to keep the peace in the religiously and ethnically diverse nation, losing three quarters of Sudan’s oil wealth when the mainly animist and Christian south seceded in 2011 following a referendum.

Sudan is also one of the world’s most corrupt nations.

The power-sharing agreement signed this month between the military and protesters calls for the government to reach a peace agreement with armed groups within six months.

The country's most infamous conflict, in the Darfur region, broke out in 2003. Al-Bashir's government mobilized Arab militias accused of burning villages to the ground, massacring civilians and carrying out mass rapes among non-Arabs in the region.

Al-Bashir, who is imprisoned in the capital of Khartoum, faces charges of war crimes and genocide linked to the Darfur conflict, although the military has said he won't be extradited to the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Hamdok said that immediately after the new government is formed, a "peace commission" will be established to try to reconcile with the country's armed groups.

He also said there needs to be accountability for violence committed against rebels and against scores of protesters killed in the pro-democracy protests.

"Justice has to be resolved. And it has to be seen as being achieved," he said. "We will have to reach a conclusion that satisfies the victims."

“In the past there were no intentions from both sides, the government and the armed groups, to reach an agreement,” he said. “But today there is resolve, there is determination.”

A cease-fire has held since the military overthrow of al-Bashir in April. The rebels had held rounds of talks with the now-dissolved military council and the pro-democracy movement.

The military has taken trust-building moves, including dropping charges and death sentences against rebel leaders and releasing dozens of rebel prisoners.

The armed groups had rejected a final deal between the civilians and government officials over the structures of the transitional government, Hamdok said.

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Clearances:

Final Clearance: AF/FO: DAS Makila James ok

CT/FO: A/S Sales ok

Drafted by: AF/USSESS: (b)(6) ext (b)(6) cell (b)(6)

Clearances:

AF/PDPA Elizabeth Fitzsimmons ok

AF/USSESS: (b)(6) ok

CT/Press: (b)(6) ok

L: (b)(6) ok

S/P: ok

D: no response

P: ok

R: ok

NSC: ok

EAP Press Guidance

August 26, 2019

ROK/Japan – Liancourt Rocks Military Exercises

(b)(5)

Approved: EAP/FO – DAS Marc Knapper (ok)

Drafted: EAP/K – (b)(6) ext. (b)(6) and cell: (b)(6)

Cleared:

EAP/K: (b)(6) (ok)

EAP/P: (b)(6) (ok)

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P: (b)(6) (ok)

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R: (b)(6) (ok)

L/EAP: (b)(6)

OSD: (b)(6)

OSD:

(ok)

(ok)

(ok)

PM Contingency Press Guidance

August 26, 2019

Poland: Proposed Sale of the F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter

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(b)(5)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Approved: PM/FO – Mike Miller, Acting (MM)

Drafted: PM/CPA: (b)(6) ext. (b)(6)

Cleared:	PM/RSAT:	(b)(6)	(ok)
	EUR/CE:		(ok)
	EUR/RPM:		(ok)
	EUR/PRA:		(ok)
	EUR/Press:		(ok)
	L/PM:		(ok)
	T:		(ok)
	H:		(ok)
	P:		(ok)
	D:		(ok)
	S/P:		(ok)
	OSD PA:		(No Response)
	DSCA:		(ok)

OES/WHA Press Guidance

August 26, 2019

Brazil: Fires and Deforestation

(b)(5)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

(b)(5)

Public language:

“Just spoke with President @JairBolsonaro of Brazil. Our future Trade prospects

are very exciting and our relationship is strong, perhaps stronger than ever before. I told him if the United States can help with the Amazon Rainforest fires, we stand ready to assist!" (President Trump, August 23, 2019).

"As Americans, we all share an immense pride in these God-given treasures and a tremendous appreciation for our abundance of natural resources. Environmental protection and economic prosperity go hand in hand. A strong market economy is essential to protecting our critical natural resources and fostering a legacy of conservation. My Administration is committed to being effective stewards of our environment while encouraging opportunities for American workers and their families. At the same time that our Nation is experiencing historic economic and job growth, our air and water quality ranks among the highest in the world. Under my Administration, we are improving the quality of life for communities across America by strengthening the security and reliability of our drinking water and accelerating spending on water infrastructure. Additionally, we have expanded support for conservation of land, water, and wildlife, and we are reforming land management policies to improve the health of our forests and other Federal lands" (President Trump, April 22, 2019).

Approved: OES: Jonathan Margolis, Acting SBO (Ok)

Drafted: OES/PPO: (b)(6) x5-1805

Clearances: OES/E: (b)(6) (Ok)

OES/PPO: (b)(6) (Ok)

OES/EGC: (b)(6) (Ok)

OES/ECW: (b)(6) (Ok)

WHA/FO: JChung (Ok)

WHA/FO: KO'Reilly (Ok)

WHA/FO: JPiechowski (no response)

WHA/Press: (b)(6) (Ok)

WHA/BSC: (b)(6) (Ok)

WHA/EPSC: (b)(6) (Ok)

Embassy Brasilia/FO: WPop (Ok)

EB/EPPD: (b)(6) (Ok)

EB/TPN: (b)(6) (Ok)

EB/IFD: (b)(6) (info)

USAID: (b)(6) (Ok)

E: (b)(6) (Ok)

P: (b)(6) (Ok)

D: (b)(6) (Ok)

S/P: (b)(6) (Ok)

NSC: (b)(6) (Ok)

GPA: ()

Unclassified

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)"	(b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland	(b)(6)

FINAL
GUIDANCES

MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019

POSTED	Statement	--	<u>U.S. Continues to Push for Action Two Years after Rohingya Ethnic Cleansing</u>
POSTED	Statement	--	<u>Uruguay's National Day</u>
POSTED	Statement	--	<u>Ukraine's Independence Day</u>
POSTED	Media Note	--	<u>Assistant Secretary David R. Stilwell Travels to Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Brunei, and Singapore</u>
POSTED	Media Note	--	<u>The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations Announces the Charter Renewal for the Industry Advisory Group</u>
POSTED	Media Note	--	<u>Deputy Secretary Sullivan and White House Advisor Ivanka Trump Travel to Colombia, Argentina, and Paraguay for W-GDP Initiative</u>
POSTED	Fact Sheet	--	<u>This Week in Iran Policy, August 19-23</u>
POSTED	Readout	--	<u>Secretary Pompeo's Call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu</u>
AF	Tanzania	--	<u>U.S. Direct Hire Vehicle Accident</u>
AF	Sudan	--	<u>Discussions between the United States and Sudan PM Hamdok</u>
EAP	Japan/ROK	--	<u>Liancourt Rocks Military Exercises</u>
EUR	Poland	--	<u>Proposed Sale of the F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter</u>
WHA	Brazil	--	<u>Fires and Deforestation</u>

THERE WAS NO DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING TODAY.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 24, 2019

STATEMENT BY MORGAN ORTAGUS, SPOKESPERSON

U.S. Continues to Push for Action Two Years after Rohingya Ethnic Cleansing

Two years ago, Burma's security forces engaged in a brutal attack against hundreds of thousands of unarmed men, women, and children in a grossly disproportionate response to attacks by militants on security posts in northern Rakhine State. The Burmese military's horrific atrocities against Rohingya villagers caused an exodus of more than 740,000 Rohingya to Bangladesh in actions that constituted ethnic cleansing.

Rakhine State is not the only place in Burma where the military has committed violations of human rights against the Burmese people over the past seventy years. The lack of accountability and civilian oversight of the military means that military abuses continue today in Rakhine State, as well as Kachin and Shan States and elsewhere in Burma. We call upon all those involved to respect human rights, allow unhindered humanitarian access, and engage in political dialogue to pursue peace.

We appreciate the Government of Bangladesh's ongoing generosity in hosting these refugees. The United States is the leading contributor of humanitarian assistance in response to the Rohingya crisis, providing nearly \$542 million since the outbreak of violence in August 2017. We continue to call on others to join us in contributing to this humanitarian response.

Our thoughts are with the victims of these abuses and the more than one million refugees who have been forced to find refuge in Bangladesh. Justice and accountability are essential for Burma's efforts to build a strong, peaceful, secure, and prosperous democracy. We continue to call on others to support efforts to promote justice and facilitate conditions for voluntary return.

As August also marks the two years since the release of the Kofi Annan-led Advisory Commission on Rakhine State's report and recommendations, many of which concern the institutional discrimination against Rohingya that continues to this day. We continue to encourage the Burmese government to implement the Advisory Commission's recommendations, which offer the best path forward for Burma and all the people of Rakhine State, as well as all those who fled. We continue to work with international organizations to encourage Burma to create the conditions that would allow for the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of refugees to their places of origin or other places of their choosing.

###

Approved: EAP: A/DAS Mark Clark (ok)

Drafted: EAP: (b)(6) xt – 7-0056 cell: (b)(6)

Cleared: EAP: (b)(6) (ok)
 DRL: (ok)
 DRL/IRF: (ok)
 GPA: (ok)
 J/GCJ: (ok)
 L/HRR: (ok)
 L/EAP: (ok)
 PRM: (ok)
 D: ()
 P: (ok)
 S/P (ok)
 R: (ok)
 SCA: (ok)
 J: (info by request)
 Rangoon: (ok)
 SPOX: (ok)
 S Approvers (ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 24, 2019

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY POMPEO

Uruguay's National Day

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, I congratulate the people of Uruguay on the 194th anniversary of your independence on August 25.

The United States and Uruguay enjoy a close and enduring relationship. We look forward to expanding our cooperation to advance democracy, security, and economic prosperity for both our countries and in the region. In the years to come, the link between our nations will only grow stronger as we work together to promote these shared ideals.

As the people of Uruguay celebrate this anniversary, the United States reaffirms its commitment to our long-lasting partnership and close friendship.

#

Approved: WHA – Kevin O'Reilly, A/PDAS [KO]

Drafted by: (b)(6) (ext. (b)(6))

Clearances:

WHA/FO: DPrince, acting	(ok)
WHA/Press: (b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/BSC: (b)(6)	(ok)
S/P: (b)(6)	(ok)
P: (b)(6)	(ok)
D: (b)(6)	(ok)
DRL/WHA: (b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/EPSC: (b)(6)	(ok)
U.S. Emb. Montevideo: JSavage	(ok)
CDA: JSavage	(ok)
PAO: (b)(6)	(ok)
R: JHall Godfrey	(ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 24, 2019

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY POMPEO

Ukraine's Independence Day

On behalf of President Trump and the American people, I congratulate all Ukrainians on the 28th anniversary of your nation's independence.

The United States remains steadfast in its support for a prosperous, democratic, and free Ukraine, secure within its internationally recognized borders including the occupied districts of the Donbas and Crimea, and resilient against Russian aggression. This year's presidential and parliamentary elections affirmed Ukrainians' desire for a peaceful, prosperous, and democratic future. As President Zelenskyy has noted, by fulfilling its potential, Ukraine can become a model for other countries in the region and beyond. The United States stands with Ukraine at this moment of historic opportunity, and we look forward to working with the new government and the people of Ukraine to advance reforms crucial to your country's success.

Best wishes for a joyous Independence Day and a peaceful and prosperous year ahead.

#

Approved: R: JHallGodfrey
EUR: Philip T. Reeker, Acting [PTR]

Drafted: EUR/EE – (b)(6) ext. (b)(6) and cell: (b)(6)

Cleared: EUR/FO: McCormack, A/PDAS (ok)
EUR/FO: (b)(6) (ok)
EUR/EE: (b)(6) (ok)
EUR/PD: (b)(6) (ok)
D: (b)(6) (ok)
P: (b)(6) (ok)
S/P: (b)(6) (ok)
Embassy Kyiv: CDA William Taylor (ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

MEDIA NOTE

August 26, 2019

Assistant Secretary David R. Stilwell Travels to Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Brunei, and Singapore
Assistant Secretary David R. Stilwell will visit Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Brunei, and Singapore, August 27 to September 7, 2019 in his first visit to each of these countries in his new role. Assistant Secretary Stilwell will be in Dili August 29 to 31, where he will meet with Timor-Leste President of the Republic H.E. Francisco Guterres Lu-Olo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation H.E. Dionisio Babo Soares, Minister of Defense and Interim Minister of Interior H.E. Filomeno Paixão de Jesus, and Chief Negotiator for Maritime Boundaries H.E. Xanana Gusmão to strengthen our partnership and encourage development of democratic institutions, rule of law, and economic development within Timor-Leste. On August 30 he will represent the United States at official ceremonies commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Popular Referendum, the United Nations-supervised vote that led to Timor-Leste's separation from Indonesia and eventual independence in 2002.

From September 1 to 3, Assistant Secretary Stilwell will be in Jakarta to meet with senior officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Maritime Affairs, as well as representatives from the offices of the President and the Vice President, to discuss a range of issues reflecting our nations' 70 years of shared values of diversity, partnership, and prosperity. While in Jakarta, Assistant Secretary Stilwell will meet with participants in the regional Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), as well as have ASEAN-related discussions regarding the future of ASEAN and its place at the heart of the free and open Indo-Pacific region.

In Bandar Seri Begawan from September 3 to 4, Assistant Secretary Stilwell will meet with senior officials from the Bruneian government, including Minister of Foreign Affairs II Dato Seri Paduka Erywan Yusof, to discuss our broad and growing bilateral relationship. The Assistant Secretary will also discuss U.S.-Brunei security cooperation and explore ways to enhance economic ties and further cultural and educational connections.

Finally, from September 5 to 6, the Assistant Secretary will be in Singapore and will meet with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan, and other senior officials to discuss our countries' relationship anchored in our indispensable security cooperation, vibrant economic ties, and shared values for sustaining a rules-based world.

###

CLEARANCES:

Lead Bureau: EAP

Approved: EAP/FO: Assistant Secretary Stilwell

Drafted: (b)(6) EAP/P 7-2539

Clearances: S/P: (b)(6) ok
P: (b)(6) ok
D: (b)(6) ok
EAP/FO: (b)(6) ok
EAP/FO: (b)(6) ok
EAP/MTS: (b)(6) ok
EAP/MTS: (b)(6) ok
EAP/MLA: (b)(6) ok

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 26, 2019

MEDIA NOTE

The Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations
Announces the Charter Renewal for the Industry Advisory Group

The Department of State has renewed the Charter of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations' Industry Advisory Group (IAG) for an additional two-year period. The Industry Advisory Group (IAG) serves in an advisory capacity with respect to industry and academia's latest concepts, methods, best practices, innovations, and ideas related to the OBO mission of providing safe, secure, functional, and resilient facilities that represent the U.S. Government to the host nation and support our staff in the achievement of U.S. foreign policy objectives around the globe.

The IAG is comprised of leading American industry and academic professionals with extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of asset and property management, planning, acquisition, sales, leasing, design, engineering, construction, historic preservation, resiliency, natural hazards, emergency operations, program development, as well as facilities operations and maintenance. The group meets annually in the spring at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C. Procedures for registration are included with each meeting announcement, no later than fifteen business days before each meeting.

OBO provides safe, secure, functional, and resilient facilities that represent the U.S. Government to the host nation and support our staff in the achievement of U.S. foreign policy objectives. These facilities represent American values and the best in American architecture, design, engineering, technology, sustainability, art, culture, and construction execution.

For further information, please visit the OBO website at <https://overseasbuildings.state.gov/> , or contact Christine Foushee at FousheeCT@state.gov.

#

Approved: OBO/EA – C. Foushee **ok**

Drafted: OBO/EA – (b)(6)

Cleared: OBO/FO – (b)(6) **ok**

OBO/FO – (b)(6) **ok**

D: (b)(6) **ok**

S/P: (b)(6) **ok**

P: (b)(6) **ok**

BP: (b)(6) **ok**

M: (b)(6) **ok**

H/RGF: (b)(6) **ok**

L/M: (b)(6) **ok**

M/WHL (b)(6) **ok**

CGFS – (b)(6) **ok**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

MEDIA NOTE

August 26, 2019

Deputy Secretary Sullivan and White House Advisor Ivanka Trump Travel to Colombia, Argentina, and Paraguay for W-GDP Initiative

Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan will travel with Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump to Colombia, Argentina, and Paraguay September 3-6. This trip will further strengthen U.S. partnerships in the region on women's economic empowerment in support of the White House's Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP). Deputy Secretary Sullivan and Advisor Ivanka Trump will engage with senior government officials and civil society stakeholders in all three countries. In events with the Department of Defense, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), and the Peace Corps, Deputy Secretary Sullivan and Advisor Ivanka Trump will underscore the United States' whole-of-government support for women's economic and political integration and empowerment.

The Deputy Secretary will also further relations on counter narcotics and citizen security, the crisis in Venezuela, and expanding economic opportunity.

Follow Deputy Secretary Sullivan's travel via @StateDept on Twitter and Advisor Ivanka Trump via @IvankaTrump. For more information visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wgdp/>. Go to the Department's Flickr account for the latest trip photos, and stay connected at <https://blogs.state.gov/engage>.

Approved: WHA – Kevin O'Reilly, A/PDAS [KOR]

Drafted: WHA/PDA: (b)(6)

Cleared:

WHA/FO:	(b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/AND:	(b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/VZ:	(b)(6)	(ok)
S/P:	(b)(6)	(ok)
P:	(b)(6)	(ok)
D:	(b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/BSC:	(b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/AND:	(b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/VZ:	(b)(6)	(no response)
WHA/PPC:	(b)(6)	(ok)
WHA/EPSC:	(b)(6)	(info)
F:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EB/TPN/BTA:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EB/IFD/OMA:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EB/IFD/ODF:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EB/FO:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EB/TFS/SPI:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EB/EPPD:	(b)(6)	(ok)
DRL/WHA:	(b)(6)	(ok)
INL/PRESS:	(b)(6)	(ok)
PM/CPA:	(b)(6)	(ok)
PM/RSAT:	(b)(6)	(ok)
PM/GPI:	(b)(6)	(ok)
PM/WRA:	(b)(6)	(ok)
S/GWI:	(b)(6)	(ok)
OPIC:	(b)(6)	(ok)
Embassy Buenos Aires:	(b)(6)	(ok)
Embassy Asuncion:	(b)(6)	(ok)
Embassy Bogota:	A/DCM JWard	(ok)
R:	(b)(6)	(ok)
D:	(b)(6)	(ok)
USAID Press:	(b)(6)	(ok)
DoD:	(b)(6)	(ok)
Peace Corps		(info)
WH:	(b)(6)	(ok)
GPA:	KStarr	(ok)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 23, 2019

FACT SHEET

This Week in Iran Policy, August 19–23

“At the #UNSC today, I made clear that the U.S. will continue to act in concert with our allies and partners to bring stability and prosperity to the Middle East. By doing so, we will sustain the same things for the American people and our friends around the world.”

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 20

IRANIAN VESSEL GRACE I

“A message to all mariners – if you crew an IRGC or other FTO-affiliated ship, you jeopardize future entry to the U.S. #NotWorthIt”

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 15

- The United States assesses that the M/T Grace I, now renamed the Adrian Darya I, is assisting the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) by transporting oil from Iran to Syria. This could result in serious consequences for any individuals associated with the Grace I.
- The United States continues to work with its partners and allies and use all the tools at its disposal to deny Iran and its proxies the resources they need to engage in malign and destabilizing activities in Syria and elsewhere. This includes the full enforcement of U.S. sanctions with respect to Iran and the IRGC.
- The maritime community should be aware that the U.S. government intends to revoke visas held by members of such crews.
- Please see the full [press statement](#) for more information.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR IRAN BRIAN HOOK BRIEFING AT FOREIGN PRESS CENTER

“We very much want to see a more peaceful and stable Middle East, and for as long as Iran is moving illicit oil around the world to fund its terrorist operations, it’s important that we do something about it.”

– Special Rep for Iran Brian Hook, New York Foreign Press Center Briefing, August 20

- Special Representative for Iran Brian Hook participated in a briefing with Foreign Press Center which corresponded with Secretary of State Pompeo’s participation at the UN Security Council discussion, hosted by the Polish Mission to the UN, on challenges to peace and security in the Middle East and the Administration’s support for multilateral solutions.
- Please see Special Representative for Iran Brian Hook’s [remarks](#) for more information.

SECRETARY OF STATE POMPEO AT UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE AND SECURITY

“The Iranian regime is the greatest ongoing threat to peace and security in the region. At the #UNSC, I condemned its testing of advanced ballistic missile systems, support to proxies in the #MiddleEast, and inexcusable sabotage and seizure of commercial vessels in the Gulf.”

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 20

- Secretary Pompeo made remarks at the UN Security Council on August 20, 2019 on the challenges to peace and security in the Middle East, emphasizing the importance for greater cooperation in the Middle East.
- Secretary Pompeo also met with Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz to identify the key challenges in the region and propose solutions, naming the greatest ongoing threat to peace and security in the region as the Islamic Republic of Iran.

COUNTDOWN TO TERROR CLOCK

"The @UN arms embargo on #Iran and the travel ban on Qasem Soleimani expire in October 2020. Our #CountdownToTerror clock is tracking how long until Iran is unleashed to create new global turmoil. We must not let this happen"

– Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Twitter, August 20

- At the UN, the Secretary reminded nations that the UN arms embargo on Iran and the UN travel ban on individuals – including General Soleimani – will expire next year in October. The Security Council has a role to play to ensure that the arms embargo on the world's top sponsor of terrorism does not expire. On the State Department's Iran online page, we have a countdown clock to the expiration date of the arms embargo and the travel ban.
- Please see the [Department of State](#) website for more information.

###

Drafted: NEA (b)(6) ext. (b)(6)

Cleared: NEA/IR (b)(6) OK
 S/IAG: (b)(6) OK
 D (b)(6) OK
 P: (b)(6) OK
 S/P: (b)(6) OK
 IO: (b)(6) OK
 NSC: (b)(6) INFO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

August 25, 2019

READOUT

Secretary Pompeo's Call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

The below is attributable to Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus:

Secretary Pompeo spoke by phone today with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu regarding recent Israeli airstrikes in Syria. The Secretary expressed support for Israel's right to defend itself from threats posed by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and to take action to prevent imminent attacks against Israeli assets in the region. The Secretary and the Prime Minister discussed how Iran is leveraging its foothold in Syria to threaten Israel and its neighbors. The Prime Minister noted that Israel would strike IRGC targets threatening Israel, wherever they are located.

#

Clearances:

S (ok)

Spox (ok)

**AF Press Guidance
August 26, 2019**

Tanzania: U.S. Direct Hire Vehicle Accident

(b)(5)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

Approved: AF/FO Makila James (ok)
AF/FO Elizabeth Fitzsimmons (ok)

Drafted by: Embassy Dar es Salaam/PAS: Benjamin Ellis
POC: AF/PDPA (b)(6) 202-955-0554

Clearances: AF/E: (b)(6) (ok)
L: (b)(6) (ok)
CA/P: (b)(6) (info by request)
DS/PA: (b)(6) (ok)
Peace Corps: (b)(6) (ok)
S/P: (b)(6) (ok)
D: (b)(6) (no response)
P: (b)(6) (ok)
R: (b)(6) (ok)
M: M. (b)(6) (ok)
DGHR: (b)(6) (ok)
NSC: (b)(6) (no response)
Embassy Dar es Salaam/MGMT: (b)(6) (ok)

AF Press Guidance
August 26, 2019

SUDAN: Discussions between the United States and Sudan PM Hamdok

(b)(5)



(b)(5)

AP Interview: Sudan PM seeks end to country's pariah status

August 26, 2019

By Justin Lynch | AP

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Sudan's new prime minister said in an interview that ending his country's international pariah status and drastically cutting military spending are prerequisites for rescuing the nation's faltering economy.

Abdalla Hamdok, a respected former official with the U.N. Economic Commission for Africa, told The Associated Press on Sunday that he has already talked to U.S. officials about removing Sudan from Washington's list of countries sponsoring terrorism, and portrayed their reaction as positive.

He also called for sharply reducing military spending, hoping for a "peace dividend" if current efforts to negotiate deals with armed rebels are successful. He said military spending takes up as much as 80% of the state budget.

Sudan stagnated for three decades under former President Omar al-Bashir, convulsed by a bloody civil war and rebellions in its far-flung provinces. Al-Bashir's autocratic rule ended in April when the military ousted him after mass street protests by a pro-democracy movement, which began late last year.

"For 30 years, we were isolated," Hamdok said in the interview in the capital of Khartoum. "We were treated as a pariah state. We want to tell the world we are moving away from sanctions, issues of punishment and all that, to a Sudan that is coming back to the fold of normal nations."

As Sudan begins a new chapter, getting off America's state sponsor of terror list is the "key to anything that we can do in this country," Hamdok said, adding that a "democratic Sudan is not a threat to anybody in the world."

Still, tensions between the military and civilians are expected to feature prominently in Hamdok's unruly transitional government, which is expected to last three years before general elections.

In such an environment, Hamdok faces an uphill battle to carry out ambitious economic reforms, said Jehanne Henry, a Sudan researcher at Human Rights Watch. Henry said Hamdok “has to work with the generals, who could veto things.”

Although Hamdok heads the transitional Cabinet, the military leaders that ousted al-Bashir still want a large role in the transition. Sudan’s top general, Abdel-Fattah Burhan, was sworn in Wednesday as the leader of a joint military-civilian Sovereign Council. Five of its 11 members are from the military.

Hamdok said he is committed to making a partnership with the generals work.

The United States named Sudan a state sponsor of terror in 1993, and the designation stuck through the al-Bashir regime. As one of the last acts of the Obama administration, the United States began a formal process to de-list Sudan in January 2017, but this was put on hold when mass protests began in December. Moves to de-list Sudan could resume once the country’s political situation has stabilized.

The U.S. State Department was not immediately available for comment Sunday.

“We appreciate and understand that there is a process, both I think in government and Congress,” Hamdok said, adding he hopes it happens soon because “it has very serious implications on our situation.”

Removing Sudan from the state sponsor of terror list would open the door to foreign investment and allow the country to receive a sorely needed International Monetary Fund and World Bank bailout package, Hamdok said.

Sudan is nearly \$60 billion in debt, and Hamdok said the interest on the debt payments is roughly \$3 billion.

He said his aim is economic stability and a properly managed currency, along with transparency and opportunities for foreign investors.

“If you make profit and you want to repatriate your profit, we will be open to that,” Hamdok said. “This is the last frontier. The rest of the world has finished its infrastructure projects.”

Hamdok said he wants to bring all state spending, including for the military under the control of the ministry of finance. Asked if the military budget should be smaller, Hamdok said: “Absolutely.”

Hamdok said ending the country’s rebellions would allow him to allocate no more than 20% of the budget to the military. “The rest of it should go to development issues — addressing issues of health, education and infrastructure development and reviving the economy,” he said.

The economy largely stagnated under al-Bashir and sharply deteriorated last year, leading to the protests that eventually brought him down. During his rule, al-Bashir failed to keep the peace in the religiously and ethnically diverse nation, losing three quarters of Sudan’s oil wealth when the mainly animist and Christian south seceded in 2011 following a referendum.

Sudan is also one of the world’s most corrupt nations.

The power-sharing agreement signed this month between the military and protesters calls for the government to reach a peace agreement with armed groups within six months.

The country’s most infamous conflict, in the Darfur region, broke out in 2003. Al-Bashir’s government mobilized Arab militias accused of burning villages to the ground, massacring civilians and carrying out mass rapes among non-Arabs in the region.

Al-Bashir, who is imprisoned in the capital of Khartoum, faces charges of war crimes and genocide linked to the Darfur conflict, although the military has said he won’t be extradited to the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

Hamdok said that immediately after the new government is formed, a “peace commission” will be established to try to reconcile with the country’s armed groups.

He also said there needs to be accountability for violence committed against rebels and against scores of protesters killed in the pro-democracy protests.

“Justice has to be resolved. And it has to be seen as being achieved,” he said. “We will have to reach a conclusion that satisfies the victims.”

“In the past there were no intentions from both sides, the government and the armed groups, to reach an agreement,” he said. “But today there is resolve, there is determination.”

A cease-fire has held since the military overthrow of al-Bashir in April. The rebels had held rounds of talks with the now-dissolved military council and the pro-democracy movement.

The military has taken trust-building moves, including dropping charges and death sentences against rebel leaders and releasing dozens of rebel prisoners.

The armed groups had rejected a final deal between the civilians and government officials over the structures of the transitional government, Hamdok said.

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Clearances:

Final Clearance: AF/FO: DAS Makila James ok
CT/FO: A/S Sales ok

Drafted by: AF/USSESSS: (b)(6) ext (b)(6) cell (b)(6)

Clearances:

AF/PDPA	Elizabeth Fitzsimmons	ok
AF/USSESSS:	(b)(6)	ok
CT/Press:	(b)(6)	ok
L:		ok
S/P:		ok
D:		no response
P:		ok
R:		ok
NSC:		ok

EAP Press Guidance
August 26, 2019

ROK/Japan – Liancourt Rocks Military Exercises

(b)(5)

Approved: EAP/FO – DAS Marc Knapper (ok)

Drafted: EAP/K – (b)(6) ext. (b)(6) and cell (b)(6)

Cleared:

EAP/K:	(b)(6)	(ok)
EAP/P:	(b)(6)	(ok)
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L/EAP:	(b)(6)	(ok)
OSD:	(b)(6)	(ok)
OSD:	(b)(6)	(ok)

**PM Contingency Press Guidance
August 26, 2019**

Poland: Proposed Sale of the F-35A Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter

(b)(5)



Approved: PM/FO – Mike Miller, Acting (MM)

Drafted: PM/CPA: (b)(6) ext. 6-7804

Cleared:	PM/RSAT:	(b)(6)	(ok)
	EUR/CE:		(ok)
	EUR/RPM:		(ok)
	EUR/PRA:		(ok)
	EUR/Press:		(ok)
	L/PM:		(ok)
	T:		(ok)
	H:		(ok)
	P:		(ok)
	D:		(ok)
	S/P:		(ok)
	OSD PA:		(No Response)
	DSCA:		(ok)

OES/WHA Press Guidance
August 26, 2019

Brazil: Fires and Deforestation

(b)(5)



Withheld pursuant to exemption

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of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

(b)(5)

Public language:

“Just spoke with President @JairBolsonaro of Brazil. Our future Trade prospects are very exciting and our relationship is strong, perhaps stronger than ever before. I told him if the United States can help with the Amazon Rainforest fires, we stand ready to assist!” (President Trump, August 23, 2019).

“As Americans, we all share an immense pride in these God-given treasures and a tremendous appreciation for our abundance of natural resources. Environmental protection and economic prosperity go hand in hand. A strong market economy is essential to protecting our critical natural resources and fostering a legacy of conservation. My Administration is committed to being effective stewards of our environment while encouraging opportunities for American workers and their families. At the same time that our Nation is experiencing historic economic and job growth, our air and water quality ranks among the highest in the world. Under my Administration, we are improving the quality of life for communities across America by strengthening the security and reliability of our drinking water and accelerating spending on water infrastructure. Additionally, we have expanded support for conservation of land, water, and wildlife, and we are reforming land management policies to improve the health of our forests and other Federal lands” (President Trump, April 22, 2019).

Approved:	OES: Jonathan Margolis, Acting SBO	(Ok)
Drafted:	OES/PPO: (b)(6)	
Clearances:	OES/E: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	OES/PPO: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	OES/EGC: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	OES/ECW: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	WHA/FO: JChung	(Ok)
	WHA/FO: KO'Reilly	(Ok)
	WHA/FO: JPiechowski	(no response)
	WHA/Press: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	WHA/BSC: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	WHA/EPSC: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	Embassy Brasilia/FO: WPopp	(Ok)
	EB/EPPD: (b)(6)	(Ok)
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	EB/IFD: (b)(6)	(info)
	USAID: (b)(6)	(Ok)
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	NSC: (b)(6)	(Ok)
	GPA:	()

From:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Press package
Date:	Tue, 9 Jul 2019 16:43:41 +0000

Released in Part



Gordon D. Sondland

Ambassador of the United States of America
 United States Mission to the European Union
 Rue Zinner 13
 1000 Brussels, Belgium
 +32 2811-5550

From: Haggard, Henry R (USEU)
Sent: Tuesday, July 9, 2019 9:24:28 AM
To: Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)
Cc: Tomlinson, Christina (USEU); (b)(6)
Subject: Press package

Ambassador,

Your press clips attached. Kelly has a hard copy.

Regards,

Henry

Sender:	"Sondland, Gordon D (USEU)" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) gsondland (b)(6)

Released in Full



Ambassador's Press Clips



2019

July 2019

- 07-01 Parliament Magazine - A marriage of convenience

June 2019

- 06-28 EurActiv – US ambassador: We need the EU as a partner to tackle China
- 06-21 Irish Examiner – The 5G war and the fight against China's tech giant
- 06-20 Bloomberg – U.S. Envoy Questions Stance on Iran as Gulf Tensions Escalate
- 06-19 Foreign Policy – A New, Harsher Vision of the EU Takes Shape
- 06-17 EurActiv – US ambassador: Europe should forget Huawei, embrace Western tech
- 06-07 NYT – Europe Vows to Spend More on Defense, but U.S. Still Isn't Happy
- 06-06 Euronews – “He loves the people of Europe:” US Ambassador on Trump's EU visit
- 06-05 Politico – Brussels Playbook: Sondland hearts Mogherini
- 06-03 New Europe – Romania's PM Dancila to meet with Juncker, Timmermans in Brussels

May 2019

- 05-21 Reuters – Hobbling Huawei: Inside the U.S. war on China's tech giant
- 05-15 New Europe – Production starts up at Cameron LNG export terminal in Louisiana
- 05-15 FT – Donald Trump issues executive order laying ground for Huawei ban
- 05-15 Forbes – Trump signs Executive Order That Will Lead To U.S. Ban on Huawei
- 05-15 Express – How Trump can use EU's 'Achilles heel' to his advantage – 'Collateral Damage'
- 05-14 The Canadian Press – Trump pushes 'America First energy policy' on Louisiana trip
- 05-14 FT – US warns against European joint military project
- 05-14 FT – Trump's embrace of Orban sends clear message to Europe
- 05-14 FT – Trump to sign order laying ground for Huawei ban from US
- 05-14 DW – US warns EU over €13-billion defense spending
- 05-14 AFP – US warns EU over 'poison pill' defence plans
- 05-13 FT – US-Europe rift widens ahead of Orban's visit to White House
- 05-13 Express – Threat to world peace as US no longer trusts EU as an ally – Trump ready to scrap alliance
- 05-10 EurActiv – EU commissioner says agriculture not on agenda for US talks
- 05-09 EurActiv – No trade deal without agriculture, warns US ambassador to the EU
- 05-08 Agence Europe – Iran; EU analyses Iran's decision to no longer comply with certain obligations of nuclear arrangement
- 05-07 Agence Europe – Washington has no 'red lines' in future trade negotiations, according to Ambassador Sondland
- 05-06 Handelsblatt – Trade Policy: EU resistance to Free Trade in Agriculture
- 05-02 WSJ – U.S. Boosts Natural-Gas Exports to EU, Aiming to Dent Russian Sales; Energy Secretary Rick Perry praised burgeoning trade as 'tip of iceberg'
- 05-02 EurActiv – 'Freedom gas': US opens LNG floodgates to Europe

April 2019

- 04-26 EurActiv – As election looms, Spaniards are hit by WhatsApp disinformation campaign
- 04-23 Agence Europe – Sri Lanka; after multiple attacks, EU offers assistance
- 04-12 Express – END OF MACRON: How EU-US trade talks have TERRIFIED France – leader facing more protests
- 04-11 WSJ – European Union Paves Way for U.S. Trade-Pact Talks; Agriculture is sticking point threatening trans-Atlantic efforts to negotiate trade deal
- 04-11 Politico.eu – US ambassador warns Washington will fight EU on trade
- 04-11 Politico.eu – US ambassador criticizes Commission on Nord Stream 2
- 04-11 FT – Letter: The Americans are trying to undermining Europe's efforts to become more autonomous over security
- 04-03 Inside U.S. Trade – EU countries hope for compromise on U.S. mandate language by next week
- 04-03 FT – Nato's strained relations
- 04-02 FT – Nato at 70: Europe fears tensions will outlast Trump
- 04-02 Bloomberg – EU-U.S. Trade Talks Face Delay, Risking Trump Backlash

March 2019

- 03-29 EurActiv – Facebook says political ads fix brings 'unprecedented levels of accountability'
- 03-26 FT – Brussels unveils EU-wide plan to address 5G security risks
- 03-25 FT – Brussels faces US clash over plan to monitor Huawei 5G security
- 03-21 Reuters – EU falling far short in trade talks – U.S. ambassador
- 03-19 Bloomberg – Too Early to Call U.S.-EU Trade Talks Doomed, EU's Katainen Says
- 03-18 FT – US warned over retreating from European security role
- 03-14 EurActiv – Parliament rejects opening trade talks with Trump
- **03-12 FT – Reliance on Russian gas has big risks for Europe (Op-Ed)**
- 03-11 FT – Europe must open military projects to foreign firms, says US envoy
- 03-07 Les Echos – Money Laundering: the list that embarrasses the Europeans
- 03-07 EurActiv – Russian disinformation attempts to weaken 'America's commitment to Europe,' US ambassador says
- 03-06 EU Observer – Saudi Arabia evades EU dirty-money list for now
- 03-06 AFP – EU vetoes plan to add Saudi Arabia to money-laundering list
- 03-04 Agence Europe – United States; Washington announces upgrading of EU mission diplomatic status
- 03-04 WaPo – The Trump administration quietly corrects its diplomatic slight of the E.U.
- 03-04 WSJ – U.S. Offers EU Olive Branch Restoring Embassy's Status; Move reverses a decision to downgrade the bloc to status of international organization
- 03-04 Reuters – U.S. returns higher diplomatic status to EU's Washington mission
- 03-04 Politico – US bumps EU diplomatic status back up after downgrade
- 03-04 NYT – In a Change of Tone, U.S. Restores EU's Diplomatic Status
- 03-04 New Europe – US restores diplomatic status for EU delegation in Washington

- 03-04 EurActiv – US returns diplomatic status of EU representative in Washington
- 03-04 DW – Washington restores status of EU mission to US
- 03-04 AFP – US restores mission status of ‘valuable partner’ EU
- 03-04 Politico – Brussels Playbook: EU’s diplomacy bounces back in Washington
- 03-02 FT – US slams Brussels ‘posturing’ as dirty money blacklist is rejected in Europe
- 03-01 AFP – US welcomes demise of EU money-laundering blacklist plan

February 2019

- 02-27 Agence Europe – Ukraine; EU-US joint visit to Odessa
- 02-16 Telegraph – Inside Huawei’s secretive Chinese research base
- 02-14 FT – Trump to boost troop numbers in Poland
- 02-11 China Daily – EU should resist Washington’s coercion on 5G
- 02-09 Daily Express – US and EU must link arms against MALIGN Influence and ‘future problem’ of China
- 02-09 China Daily – Huawei VP calls comment by US official ‘senseless’
- 02-08 Bloomberg – U.S. Threatens Retaliation If Companies Tap Iran Trade Vehicle
- 02-07 Express – China Warning: US and Europe must join together to FIGHT Asian superpower
- 02-07 dpa – US diplomats pressure Germany’s partners over Russian gas pipeline
- 02-07 DW – France set to undermine Nord Stream 2 pipeline deal
- 02-06 Reuters – Huawei offers to build cyber security centre in Poland

January 2019

- 01-31 Reuters – U.S. wants Western tech to be used instead of Huawei kit
- 01-31 EurActiv – Parliament recognises Guaido in Venezuela and calls on 28 to follow
- 01-31 Bloomberg – Don’t Let China Control Your Networks, U.S. Envoy Tells Europe
- 01-31 Agence Europe – Iran; France, Germany and the United Kingdom officially launch Instex fund to continue trade with Iran
- 01-30 Politico.eu – EU’s Iran fight is not about Iran (or Trump)
- 01-29 New Europe – Poland to host Middle East conference
- 01-21 Bloomberg – Who’s right? U.S. and EU contradict each other on trade talks
- **01-15 New Europe – Transatlantic Relations: Difficult Decisions Ahead (Op-Ed)**
- 01-09 Agence Europe – Commission wants to submit two trade negotiation mandates to Member States
- 01-09 DW – EU lawmakers decry Washington downgrading of EU ambassador
- 01-07 l’Opinion – How the diplomacy of Donald Trump undermines the European Union interior
- 01-01 WSJ – EU’s High Trade Surplus With the U.S. Poses Risk to 2018 Tariff Truce

2018

December 2018

- 12-17 New Europe – Setting the record straight on the US-EU relationship
- 12-10 Politico.eu – Trump's man in Brussels slams 'out of touch' EU
- 12-7 NYT- Europe and U.S. Agree on Chinese Threat, but Are Too Busy Feuding to Fight it
- 12-7 Agence Europe – Washington still sees no improvement in trade relations with EU
- 12-7 Agence Europe – Talks with United States on hormone-free beef quotas hampered by European "demand"
- 12-3 France24 – US ambassador to the EU: 'We're not getting due credit on trade issues'

November 2018

- 11-14 Deutsche Presse-Agentur – EU will 'hit back' if US imposes auto tariffs, Malmstrom says
- 11-13 Reuters – U.S. envoy warns sanctions still an option against Nord Stream 2
- 11-13 LETA Latvian News Agency – U.S. threatens measures to stop controversial North Stream 2 pipeline
- 11-13 Express – 'Trump could BLOCK Nord Stream 2' US shock warning to Russia
- 11-13 Deutsche Presse-Agentur – US threatens measures to stop controversial North Stream gas pipeline
- 11-09 Agence Europe – Commission is ready to analyse scope of limited agreement targeting manufactured goods
- 11-07 FT – France vows to lead Europe in defying US on Iran sanctions
- 11-05 Bloomberg – U.S. Lambasts Europe's 'Paper Tiger' Response to Iran Sanctions
- 11-05 Agence Europe – Iran; Opposition continues between Europeans and Americans over sanctions on Tehran

October 2018

- 10-29 EurActiv – Expert: US-China dispute 'is not a trade but economic war'
- 10-18 WSJ – U.S.'s Ross Presses EU on Pace of Trade Talks
- 10-18 FT – US and EU at loggerheads over July trade 'handshake'
- 10-18 FT – Trump-Juncker 'handshake' deal at risk
- 10-18 Agence Europe – Launch of second evaluation of 'Privacy Shield'
- 10-17 Reuters – Trump's patience with EU on trade not unlimited, says Ross
- 10-17 FT – Wilbur Ross criticizes EU for not driving forward trade talks with US
- 10-17 FT – Negotiators warn Trump-Juncker trade agreement at risk
- 10-17 FT – Trump-Juncker trade agreement risks collapse, says Ross
- 10-17 Euronews – EU-US relations 'like an up-down marriage but intact' – US ambassador
- 10-17 EurActiv – US blames Europe for lack of progress in trade talks, threatens car tariffs
- 10-17 Agence Europe – Transatlantic differences of opinion over progress in bilateral trade negotiations
- 10-17 AFP – US warns EU over trade talks impasse

- 10-09 EU Observer – EU and US risk ‘negative shocks’ to economy, IMF warns
- 10-04 EurActiv – US ‘fully compliant’ with EU privacy shield, ambassador says
- 10-04 WaPo – U.S. ambassador to Europe: Let’s take on China together
- 10-04 EurActiv – US, EU should ‘clean the house’ and deal with China – US ambassador
- 10-04 EU Observer – EU and US should hold back China, Trump envoy says
- 10-03 Agence Europe – Ambassador Gordon Sondland says trade deal between EU and USA has ultimate goal of weighing against China

September 2018

- 09-25 DW – Donald Trump’s man in Brussels extends a hand to the EU
- 09-13 Inside U.S. Trade – USTR to begin consultations with Congress on Europe trade talks under TPA
- 09-13 Inside U.S. Trade – U.S., EU officials paint contrasting pictures of trans-Atlantic relationship
- 09-07 Agence Europe – New ambassador to EU gives reassurance on transatlantic partnership, but without betraying Trump
- **09-06 Politico.eu – The power and potential of the US-EU relationship (Op-Ed)**

July 2018

- 07-09 Politico.eu – US ambassador to EU arrives in Brussels
- 07-09 New Europe – US’ new ambassador to EU arrives in Brussels
- 07-02 New Europe – Another day, another Ambassador

Pre-Arrival

- 06-04 Newsmax – Trump Pick for EU Ambassador Lauded by Karl Rove, Sen. Tillis
- 05-14 Politico.eu – America’s unlikely envoy to Brussels
- 05-11 Politico.eu – Trump nominates Oregon hotelier as EU ambassador
- 05-11 Euronews – Trump nominates US ambassador to EU: What you need to know
- 03-12 WSJ – U.S. Moves to Appoint New Ambassador to EU



A marriage of convenience

The Parliament Magazine (July 1, 2019) – Gordon Sondland, US Ambassador to the EU, compares US-EU relations to a marriage. He tells Rajnish Singh that “We’re like an old married couple. The kids have left, we still love each other, we’re never getting divorced, but we have some very specific and tough issues to address.”

It’s been almost a year since Gordon Sondland arrived in Brussels. Selected personally by US President Donald Trump, before his appointment he ran his own hotel business and property investment company- much like his boss. When offered the position, Sondland was both “honoured and awestruck” believing “he offered me one of the most consequential positions in the US government.”

Not a career diplomat, Sondland believes business skills are just as useful for his new role. “I was deeply grateful that he (Trump) believed in my private sector experience ... so far, I think it has served me well.”

His family history may also help; in 1938, due to their Jewish background, his parents and sister fled Nazi Germany. His father went on to fight during World War II for both the French Resistance and the British Army in Burma.

Although he has enjoyed being based in Brussels, it has not all been plain sailing. Trade issues, he admits, have been challenging. But he points out “that’s not unusual when you are negotiating over money, even in the private sector.”

“Every dollar that you ask for is a dollar less that someone else gets to keep, so those discussions are always by definition uncomfortable.”

There are clear and challenging differences between the US and EU, including Trump’s support for Brexit. Have EU-US relations reached a new low? Sondland responds, “Not at all, in fact it’s counterintuitive; I would say on many levels it’s reached a new high.”

He admits, however, “where it has hit a low has been on the trade discussions and on some of the more protectionist endeavours that the EU has undertaken.” Despite the President’s complaints, Sondland stresses that Trump is interested in a fair and balanced trade relationship.

He pointed out that in July 2018 Trump and European Commis-agreed to work together towards zero tariffs, zero non-tariff barriers and zero subsidies on non-auto industrial goods.

“President Trump said there are going to be winners and losers on both sides of the Atlantic, but this will quickly stabilise, the best products and services will win out and both of our gross domestic products will rise.”

Yet as recently as April 2019, Trump threatened to unleash tariffs on the EU. How could a trade war be avoided? Sondland believes the upcoming institutional changes could be a game-changer. “A new Commission, a new Parliament and a new leader in the EU Council will help reset the dialogue.”

He highlighted how he personally tried to reset relations by introducing the EU’s new ambassador to the US, Stavros Lambrinidis, to key players in Washington.

“I hosted a dinner for him in Washington and got a lot of senior White House officials to attend. They generally don’t attend ambassadorial dinners, but they recognised the importance of the relationship with the EU, and I believe that Ambassador Lambrinidis was very pleased with the reception.”

Another area of difference between the US and Europe is the negative security implications of using 5G technology provided by the Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei.

Asked if this wasn’t simply interference in Europe’s domestic market and a way for the US to muscle in, he responded, “Not at all, the EU’s Member States are our closest allies; we have an unshakable alliance when it comes to defence and shared values.”

“This isn’t about the US trying to promote its own interests, because frankly we don’t have a large footprint in the 5G technology [market]. In effect, we’re indirectly promoting indigenous European or South Korean businesses, not US.” Sondland’s concern is far broader.

According to him, 5G is not just simply the next ‘iteration’ of 4G. “Over the next decade, everything is going to be run off or connected to 5G.”

“President Trump said there are going to be winners and losers on both sides of the Atlantic, but this will quickly stabilise, the best products and services will win out and both of our gross domestic products will rise”

“Defence, cars, airplanes, hospitals, schools, government - everything. We are concerned that when a malign actor possesses the keys to your country, they can use them in a malicious way, if they so choose.”

“We don’t want the keys to anyone’s country to get into the wrong hands - that’s what our concern is.” There have also been serious differences in opinion over the US withdrawal from the Iranian Nuclear Deal.

Despite growing tensions in the Gulf and fears of a possible war between Iran and the US, Sondland firmly backed his President’s decision, “Iranian behaviour since that document was signed has been contrary to the spirit of the agreement.”

“The principle [of the treaty] was that Iran would join the community of nations. Instead, their centrifuges continue to spin and their malign activities in the Middle East, and in Europe, remain unabated.”

He pointed out that the agreement did not stop the development and proliferation of Iran’s missile technology. “Our desire is to choke off the money supply that fuels these activities, bringing them back to the table to discuss how to behave like a real country.”

Trump’s complaints about the lack of European spending on security and defence and plans for an EU army are well documented.

Questioned whether greater EU involvement in defence policy would undermine Nato, Sondland said, “If that was Europe’s intention, I would be very concerned, but I’m constantly reassured by the EU leadership that that’s not the intent and I take them at their word.”

However, he calls on Member States to fulfil their contribution. “If there are dollars available, they should first go to Nato.”

But he also wants to see European armed forces modernising their equipment. “We don’t want a bunch of equipment, material, people, that is not in sync with Nato, because we’re going to need every piece of equipment and every person to help.”

More money, he said, was needed to be spent on R&D to achieve a more modernised force. Whether US or EU technology, the key issue was that money in the EU’s European Defence Fund was not only open to European companies.

As far as energy security is concerned, Sondland said he finds German reliance on Russian gas via the Nord Stream 2 pipeline challenging.

“It’s very frustrating, because Germany is only thinking in terms of its own parochial needs and ignoring those of the US - one of its closest friends and allies - and of the other 27 Member States.”

He believed that the Nord Stream pipeline was dangerous, as it gave too much political leverage and control to President Putin. "Putting energy security in the hands of someone who would easily use that power to influence European politics is just not in Europe's long-term interests."

He stressed that US Liquified Natural Gas was a more reliable source of energy and that the EU and US shared common legal and political values that could sort out any issues.

"The EU's Member States are our closest allies; we have an unshakable alliance when it comes to defence and shared values"

Sondland saw the recent European Elections as providing new opportunities for developing EU-US relations. Despite no major political group having overall control, he says "I am anxious to engage with new MEPs from all sides."

"I know there are a number of new liberal and conservative members. While some look at this polarisation as unproductive, I view it as creating strong tensions on both sides that will result in change."

Asked to explain how these tensions could be positive, he said "When you have someone that's highly conservative and someone that's highly liberal, they have to reach an agreement."

"The natural tension that's created, assuming people are dealing in good faith and with the interests of the EU at heart, I think ensures that a deal actually gets done, as opposed to a roomful of people always agreeing with each other generally but never specifically."

He also highlighted how well he had worked with Parliament President Antonio Tajani. "I had a great relationship with him and look forward to meeting his successor."

The sooner the US and EU can sort out their differences, the sooner Sondland thinks they can "join forces" to take on China, which the US considers a real threat.

He stressed how powerful they could be when they cooperate. "When the US and the EU work together you have a combined GDP of US\$40 trillion and a trading relationship worth US\$1 trillion."

"We should be protecting intellectual property and creating an environment that China has to respect in a world order that we, not they, have set."

He also credited the EU's backing for the Ukraine and encouraged greater cooperation. "The EU has been a huge supporter of Ukraine, and I would encourage the EU to work closely together with the US on more joint US/EU outreach."

To highlight the importance of this, Sondland hosted a special US Independence Day party and dinner in the honour of the newly-elected Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky when he visited Brussels in June.

"This was a large but informal event, with a few senior EU officials including Federica Mogherini and a number of other officials. A lot of good work was done, particularly by President Zelensky who was very interested in other country leaders' views."

Trump has described himself as 'the disruptor in chief'. To understand what the EU could expect from Sondland he was asked if he was a disruptor or diplomat; he smiled and said to expect a "disruptive diplomat."



US ambassador: We need the EU as a partner to tackle China

EURACTIV Network (June 28, 2019) - The Capitals brings you the latest news from across Europe, through on-the-ground reporting by EURACTIV's media network. You can subscribe to the newsletter [here](#).

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MADRID

The US wants to redefine its “asymmetric” relationship with the [EU](#), regardless of whether Brexit takes place, in order to establish a global system of standards to face the growing influence of China, US ambassador Gordon Sondland has said.

“Because the real objective here is China, the real goal is for the US and the [EU](#) to partner to tackle China and establish together a global system where we set the standards of conduct, and China follows our example, not the other way around,” he told a small group of journalists in Madrid on Wednesday, [EURACTIV's partner EFE](#) reported.

In an interview with EURACTIV.com last month (17 June), Sondland said America could not have close security, intelligence and technology ties with Europe unless the [EU](#) cuts ties with Chinese tech giant [Huawei](#) and embraces “Western telecom industry”. Sondland added that since [Donald Trump's](#) election, the US has not received from Brussels the “best friend” treatment warranted by seven decades of bilateral alliance.

“Talks on issues that concern us have been very difficult,” the diplomat said. He also said he trusted that the leadership of the next Commission and the other European institutions will contribute to “straightening” the bilateral relationship.



The 5G war and the fight against China's tech giant

The Irish Examiner (June 21, 2019) - In early 2018, in a complex of low-rise buildings in the Australian capital, a team of government hackers was engaging in a destructive digital war game. The operatives — agents of the Australian Signals Directorate, the nation's top-secret eavesdropping agency — had been given a challenge.

With all the offensive cyber tools at their disposal, what harm could they inflict if they had access to equipment installed in the 5G network, the next-generation mobile communications technology, of a target nation?

What the team found, say current and former government officials was sobering for Australian security and political leaders: The offensive potential of 5G was so great that if Australia were on the receiving end of such attacks, the country could be seriously exposed.

The understanding of how 5G could be exploited for spying and to sabotage critical infrastructure changed everything for the Australians, according to people familiar with the deliberations.

Mike Burgess, the head of the signals directorate, recently explained why the security of fifth generation, or 5G, technology was so important: It will be integral to the communications at the heart of a country's critical infrastructure — everything from electric power to water supplies to sewage, he said in a March speech at a Sydney research institute.

[readmore]932212[/readmore]

The US is widely seen as having taken the initiative in the global campaign against Huawei Technologies, a tech juggernaut that in the three decades since its founding has become a pillar of Beijing's bid to expand its global influence. Yet Reuters interviews with more than two dozen current and former Western officials show it was the Australians who led the way in pressing for action on 5G; that the US was initially slow to act; and Britain and other European countries are caught between security concerns and the competitive prices offered by Huawei. Taoiseach Leo Varadkar said recently that Ireland is keeping an "open mind" on security concerns raised by the US about Huawei. The Australians had long harboured misgivings about Huawei in existing networks, but the 5G war game was a turning point.

About six months after the simulation began, the Australian government had effectively banned Huawei, the world's largest maker of telecom networking gear,

from any involvement in its 5G plans. An Australian government spokeswoman declined to comment on the war game.

After the Australians shared their findings with US leaders, other countries, including the US, moved to restrict Huawei.

The anti-Huawei campaign intensified recently, when US President Donald Trump signed an executive order that effectively banned the use of Huawei equipment in US telecom networks on national security grounds and the US Commerce Department put limits on the firm's purchasing of US technology.

Google's parent, Alphabet, suspended some of its business with Huawei. Until the middle of last year, the US government largely "wasn't paying attention", said retired US Marine Corps General James Jones, who served as national security adviser to president Barack Obama. What spurred senior US officials into action?

A sudden dawning of what 5G will bring, according to Jones.

"This has been a very, very fast-moving realisation" in terms of understanding the technology, he said.

[quote]I think most people were treating it as a kind of evolutionary step as opposed to a revolutionary step. And now that light has come on.[/quote]

The Americans are now campaigning aggressively to contain Huawei as part of a much broader effort to check Beijing's growing military might under President Xi Jinping. Strengthening cyber operations is a key element in the sweeping military overhaul that Xi launched soon after taking power in 2012, according to official US and Chinese military documents.

The US has accused China of widespread, state-sponsored hacking for strategic and commercial gain. If Huawei gains a foothold in global 5G networks, Washington fears this will give Beijing an unprecedented opportunity to attack critical infrastructure and compromise intelligence sharing with key allies.

Senior Western security officials say this could involve cyber attacks on public utilities, communication networks, and key financial centres. In any military clash, such attacks would amount to a dramatic change in the nature of war, inflicting economic harm and disrupting civilian life far from the conflict without bullets, bombs or blockades.

To be sure, China would also be vulnerable to attacks from the US and its allies. Beijing complained in a 2015 defence document, China's Military Strategy, that it has already been a victim of cyber-espionage, without identifying suspects.

Documents from the US National Security Agency leaked by whistleblower Edward Snowden showed that the US hacked into Huawei's systems, according to media reports.

However, blocking Huawei is a huge challenge for Washington and its closest allies, particularly the other members of the so-called Five Eyes intelligence-sharing group — Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

[h2]Humble beginnings[/h2]

From humble beginnings in the 1980s in the southern Chinese boom town of Shenzhen, Huawei has grown to become a technology giant that is deeply embedded in global communications networks and poised to dominate 5G infrastructure.

There are few global alternatives to Huawei, which has financial muscle — the company reported revenue for 2018 jumped almost 20% to more than €100bn — as well as competitive technology and the political backing of Beijing.

"Restricting Huawei from doing business in the US will not make the US more secure or stronger," the company said in a statement in response. Such moves, it said, would only limit "customers in the US to inferior and more expensive alternatives".

For countries that exclude Huawei there is a risk of retaliation from Beijing. Since Australia banned the company from its 5G networks last year, it has experienced disruption to its coal exports to China, including customs delays on the Chinese side.

In a statement, China's foreign ministry said it treated "all foreign coal equally" and to assert "China has banned the import of Australian coal does not accord with the facts".

Tension over Huawei is also exposing divisions in the Five Eyes group, which has been a foundation of the post-Second World War Western security architecture. During a trip to London on May 8, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo issued a stark warning to Britain, which has not ruled out using Huawei in its 5G networks.

"Insufficient security will impede the United States' ability to share certain information within trusted networks," he said.

[quote]This is exactly what China wants; they want to divide Western alliances through bits and bytes, not bullets and bombs.[/quote]

Huawei's 74-year-old founder, Ren Zhengfei, is a former officer in China's military, the People's Liberation Army. "Mr Ren has always maintained the integrity and independence of Huawei," the company said. "We have never been asked to cooperate with spying and we would refuse to do so under any circumstance."

In an interview with Reuters at the company's headquarters in Shenzhen, Eric Xu, a deputy chairman, said Huawei had not allowed any government to install so-called backdoors in its equipment— illicit access that could enable espionage or sabotage — and would never do so. He said 5G was more secure than earlier systems.

"China has not and will not demand companies or individuals use methods that run counter to local laws or via installing 'backdoors' to collect or provide the Chinese government with data, information or intelligence from home or abroad," said the Chinese foreign ministry.

Washington argues that surreptitious backdoors aren't necessarily needed to wreak havoc in 5G systems. The systems will rely heavily on software updates pushed out by equipment suppliers — and that access to the 5G network, says the US, potentially could be used to deploy malicious code.

So far, America hasn't publicly produced hard evidence that Huawei equipment has been used for spying.

Asked whether the US was slow to react to potential threats posed by 5G, Robert Strayer, the US State Department's lead cyber policy diplomat, said America had long been concerned about Chinese telecom companies, but over the past year, as 5G loomed closer, "we were starting to talk more and more with our allies". Banning Huawei from 5G networks remains "an end goal", he said.

[h2]The tech threat[/h2]

The West has long harboured concerns about Chinese telecom equipment. In 2012, a US House Intelligence Committee report concluded Chinese tech companies posed a national security threat. Huawei denounced the finding.

Despite such concerns, the US government's response to the threats posed by 5G only took shape more recently.

In February 2018, Malcolm Turnbull, then prime minister of Australia, flew to Washington. Even before Australia's eavesdropping agency had run its war game, Turnbull was already raising red flags in Washington. A former technology entrepreneur, he believed 5G presented significant risks and wanted to press allies to act against Huawei.

"He was warning about how important 5G networks would be and the security risks we all needed to think about around countries that had capability, form and intent, as well as coercive laws," said a senior Australian source. A spokesman for Turnbull declined to comment.

Turnbull and his advisers met US officials, including Kirstjen Nielsen, then US secretary of homeland security, and Michael Rogers, then head of the US National Security Agency, the US signals-intelligence operation.

The Australians said they believed Beijing could compel Huawei to do its bidding and that this posed a threat should tensions with China rise in the future, said two of the Australian officials familiar with the meeting.

The US officials were receptive to the Australian message, but imposing restrictions on the world's largest maker of mobile network gear didn't appear to be a high priority, according to the two Australian officials. One said:

[quote]They didn't share our concern with the same urgency[/quote]

A US Department of Homeland Security official did not elaborate on the meeting, but said the agency works closely with Australia on security issues and that "China will continue to use cyber espionage and bolster cyber-attack capabilities to support its national security priorities".

5G technology is expected to deliver a huge leap in the speed and capacity of communications. Downloading data may be up to 100 times faster than on current networks. But 5G isn't only about faster data. The upgrade will see an exponential spike in the number of connections between the billions of devices, from smart fridges to driverless cars, that are expected to run on the 5G network.

"It's not just that there will be more people with multiple devices, but it will be machines talking to machines, devices talking to devices — all enabled by 5G," said Burgess, the Australian Signals Directorate chief, in his March address.

This configuration of 5G networks means there are many more points of entry for a hostile power or group to conduct cyber warfare against the critical infrastructure of a target nation or community. That threat is magnified if an adversary has supplied equipment in the network, US officials say.

Huawei said in its statement it does "not control in any way the networks in which our equipment is deployed by our clients. The US and Australian allegations are fanciful and are not rooted in any evidence at all."

In July 2018, Britain delivered a blow to Huawei. A government-led panel that includes senior intelligence officials said it was no longer fully confident it could manage national security risks posed by it.

That panel oversees the work of a laboratory that was set up by the British government in 2010 and is funded by Huawei to vet the company's equipment used in the UK. The facility was established because even then Huawei was perceived as a security risk.

The oversight panel said serious problems it had identified with Huawei's engineering processes "exposed new risks in the UK telecommunication networks and long-term challenges in mitigation and management". That report was a "bombshell", shaping how the US viewed the Huawei 5G risk, said a US official.

US officials also point to Chinese laws enacted in recent years they say could compel individuals and companies to assist the Chinese government in conducting espionage.

China's foreign ministry called this portrayal by US officials of Chinese legislation "a misreading and a wanton smearing of relevant Chinese laws", adding: "Trying to smear others to wash oneself clean is futile."

Through the middle of last year, the Australians continued to apprise other countries of their worries about 5G. "We were sharing our concerns about security with many allies, not just the US and not just the traditional partners," said one of the senior Australian officials.

"We shared our thoughts with Japan, Germany, other European countries, and South Korea."

In Washington, the administration began imposing restrictions on Huawei. In August, Trump signed a bill banning federal agencies and their contractors from using equipment from Huawei and ZTE Corp, another Chinese telecom equipment maker. Huawei has since filed a lawsuit in federal court in Texas challenging the ban.

In late August, the Australians went further: They banned companies that didn't meet their security requirements, which included Huawei, from supplying any equipment for the country's 5G network, whether run by the government or by private firms.

Australia's decision, China's Foreign Ministry said in a statement, "has no basis in fact, and is an abuse of 'national security' standards. China urges the Australian side to abandon Cold War thinking and ideological prejudices, and provide a fair, transparent, non-discriminatory environment for Chinese companies."

In November, New Zealand's intelligence agency blocked the country's first request by a telecom service provider to use Huawei kit for a 5G network, citing national security concerns.

Like the Australians and Americans, British security officials had concerns over China's potential use of Huawei as a channel for conducting espionage. But the options are limited. Huawei is one of only three major global companies that analysts say can supply a broad range of advanced mobile network equipment at scale. The other two are Ericsson and Nokia. And Huawei has a reputation among telecom operators for supplying cost-effective equipment promptly. Nevertheless, British security officials were becoming increasingly frustrated with what they viewed as Huawei's failure to fix software flaws in its equipment, particularly discrepancies in the source code — the programmes' underlying set of instructions. This problem means the laboratory near Oxford set up to vet Huawei equipment can not even be sure the code it is testing is exactly the same as the code Huawei deploys in its real-world equipment. This makes it difficult to provide safety assurances about the company's gear.

British officials say the array of flaws could be exploited by China, as well as other malevolent actors. Ian Levy, a British security official who oversees the UK's review of Huawei equipment, said the company's software engineering is like something from 20 years ago. "The chance of a vulnerability with a Huawei piece of kit is much higher than other vendors," he said.

The company said it has pledged to spend at least \$2bn "over the next five years" to improve its software engineering capabilities.

British ministers have agreed to allow Huawei a restricted role in building parts of its 5G network, but the British government has yet to announce its final decision. The EU has left it to individual governments to decide whether to ban any company on national security grounds.

Some European security officials say banning one supplier doesn't address the broader issue of the risks posed by Chinese technology in general.

As the tensions between the West and Huawei intensified through last year, they suddenly took a personal turn. US law enforcement officials had for some time been investigating links between Huawei and Iran, including the involvement of Meng Wanzhou, Huawei's chief financial officer, who is the daughter of the company's founder.

The probe followed Reuters stories in 2012 and 2013 that revealed links between Huawei, Meng and another company that allegedly attempted to violate US sanctions on Iran. When US officials became aware that Meng would be travelling through Vancouver in December, they pounced, asking Canada to detain her on allegations of bank and wire fraud.

Meng remains free on bail in Canada while the US government tries to have her extradited. Huawei said in its statement that Meng "is not guilty of the charges she faces", and that they are "politically motivated". The Huawei conflict isn't only about US-China superpower rivalry: The activities of Meng and Huawei were under scrutiny by US authorities long before Trump began a trade war with China, according to interviews with people familiar with those probes.

But there is no doubt the wider showdown with Huawei has now become intensely geopolitical. In recent months, the US has ramped up diplomatic efforts to urge allies to sideline Huawei. 5G is a "game-changing technology with implications across all aspects of society from business, government, military and beyond," **Gordon Sondland**, US ambassador to the European Union. "It seems common sense to me to not hand over the keys to your entire society to an actor that has ... demonstrated malign conduct." Asked whether there is evidence of Huawei equipment having been used for espionage, Sondland said "there is classified evidence."

He declined to expand on the nature of the material beyond saying there was no doubt that Huawei had "the capability to hack a system" and "the mandate by the government to do so upon request."

Pompeo has publicly gone further than most US officials by directly linking the company to Beijing. "Huawei is owned by the state of China and has deep connections to their intelligence service," he said in March.

[quote]That should send off flares for everybody who understands what the Chinese military and Chinese intelligence services do.[/quote]

Huawei has repeatedly denied it is controlled by the government, military, or Chinese intelligence services. "US Secretary of State Pompeo is wrong," the company said in its statement, adding that it is owned by its employees. While Huawei was initially muted in its public response, it too has become more combative. In late February, the company confronted the United States at a major annual gathering of mobile industry executives in Barcelona, where Huawei's red logo was ubiquitous.

Top American officials arrived intent on warning government and industry representatives off Huawei. But the company had flown in a team of senior executives to offer customers and representatives of European governments reassurance in the face of the US accusations.

In a keynote speech, Guo Ping, a deputy chairman at Huawei, took aim at America's own spying operations.

"Prism, Prism on the wall. Who's the most trustworthy of them all?" he said. Guo was referring to a mass US foreign-surveillance operation called Prism that was disclosed by former NSA contractor Snowden. The barb drew laughter from the audience.

Europeans pushed back, too. During one closed-door session, senior representatives from European telecom operators pressed a US official for hard evidence that Huawei presented a security risk. One executive demanded to see a smoking gun, recalled the US official. The American official fired back: "If the gun is smoking, you've already been shot. I don't know why you're lining up in front of a loaded weapon."

Bloomberg

U.S. Envoy Questions EU Stance on Iran as Gulf Tensions Escalate

By Ian Wishart

Bloomberg (June 20, 2019) - The U.S. ambassador to the European Union questioned the bloc's stance toward Iran, underscoring the transatlantic tensions over relations with Tehran.

Gordon Sondland said the EU's refusal so far to pin blame on the country for an attack last week on two oil tankers outside the entrance to the Persian Gulf only served to strengthen the Iranian administration.

"How many ships need be blown up before the world acknowledges that Iran was responsible?" Sondland asked at a policy event in Brussels.

"What is not productive is this rhetoric going back and forth, particularly in some of the news media, where, despite the existence of clear video showing ships being mined by Iranian mines, there are still questions about who caused that -- all that does is give Iran a great deal of leeway."

He spoke shortly after separate reports on Thursday that Iran shot down an American spy drone near the entrance to the Persian Gulf.

Gulf Tensions

A transatlantic rift has erupted over Iran since the U.S. last year abandoned a landmark 2015 international agreement, known as the JCPOA, that is meant to prevent the country from developing nuclear weapons, and which the EU supports along with Russia and China.

Europe's stance is now under strain after Iran said it would breach caps on stockpiles of low-grade uranium.

"The JCPOA financially empowered the regime to sow mischief in the region and beyond, including right here in Europe," Sondland said. "The U.S. will never accept the premise that doing something differently from the EU is inherently wrong."



A New, Harsher Vision of the EU Takes Shape

Foreign Policy (June 19, 2019) - BRATISLAVA, Slovakia—Nationalists who mistrust the European Union and internationalists who still embrace its mission can find a common path forward to save it—they just have to agree to allow in a lot fewer people.

That was one of the stark conclusions to emerge from GLOBSEC, Bratislava's annual security forum, which drew prime ministers, presidents, and more than a few Trump administration officials earlier this month. A poll from the GLOBSEC think tank shows that Poles and Hungarians largely want to stay within the EU. They just don't want to share it with outsiders, and they've won enough seats at the ballot box that the rest of Europe has to listen.

But while fear and hate-stoking disinformation have helped fuel a rise of anti-immigrant, isolationist populist leaders in Europe, the word from Slovakia, the home of the Velvet Revolution that swept out communism 30 years ago, is that liberal democracy isn't headed for the ash heap of history quite yet.

Only 13 percent of Central and Eastern Europeans polled by GLOBSEC would leave the EU if given a choice, despite the rise of nationalist parties in places such as Poland and Hungary. The vast majority of Poles surveyed, 87 percent, would vote to stay in the EU, and 83 percent of Hungarians support the EU, even though 57 percent of them said they don't share European Union values.

They are among a sizable wedge of Europeans who want to change the EU from the inside, to allow them to turn back the clock on some democratic and human rights, and turn away refugees and migrants as both dangerous and undesirable—in part because they didn't know how to thrive in the capitalism ushered in by the fall of the Soviet Union, and the EU hasn't helped.

"We need a Europe that delivers for people, and people can feel it," said Slovak Foreign Affairs Minister Miroslav Lajcak to a roomful of mostly grim-faced liberal democrats at the conference on June 8. He said they still need to serve those angry people who voted against pro-EU, centrist governments, so they "don't feel left out of ... European success."

He and other Central European leaders came here to the banks of the Danube to lament the nationalist revolution that's challenging human and civil rights and

press freedom. Europe's centrist parties have lost ground to the right and the left in last month's vote for European Parliament—a voting Rorschach test akin to how Americans pass muster on a president's performance by voting for Congress in the midterms.

And those populists have taken their rising success at the ballot box as confirmation they are on the right path, practically and morally.

“We do not represent mainstream. We always follow our national interest. We are not shy about that,” Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijarto told me after a combative session debating other European officials and thought leaders at GLOBSEC.

Szijarto and his ilk attribute their success—his government has been elected three successive times and just won big in the European Parliament vote—to heeding the financial and security fears of his people.

It's the same kind of angry earthquake that brought U.S. President Donald Trump to power, according to Trump's EU representative.

“It's not pretty to watch but ... it might actually create a more responsive Europe than in the past, which has been very sclerotic, and very slow moving,” U.S. Ambassador to the EU Gordon Sondland told me, insisting the wave that brought the populists to power wasn't from Trump but from the frustration of the people with out-of-touch leaders. “You couldn't get an answer for anything ... out of some of the old guard.”

At the forum, that “old guard” and its academic proponents took a step toward publicly owning the missteps they believe helped landed them here: gloating over the Soviet Union's collapse instead of welcoming Russia into the new order and failing to provide a safety net or at least training wheels for the Europeans who got left behind when capitalism swept Europe after 1989.

“1989 opened the world to a globalized, financialized capitalism, which brought many benefits to many people, but also brought soaring levels of inequality—social, economic, and cultural,” said the prominent British historian Timothy Garton Ash in opening remarks that set the tone for the conference.

It also left the once-great empire of the Soviet Union in tatters and Russia humiliated, inspiring its patriots such as then-Deputy Mayor of St. Petersburg Vladimir Putin to vow publicly to defend the pockets of Russians now left scattered throughout Europe. That foreshadowed Putin's 2008 invasion of Georgia and his 2014 invasion and annexation of the Ukrainian territory of Crimea, and it presaged Russia's continuing disinformation attacks on the rest of

Europe and beyond, as well as its support of some of the populist leaders trying to tear the EU apart from within.

Russia has found fertile ground in the frustration left in the wake of Europe's own 2008 financial crisis, further compounded by the 2015 Syrian refugee crisis and a string of terrorist attacks, all of which left Europe's population feeling besieged, unprotected, and uncared for by the union that was supposed to make them economically stronger and safer. That in turn led to a "what about me" shriek that has ushered in rising political movements from Italian Deputy Prime Minister Matteo Salvini to National Rally party leader Marine Le Pen in France.

The challenge for the EU old guard: trying to meet genuine needs of a struggling population while decrying and somehow neutering the rising racist, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim, anti-LGBT, anti-foreign, anti-anything-but-white-and-Christian rhetoric. Terrorists, fear-instigating bots and trolls, and the new break of nationalist and populist leaders have fed that fear.

Being responsive to the needs and fears of your people is one thing. With the populists, or nationalists as many prefer to be called, they've also used the extremism Europe faces as a reason to go back in time, to an era when Europe was whiter, more Christian, and more conservative.

Their leaders blend their economic solutions with unapologetic efforts to keep foreigners out, embracing a traditional Christian, heterosexual family as the preferred building block for their society.

"We do not interfere into the sphere of values in other countries, and they do not interfere into ours," said Polish Foreign Minister Jacek Czaputowicz, defending how his Law and Justice party has fought the EU in court as it seeks to remake the country in a more conservative, Christian-leaning mold, with same-sex marriage forbidden and abortion only available in rare cases.

And the way the EU works, where a unanimous vote is needed to censure a country for bad behavior like cracking down on the media, nationalist leaders have banded together to block it.

That prevented the EU's executive, the European Commission, from formally censuring Hungary when it tried to set up a parallel judicial system that Hungarian judges complained would undermine their independence. The EU instead had to use the threat of trimming its funding to Hungary to get the ruling party of Viktor Orban to suspend the plan.

“The majority of countries shared our opinion, therefore there were no measures taken,” Hungary’s Szijjarto said. But Hungary is standing firm on saying no to refugees or migrants.

“We’d rather encourage families to have more kids than allowing migrants to enter our country,” he said, referring to Hungary’s practice of paying mothers a stipend per child.

“We consider migration as a threat to security in Europe,” Szijjarto added, citing “33 major terrorist attacks ... by persons with a migratory background” who were allowed to enter Europe without background checks or screening. “That basically gave a huge chance to terrorists to send their fighters.”

“Parallel societies have been created,” he added, referring to the large communities of Muslims who have arrived so quickly, they have not had the time to assimilate with local communities—or they weren’t welcome to.

On this, the Hungarian and the Polish foreign ministers agree. Migrants are not welcome, period, and his country is also working to provide aid to the Middle East to help refugees from conflict stay where they are.

“Our position is, we have to accept them, but if we introduce peace in the Middle East, there will be no refugees,” Czaputowicz said, adding that Muslim refugees had changed “the proportion of the society” in Europe, contributing to a rise in violence and even anti-Semitism — a rich counterclaim with his own country experiencing homegrown anti-Semitism.

I asked both the Polish and Hungarian foreign ministers what they think the answer is, when U.S. intelligence is warning that climate change is leading to rising seas that could impact populous Muslim communities in places such as Bangladesh, or the thousands of islands that make up Indonesia.

Help them where they are, was the answer—just don’t let them come here.

“We don’t want to be source, or transit or destination of migration,” Hungary’s Szijjarto said. “We think we have to bring help where it is needed and should not bring problems where there are no problems.”

And now they have won enough support at the ballot box to better defend that policy, and just possibly export it to other members of the EU.



US ambassador: Europe should forget Huawei, embrace Western tech

Alexandra Brzozowski

EurActiv.com (June 17, 2019) - America cannot have close security, intelligence and technology ties with Europe unless the EU cuts ties with Chinese tech giant Huawei and embraces “Western telecom industry”, the US ambassador to the European Union told EURACTIV in an exclusive interview Gordon Sondland. also said the EU is “quite protectionist by nature” but added he expects the new European Commission, due to take office in November, to “start on a fresh page and on a new footing with the United States”. Gordon Sondland has been the United States Ambassador to the EU since July 2018. Following his appearance at this year’s Globsec forum in Bratislava, EURACTIV’s Alexandra Brzozowski caught up with him.

Mr. Sondland, you once compared Brussels and Washington to competing businesses, but competitors can easily become foes. How would you describe the current EU-US relationship?

I don’t think we’re foes any more than General Motors and Ford are foes. They’re friendly competitors, they’re each trying to gain market share – and I think so do the US and the EU. They are each trying to gain market share and currently the EU has a greater percentage of the US market share, than the US does of the European market – and we’re trying to rebalance that. It makes total sense to me.

But we in Europe see the transatlantic relationship restrained. Do you think that China could become the uniting factor for the EU and the US?

It should become a uniting factor, because I think, I have never questioned the intent of the EU and I don’t believe the EU ever questions the intent of the United States. At the end of the day, we all want to get a better deal. We all want to do better on trade. China, on the other hand, I think both of us question the intent of China. They’ve built their country over the last 30 years through theft of intellectual property through forced technology transfer. They did it the old-fashioned way – they took it. And we don’t do that to each other and we don’t want the world to operate in that way, so I think when we’re together as partners in dealing with China we’re much stronger.

But would you agree with Huawei’s recent statement that the US is putting ‘unprecedented’ pressure on EU governments?

No, we’re not putting unprecedented pressure on them. What we’re doing is, we’re saying ‘your technology, you can do what you like’. First of all, we don’t tell

people what to do. We tell people what our perspective is and what the future looks like in terms of their relationship with us vis a vis information sharing, intelligence cooperation and a whole host of other interconnections that we currently enjoy today.

As the world becomes more and more reliant on this 5G technology, which it will, one's entire country will operate on 5G – not just your telephone, your cell phone, but the cars, the aeroplanes, the buildings, the hospitals, the schools, the government, the military – everything will be interconnected. And to this extent, our friends want to be as closely interconnected with us as they are today. We can't risk being interconnected with someone who has vulnerable technology. So we're telling them 'this is our perspective, we don't want you to put yourself in a position where we can't continue to be closely tied as we are today because you made the wrong technology choice'. So that is really what we're talking about.

How exactly do you feel the EU should deal with Huawei then?

The EU should subscribe to what is now being developed by what I would call the Western telecom industry, which is sort of akin to a good housekeeping seal of approval. It is producing a list of criteria that any country considering a purchase of this equipment or management of their equipment should comply with this sort of checklist of best practices. And as long as the countries buy equipment or engage with companies that comply with this list, they should be fine. And there are going to be a lot of companies that comply with that list.

Mainly American ones?

No. European ones, Korean ones, American ones, companies from all over the world will comply. I am not sure Huawei will ever comply with that list – but it could. We never know. The hope is that governments would adopt the list as a standard and this is not so much about a country or a supplier, but an objective list of criteria you set.

You recently said President Trump is patiently waiting for a new EU Commission. Earlier you described the current Commission as out of touch. What are your expectations for the next term?

A lot of what needs to be said by both sides, has been said and is well documented in the public record including some old quotes that you just pulled up. I think, what is more productive now is to let the European Union continue with its process to select its new leadership and then start on a fresh footing with that leadership. Because as you recall, when President Trump took office, he took office with the EU having an incumbent leadership already in place, now they're starting fresh.

I believe everyone I have spoken with, who could be a potential leader of the Commission or who could have an important portfolio within the Commission, every single individual that I've spoken with, wants to start on a on a fresh page and on a new footing with the United States – and we welcome that.

Washington accused some EU members of an anti-US agenda, who was addressed by that?

Well, the EU is by nature quite protectionist. The EU has a different philosophy on trade than the United States does and that some countries do. And in fact, a lot of the member countries themselves, were they able to operate on a bilateral trade basis, which they are not, being a member of the EU, would probably have a view more closely akin with that of the US than the EU itself does.

Who are you referring to?

I'm not going to say, but good try!

One of those countries seem to be France, who recently told the Commission it should not sign trade agreements with countries that don't respect the Paris Agreement. How does Washington feel about that?

We are more interested in substance rather than form. The Paris Agreement is all about form and not about substance. What is about substance is, are you talking the talk, which is the Paris Agreement or are you walking the walk.

There are signatories to the Paris Agreement that are not really engaging today in sustainable practices yet they tout the fact that they are a member of the Paris Agreement. We, on the other hand, have eight or nine of our 50 states that already exceed Paris standards, many of them are on their way. One of our states, Texas, is the fourth largest producer of wind energy in the world – just that one state.

We are the centre of sustainable innovation – not Europe, not Asia – the United States. Most innovation that occurs, that will create green energy, comes from the United States. So we'd rather focus on the results, than clinging to a failed agreement that disadvantages certain countries and advantages others.

Coming back to EU-US trade relations. Do you expect a negotiated solution between the US and the European Commission when it comes to the Airbus-Boeing dispute?

I think that's very possible. Once the appraisal or the verdict is rendered as to the amount of damages, I think we're certainly prepared to discuss how the European Union wants to handle those damages.

Would you agree with Mr. Trump that the UK is better off outside of the EU?

What I think the president has said is that this is really a sovereign decision of the UK. He has his personal feelings. Everyone on the planet has their personal feelings about it, whether the UK should or should not be part of the EU. But once the people of the UK have spoken and have made a decision to leave then it's really up to them to figure out how to leave. What is in the US interests though once they have left, regardless of what pathway they choose, is that they don't do anything to prevent themselves from entering into new agreements with both the EU and the US, or to prevent the US from entering into new agreements with them and with the EU. We want them to keep as many options open as possible, whichever pathway they pick to leave.

There is also discord between Brussels and Washington when it comes to security and defence. Isn't the fact that the EU steps up its development of defence projects actually something that Washington was asking for a long time?

Yes, but with several provisions. Number one: We want everyone who has not made their commitment to NATO to fulfil it. In other words, if you're a member country and you haven't hit your 2% but somehow you're able to find money to do a European project, first pay your bill that you owe and then, if there is money leftover, then go ahead and do it. The second provision is, once you do spend money on non-NATO types of things, make sure they're NATO compatible and compliant. Because at the end of the day, whether it's a NATO asset or an EU asset, when a conflict breaks out, you're gonna want them all to be able to operate harmoniously. And if European member states and the EU as an entity are developing weapons systems or transportation systems or whatever that are not NATO compatible, that don't fit the box, then what you're doing is you're creating essentially a whole parallel system which in our lifetimes, yours and mine, will never have the capability that NATO has. It's a foolish expenditure and it really doesn't help NATO, which everyone is now at that point contributing their 2%. So they're sort of going at cross purposes. That's what we don't want to see. But have you received signals from from the EU side that there is a prospect to allow that country participation in those projects? We received the exact opposite signals. We received signals that third country participation – and I am speaking of research and development dollars – third country participation in European projects is going to be very problematic. And when you say 'third country', what we're really talking about is the United States. Yes, there are other countries involved, but the United States is the primary country that collaborates with the EU in the United States using US R&D dollars. We want our companies to be

treated the same way in Europe as European companies are treated in the United States – no better no worse.

The New York Times

Europe Vows to Spend More on Defense, but U.S. Still Isn't Happy

By Steven Erlanger

New York Times (June 7, 2019) - BRUSSELS — The United States and its European allies on Thursday commemorated the 75th anniversary of D-Day, which freed the Continent from tyranny. But at the same time, the two sides are squabbling bitterly over the future and funding of European defense.

Washington has been pressing the European Union to spend more and do more for its own defense for well over a decade, with President Trump just the latest and loudest to do so.

Now that the European Union is actually responding, with a defense fund and a project for military cooperation and development, the United States is criticizing how it's being done and complaining that the moves could harm trans-Atlantic cooperation and prevent American companies from competing for potentially lucrative contracts.

If anything, the spat is another reminder of the sour state of relations between the Trump administration and the European bloc and of the divisions on issues such as trade, climate change and Iran. The fact that a European plan to increase military spending — acceding to a demand from Mr. Trump — has degenerated into acrimony only emphasizes the split.

European diplomats say the issue recently boiled over at a private meeting in Washington. A senior American diplomat, Michael J. Murphy, a top official at the Bureau of Europe and Eurasian Affairs, lectured European Union ambassadors about the United States' unhappiness with proposed restrictions on third-country participation in European Union defense projects.

Mr. Murphy warned that the European initiatives “could undermine trans-Atlantic security by duplicating NATO efforts and diverting valuable resources” and “make all of us less safe, Americans included.”

Some countries, he said in remarks obtained by The Times, “are pursuing an industrial policy under the veneer of a security policy,” with a priority on supporting national defense industries and trying to cut out participation and competition by nonbloc countries like Canada, Norway, the United States — and importantly, after Brexit, Britain.

European ambassadors who were there, members of the Political and Security Committee of the European Union, which deals with the bloc's foreign and defense policy, said that the atmosphere was tense and that Mr. Murphy's remarks did not leave time for discussion afterward. The envoys requested anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about closed-doors meetings.

"It was quite a tough presentation, which took some of the colleagues by surprise," said one European ambassador who was there. "The substance was not especially new to us, but we were surprised by the tone and toughness."

There was a similar but less aggressive meeting at the Pentagon, the diplomats said, and there was more time there for conversation and discussion.

The confrontation is centered on two new European military spending initiatives.

For the first time, there will be a European Defense Fund, taken from the European Union budget for research and development, planned with a relatively modest start of 13 billion euros, or about \$14.6 billion, over the 2021-27 budget.

There is also a program called, in Brussels-speak, "permanent structured cooperation," or PESCO, in which 25 of the 28 member states agreed to work on cooperative military projects. Small coalitions of member states are already proposing projects to build attack helicopters and armored infantry vehicles.

But London and Washington have expressed concern that their defense contractors will be shut out of such projects, since the program specifies that third parties may only "exceptionally participate."

The current draft regulations, Mr. Murphy said, "risk delinking the North American and European defense sectors after decades of hard work to increase our integration" and "would only help our adversaries and create a new irritant in trans-Atlantic relations."

A number of Europeans find that language overblown and believe that, seeing as the Pentagon spends American taxpayer money on mostly American defense manufacturers, Europe should do the same.

Increased military spending is a hot-button topic in Europe, especially with a widely disliked Mr. Trump pushing the issue, and European politicians need to show that such spending will produce jobs at home.

"The Trump administration can't have its cake and eat it, too," said Stefano Stefanini, an Italian former ambassador to NATO and now a consultant in Brussels with Project Associates, a consulting firm.