

Inside U.S. Foreign Policy

Climate and COP 27

Speaker Bios

WELCOME



Heidi Manley

Chief, USA Study Abroad
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Heidi Manley is the Chief of USA Study Abroad, part of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), serving as the lead for American student mobility within the State Department. She oversees two of the Department's leading programs to support American students, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program and the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program, which she launched in 2006. Heidi also has the lead for creating and overseeing a number of capacity-building initiatives to increase and diversify American student mobility, including the Capacity Building Program for U.S. Study Abroad for accredited U.S. higher education institutions, also known as the IDEAS Program, and Study Abroad Engagement Grants for U.S. Embassies and Fulbright Commissions worldwide. Heidi previously served as the Deputy Director of the Office of Global Educational Programs and in the Office of Academic Exchange Programs, where she worked on a number of initiatives under the Fulbright Program.

KEYNOTE: CLIMATE AND COP 27



Sue Biniaz

Deputy Special Envoy for Climate
U.S. Department of State

Sue Biniaz is back at the State Department working for Special Envoy for Climate John Kerry. For more than 25 years, Sue served as the lead climate lawyer for the United States. In that capacity, she played a central role in all major international climate negotiations, including the Paris Agreement. During her tenure as a Deputy Legal Adviser at the Department, she supervised the Treaty Office and issues related to the environment, law of the sea, East Asian Affairs, Western Hemisphere Affairs, human rights and refugees, law enforcement, and private international law. Prior to that, she led the Department's legal office for Oceans, Environment, and Science, as well as the legal office for European and Canadian Affairs. Between 2017 and 2020, Sue taught at Yale University, Columbia University, and the University of Chicago, and was a Senior Fellow at the UN Foundation. She continues to be a Senior Fellow and Lecturer at Yale's Jackson School of Global Affairs.

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PANEL: CLIMATE, COP 27, AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY



Charles "Chuck" Fee

Regional Climate Officer

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

Chuck Fee, a Foreign Service Economic Officer, has served as the Regional Climate Coordinator for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the U.S. Department of State since October 2022. He is the liaison between the office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry, our embassies in the Middle East, and various State Department offices in Washington.

Chuck has spent his State Department career working in the Middle East or focused on Middle East issues, with positions in Cairo, Kuwait, Washington, and Abu Dhabi. In his various positions he has covered energy, transportation, human rights, health, science, and climate issues. His biggest focus for 2023 will be to assist the State Department in preparing for COP28 in Dubai.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service in 2010, Chuck worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development in Bangkok and, prior to that, at a federally funded research institute in Oregon. His spouse is also a Foreign Service Officer. They currently reside in Bridgetown, Barbados, where he works from home with their two cats.



Hannah J. Lyons

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

Hannah Lyons is currently the Deputy Chief of Staff in the Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate. She also serves as the Department of State's COP coordinator, leading a team of colleagues on the various non-negotiations portions of the climate conferences including communications, pavilions, interagency coordination, stakeholder engagement, logistics, and other work.

Hannah has previously held roles on the climate team as a negotiator, as the small island developing states lead, and as an advisor on climate change issues at the UN in New York and in other multilateral fora. Hannah previously worked in the Bureau of Public Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, primarily focused on environmental issues. She holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Auburn University. In her free time, she enjoys baking, fostering dogs, and being an amateur weather nerd.

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Iva Ziza

Egypt Desk Officer

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

Iva Ziza is a U.S. Foreign Service Officer currently serving as an Egypt Desk Officer in the Office of North African Affairs (Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs) at the U.S. Department of State. She leads the development of U.S. economic, energy, climate, health, and commercial policy regarding Egypt, and heads Egypt desk efforts in consultation with the interagency (including U.S. Trade Representative, Department of Treasury, Department of Commerce, USAID, and others). She closely coordinated climate issues with the Office of the Special Presidential

Envoy for Climate (SPEC) during Egypt's hosting of the COP27 in November 2022. Iva served overseas as a vice consul in Manila and the human rights officer in Prague. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Iva was an environmental lawyer at the U.S. Department of Justice.



Lauren H. Lovelace

Minister Counselor for Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy Cairo, Egypt

Lauren H. Lovelace serves as Minister Counselor for Public Affairs at U.S. Embassy, Cairo, supervising 53 staff in the largest public diplomacy section in the region. Previously, she served as a Senior Advisor and DoD Liaison for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, advising interagency leadership on Chief of

Mission concurrence issues. Lauren is a four-time Public Affairs Officer: Cairo, Chennai, Dublin, and Dhaka. Other assignments include Director of the State Department's Transatlantic Diplomatic Fellowship program; Executive Director of the U.S.-Afghan Women's Council at Georgetown University; Assistant Information Officer, Cairo, Egypt; Political Officer and Staff Assistant, New Delhi, India; Vice Consul, Mumbai, India; Special Assistant on UN Reform at USUN-NY; and speechwriter to the Secretary of State and EUR. As PAO and Acting DCM Dhaka, Lauren founded the Edward M. Kennedy Center for Public Service and the Arts, a hybrid American Space that has engaged millions of youth.

Lauren is a graduate of Tufts University (BA), the Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy (MALD), and the University of Kentucky (MPA). She is the recipient of the Department's Distinguished, Superior, and Meritorious Honor Awards. She was a Transatlantic Diplomatic Fellow to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Dublin, Ireland and a National Security Education Program Fellow in St. Petersburg, Russia. She is a native of Kentucky.

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STATE DEPARTMENT CAREERS AND STUDENT PROGRAMS INFORMATION SESSION



Saúl Hernández

Diplomat in Residence- South
U.S. Department of State

Saúl Hernández is a career Foreign Service Officer with over eighteen years of experience at the U.S. Department of State. He is the Diplomat in Residence for the Southern region, recruiting diverse talent for career and student program opportunities with the U.S. Department of State.

Saúl was previously the Director for the Outreach and Communications Unit and the Public Diplomacy Incubator Unit in the Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources for the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. He led a team that engages with Congress to advocate for public diplomacy resources for the Department, develops communications strategies for 4,000 public diplomacy practitioners worldwide, and manages digital outreach to the 700,000 members of the Young African Leaders Initiative Network and the Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative Network.

Saúl's other Department of State assignments include Lima, Peru, where he served as the Press Officer; Washington, DC, where he served as the Digital Media Advisor for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs and as a Media Relations Officer for the Washington Foreign Press Center; Tbilisi, Georgia, where he served as the Cultural Affairs Officer; and Prague, Czech Republic, and Bogotá, Colombia, where he served as a Consular Officer.

Saúl earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Before joining the Department of State, he worked as an information technology consultant and software developer in the Atlanta area.

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FOREIGN POLICY AND CAREER CONVERSATIONS

Room 1: Pickering & Rangel Fellowships



David A. Rodriguez

Political-Military Officer

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs

David Anthony Rodriguez is the Political-Military Officer in EAP's Office of Korean Affairs. He previously served as the Political Officer in WHA's Office of Mexican Affairs (2019-2021), Programs Officer in Embassy Lima's INL Section (2016-2019), Political-Military Officer at Embassy Tokyo (2014-2016), and Vice Consul at U.S. Consulate General Monterrey (2011-2013). He also worked as a civil servant in EAP's Office of Regional Security and Policy (2009-2010). Mr. Rodriguez served as HECFAA's Vice President for Foreign Service from January to June 2021.

Mr. Rodriguez is a 2008 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellow. He earned an M.A. in International Affairs from the George Washington University and B.A. degrees in Geography and International Relations from Florida International University. Mr. Rodriguez was born in Miami, Florida to Cuban parents. He is part of a Foreign Service tandem couple and has a four-year old daughter.

Room 2: The Nexus of Gender & Climate Change



Dr. Aubrey Paris

Gender, Climate, and Innovation Policy Advisor

U.S. Department of State, Office of Global Women's Issues

Dr. Aubrey Paris is the Policy Advisor on Gender, Climate Change, and Innovation in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI) at the U.S. Department of State, where she leads foreign policy and public diplomacy efforts related to the nexus of gender and climate change. At the State Department, she launched the *Innovation Station* initiative to amplify the impact of woman and girl innovators developing translatable solutions to climate-related challenges, while simultaneously drawing subnational connections between domestic and international communities. The initiative includes generation of an international network, virtual event series, quarterly newsletter, and S/GWI's *Innovation Station* podcast, for which she serves as moderator and producer.

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Prior to joining the State Department, Dr. Paris was a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow and Energy and Climate Scholar at Princeton University, where she designed electrocatalysts capable of transforming carbon dioxide into useful and marketable products. During her graduate studies, she also contributed to research projects on water security implications of coal-fired power plants, the future of U.S. nuclear energy, and climate change impacts on national security. Dr. Paris received her Ph.D. in Chemistry and Materials Science from Princeton University, M.A. in Chemistry from Princeton University, and B.S. in Chemistry and Biology, with a minor in French, from Ursinus College.

Room 3: COP 27



Charles "Chuck" Fee

Regional Climate Officer

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs

Chuck Fee, a Foreign Service Economic Officer, has served as the Regional Climate Coordinator for the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the U.S. Department of State since October 2022. He is the liaison between the office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry, our embassies in the Middle East, and various State Department offices in Washington.

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Room 4: State Department Exchange & Scholarship Programs: Developing Tomorrow's Global Perspectives, Today



Rebecca Johnson

Program Officer, USA Study Abroad
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Rebecca Johnson is a Program Officer for USA Study Abroad within the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), where she oversees a portfolio of capacity building and professional development initiatives. She manages the IDEAS Program (Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students), which provides grants and resources to help U.S. colleges and universities expand their study abroad programming.

Rebecca previously worked as the Special Assistant for ECA's Office of Global Educational Programs and in program development at American Councils for International Education. She was a Boren Scholar to Tanzania and later returned to her host community to partner with local teachers to create an education nonprofit that trains high school and college students to run arts-and-science-based school break programs for elementary school students. Rebecca holds degrees in international relations and journalism from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Master of Public Administration degree with a focus on education policy from the George Washington University.

Room 5: Q&A about State Department Careers & Student Programs



Saúl Hernández

Diplomat in Residence- South
U.S. Department of State

Saúl Hernández is a career Foreign Service Officer with over eighteen years of experience at the U.S. Department of State. He is the Diplomat in Residence for the Southern region, recruiting diverse talent for career and student program opportunities with the U.S. Department of State.

Saúl was previously the Director for the Outreach and Communications Unit and the Public Diplomacy Incubator Unit in the Office of Policy, Planning, and Resources for the Under

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Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs. He led a team that engages with Congress to advocate for public diplomacy resources for the Department, develops communications strategies for 4,000 public diplomacy practitioners worldwide, and manages digital outreach to the 700,000 members of the Young African Leaders Initiative Network and the Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative Network.

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Saúl earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Before joining the Department of State, he worked as an information technology consultant and software developer in the Atlanta area.

Room 6: Non-Competitive Eligibility & Working for a Passport Center



J. Nathan Bland

Diplomat in Residence- Central South
U.S. Department of State

J. Nathan Bland is a career Foreign Service Officer with over sixteen years of experience in a wide variety of areas with the U.S. Department of State. He is currently the Diplomat-in-Residence based at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA where he is responsible for recruiting the best and brightest candidates from diverse backgrounds within Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas for U.S.

Department of State career and student program opportunities. His most recent assignment was as an Assistant General Services Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City serving as the Embassy's primary Contracting Officer and overseeing logistics for VIP visits. Prior to that, he was the

Political, Economic and International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) Section Chief at the U.S. Embassy in Belmopan, Belize. He also served as the Acting Deputy Chief of Mission in at the U.S. Embassy in Belize for nearly a year.

Previous assignments include a tour at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs where he led U.S. Government multilateral engagement on marine environmental protection issues in the Caribbean and ocean dumping. He also served as the Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy to the Holy See, and a Consular Officer at the U.S. Consulate in Shenyang, China. He began his career with the U.S. Department of State as a Presidential Management Fellow working in the Public Affairs Office for the East Asia and Pacific Affairs Bureau in 2004.

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Nathan completed Executive Leadership Training from Harvard Business School as part of the Secretary's Leadership Seminar. He graduated from Seton Hall University's School of Diplomacy and International Relations with an M.A. in Diplomacy and International Relations and an M.A. in Asian Studies. Nathan wrote his M.A. thesis on China's efforts to stabilize the Xinjiang region drawing from his own experience living and working in the Xinjiang for 1½ years. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Louisiana College, and also successfully completed the State Department's Foreign Service Economic Studies course.



Rob Doughten

Foreign Service Officer
U.S. Department of State

Rob Doughten is a Foreign Service Officer. Over the course of his career, he has served in Russia, Mozambique, Romania, DC, and India. Prior to joining the Department of State, he worked as a Judicial Law Clerk in the Department of Justice's Honors Program at the New York and Los Angeles Immigration courts.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Carroll College and a Juris Doctor from Gonzaga University. He is a former Peace Corps Volunteer and hails from Montana.

Room 7: We want YOU in the U.S. Foreign Service! Conversation with a Foreign Service Officer



Lauren H. Lovelace

Minister Counselor for Public Affairs
U.S. Embassy Cairo, Egypt

Lauren H. Lovelace serves as Minister Counselor for Public Affairs at U.S. Embassy, Cairo, supervising 53 staff in the largest public diplomacy section in the region. Previously, she served as a Senior Advisor and DoD Liaison for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, advising interagency leadership on Chief of

Mission concurrence issues. Lauren is a four-time Public Affairs Officer: Cairo, Chennai, Dublin, and Dhaka. Other assignments include Director of the State Department's Transatlantic Diplomatic Fellowship program; Executive Director of the U.S.-Afghan Women's Council at Georgetown University; Assistant Information Officer, Cairo, Egypt; Political Officer and Staff Assistant, New Delhi, India; Vice Consul, Mumbai, India; Special Assistant on UN Reform at USUN-NY; and speechwriter to the Secretary of State and EUR. As PAO and Acting DCM Dhaka, Lauren founded the Edward M. Kennedy Center for Public Service and the Arts, a hybrid American Space that has engaged millions of youth.

Lauren is a graduate of Tufts University (BA), the Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy (MALD), and the University of Kentucky (MPA). She is the recipient of the Department's Distinguished, Superior, and Meritorious Honor Awards. She was a Transatlantic Diplomatic Fellow to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Dublin, Ireland and a National Security Education Program Fellow in St. Petersburg, Russia. She is a native of Kentucky.

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Room 8: Serving in the State Department as a Climate Scientist: Insights from a year as a Jefferson Science Fellow



Dr. Amy Townsend-Small

Professor
University of Cincinnati

Dr. Amy Townsend-Small is a Professor at the University of Cincinnati. Her research investigates methane emissions from the natural gas supply chain as well as climate change feedbacks. A service-driven researcher, she has collaborated with community groups, the energy industry, nonprofits, and government as the need for rapid global action on greenhouse gas emissions has become manifestly clear. She also works in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs as a Senior Climate Advisor and is a Jefferson Science Fellow.

CLOSING



Dan Pattarini

Foreign Service Officer
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs

As a Public Diplomacy-coned Foreign Service Officer, Dan's career has centered mainly on public affairs with significant connections to educational and cultural affairs programming and a fair bit of experience with consular work. Dan has recently taken up his assignment with the USA Study Abroad office within the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, having spent the previous year as the Public Affairs Officer in the Office of Foreign Missions. Immediately prior, Dan was an Outreach Officer with the Bureau of Consular Affairs' Office of Public and Congressional Affairs (CA/P). Dan's overseas tours include assignments in Oman (Assistant Public Affairs Officer), Egypt (Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer + Vice Consul), Iraq (Environment Science Technology and Health Officer), and Luxembourg as Public Affairs Officer. Prior to joining State, Dan worked at IIE for almost five years.