

GREAT DECISIONS

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State of the State Department and Diplomacy

Acronyms and abbreviations

AFSA—American Foreign Service Association

EU—European Union

NAFTA—North American Free Trade Agreement

NATO—North Atlantic Treaty Organization

TPP—Trans-Pacific Partnership

UNESCO—United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Glossary

Angela Merkel: Current Chancellor of Germany since 2005. She is Germany's first female chancellor and world-renowned for her political efforts and accomplishments.

Civil Service: A program within the State Department that has employees working in various fields, from human resources to foreign language training, that make sure the U.S. government has the necessary resources and training to succeed.

Commerce Department: U.S. government office that promotes and protects American economic interests.

Consulate: Branches and offices in countries with an embassy, located in smaller cities and throughout the host country.

Department of Homeland Security: U.S. government department that protects American national, private, and public security, from border security to cybersecurity.

Diplomat: a government official who represents their home country abroad.

Embassy/consulate: A headquarters for American government officials working abroad. Most commonly in major cities such as capitals, embassies are the U.S.'s government's hub in the host country, and also serve to assist Americans in the country.

Emmanuel Macron: Current president of France since 2017. He is France's youngest president ever, and tensions between Macron and U.S. president Donald Trump have grown recently.

Foreign Service: A program within the State Department that employs diplomats, who promote American interests abroad through multiple offices, from politics to economics.

House Foreign Affairs Committee: A government committee that creates legislation concerning diplomatic issues, which mainly influences the Department of State and other international organizations such as the UN and the Peace Corps.

International Organization of Migration: An organization that works with governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to manage global migration through international cooperation and humanitarian assistance.

Justin Trudeau: Current president of Canada since 2015. He has been negotiating trade differences with the United States.

Marshall Plan: Also known as the European Recovery Program. After World War II, the United States created this plan to economically rebuild Europe after the war. United States Secretary of State at the time George Marshall was the main author of this plan.

Mike Pompeo: Current U.S. Secretary of State since April 2018, and former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. He succeeded Rex Tillerson as Secretary of State.

France, that created peace agreements after World War I. The United Kingdom, the United States, France, and Italy were the most powerful negotiators and greatly influenced the terms of the Treaty of Versailles.

National Security Council: Created by President Harry Truman, the Council advises the U.S. President on national security and foreign policy matters, and assists in managing these efforts throughout the government.

Office of Management and Budget: The office in the Executive branch of the military that creates the government's and national budgets.

Paris Climate Change Agreement: A 2016 agreement that aimed to minimize global warming and climate change through global cooperation. 195 countries have signed the agreement, which is in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the Paris Agreement in 2017.

The Pentagon: Headquarters for the U.S. Department of Defense, and used as a symbol for the U.S. military and its leaders.

Rex Tillerson: Former U.S. Secretary of State under President Donald Trump from 2017 to 2018, when he was dismissed from his position. He publicly supported the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Secretary of State: Head of the State Department whose main duties are in foreign policy and diplomacy on behalf the United States.

State Department: United States government office of the Executive Branch that leads America's foreign policy through diplomacy and advice to the President.

Theresa May: Current Prime Minister of the United Kingdom since 2016. She is the second female Prime Minister of the UK, and has been negotiating Brexit proceedings with the European Union.

Trans-Pacific Partnership: A proposed trade agreement between 12 countries along the Pacific Ocean, noticeably excluding China. It would have been the largest free trade deal in the world. President Trump withdrew from the TPP, but the remaining members created a new version of the pact.

Versailles Conference: 1919 conference in Paris,