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EMBASSY HIGHLIGHTS



Ambassador Ware Delivers a Speech on Climate Change and Afghanistan at the University of Lapland

On October 5 Ambassador Marilyn Ware delivered a speech "Dealing with Climate Change and Changing Afghanistan" at the University of Lapland in Rovaniemi.

Ambassador Ware delivering a speech at the University of Lapland, Rovaniemi. (photo: The University of Lapland)

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Ambassador Ware met with a Group of American lawyers and judges visiting Helsinki.

Ambassador Ware Met with a Group of American Lawyers and Judges Visiting Helsinki

October 4 Ambassador Marilyn Ware met with a group of American lawyers and judges visiting Helsinki to learn more about the Finnish legal system and to speak to students at the Helsinki School of Law. Two members of the group, The Honorable John Pessala, a Family Court Judge in Nassau County New York, and Robert Alan Saasto, Esq., formed the Finnish American Lawyers Association (FALA) in 2003. FALA is a group of lawyers and friends interested in Finland, who meet regularly to network and socialize. The visitors to Ambassador Ware's residence also included lawyer Ben Sliney, the FAA Director of Operations on Sept. 11, 2001, his first day on the job. After evaluating the situation and after two planes had crashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center, Mr. Sliney ordered the full landing of the roughly 4,200 airplanes in the air at the time, an unprecedented judgment call which the 9/11 Commission later denoted as an important and decisive act in the chaos of that morning.

Embassy Sponsors GLOBE Teachers' Conference in Helsinki

On September 21, educators from around Finland gathered at the American Resource Center at the National Library in Helsinki to attend the GLOBE Teachers' Conference. GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) is a unique international program that brings education to life through hands-on scientific discovery about the Earth and its systems. Founded on Earth Day in 1995, GLOBE now involves over 20,000 schools in 109 countries, including 120 schools in Finland.

Sponsored by the U.S. Embassy, Vaisala and the Finnish Board of Education, the Teachers' Conference helped revitalize the GLOBE program in Finland by bringing together leading educators for a full-day conference that included numerous networking opportunities for educators....[\(more\)](#)

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Dr. Stephen Krasner delivering a speech at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (UPI).

Former Director of Policy Planning Dr. Stephen Krasner Enlightens Helsinki Audiences

Stanford Professor of International Relations Dr. Stephen Krasner, former Director of Policy Planning in the Department of State, spoke to Finnish audiences on the realities of policy planning in foreign affairs during a program on September 24-26, 2007. In presentations at the Finnish Institute of International Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the University of Helsinki and in

discussions with journalists, Dr. Krasner explained that policy practitioners, who must make decisions based on current, imperfect knowledge, do not have the luxury of trying to fit their actions into a grand, theoretical scheme of things (as academics, analyzing past events with the aid of archives and interviews, try to do). He also emphasized that transformational diplomacy represents an attempt to address the new foreign affairs and security challenges of our age, which often have more to do with the internal processes of other states rather than with nation-to-nation relations.

- [More embassy events](#)

news from washington



Bush Hosts Iftar with Muslim Leaders

President Bush hosts an iftar, the evening meal that ends daily fasts during Ramadan, with Muslim leaders October 4.... (© AP Images) [More](#)

U.S. Food Safety Agencies, Industry Seek More Import Regulation

U.S. food import safety officials and the food industry are proposing to ramp up federal regulation of imported food and ingredients to address the risk that unsafe products could enter the United States... [\(complete text\)](#)

U.S. House Passes Historic Ramadan Resolution

A resolution recognizing the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and expressing the "deepest respect to Muslims in the United States and throughout the world" was adopted in the U.S. House of Representatives October 2 by a vote of 376-0.... [\(complete text\)](#)

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