

such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and maternal and child mortality. Infectious disease outbreaks remain among the foremost dangers to human health and the global economy, as many countries have limited capacity to prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to these threats. Health is the largest component of U.S. development assistance.

The American higher education sector is an engine for American innovation and growth, providing opportunities for international students to partner with Americans in collaboration that furthers market access and increased trade in a global marketplace. Students from around the world who study in the United States also contribute to America's scientific and technical research, and bring international perspectives into U.S. classrooms. This helps prepare American undergraduates for global careers, and often leads to longer-term business relationships and economic benefits. The Department encourages enrollment of these foreign students through EducationUSA centers worldwide, where trained advisers provide accurate, current, and comprehensive information about studying in the United States. Foreign students are particularly important to U.S. colleges' and universities' advanced science and engineering research and coursework, driving U.S. innovation.



Secretary Tillerson chairs a United Nations Security Council meeting on denuclearization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in New York City, New York, April 28, 2017.

Department of State

Humanitarian, Economic Development and Environment

As one of the world's most competitive and innovative economies, the United States benefits from trading in a fair, open, and stable international economy. Fair bilateral trade and investments are the crux to maximizing opportunities for American business abroad. To make trade work for American workers, the Department addresses unfair commercial practices through bilateral trade negotiations aimed at opening markets and locking in trade and investment rules that protect American intellectual property, level the playing field, and spur innovation. However, trade agreements are only part of the story. Around the world, State and USAID work hard to establish fair, transparent, and open markets outside of formal negotiations. U.S. firms succeed abroad when government and private sector procurement decisions are based on commercial and technical merits, when rules and regulations are transparent and enforceable, when intellectual property rights are respected, and when foreign competitors, including state-owned enterprises, do not benefit from unfair advantages or unsustainable labor and environmental practices.

State and USAID also help create new markets and customers for American products through the smart use of foreign assistance and targeted diplomatic efforts to drive inclusive economic growth that underpin open markets. Through the economic development of our partners, the Department is also addressing many of the underlying drivers of threats to our national security.

International Organizations and Commissions

The United States benefits from a disciplined, purposeful, and deep engagement with the rest of the world. American interests are protected by an international system that allows for cooperation with like-minded partners without compromising our independence. The Department continues to strengthen American leadership both in our partnerships and with multilateral institutions, such as the host of United Nations agencies and organizations. U.S. leadership in these venues is often instrumental to fostering cooperation, sharing the costs of taking action, and protecting the rule of law, human rights, dignity, and democratic values. In the absence of a sustainable and business-like U.S. presence across the international system,