

# **Agency Staff Tracker: US Mission to the United Nations**

Regulatory powers, organizational  
structure & key decision-makers

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## Understanding the Agency Staff Tracker

The Agency Staff Tracker is a tool to help navigate the transition period in the new administration. Each deck corresponds to a federal department and tracks presidential appointments and nominations through the entire confirmation process. Use the Agency Staff Tracker as a resource to quickly identify the key decision-makers in federal agencies.

### Roadmap

- Brief overview of department: mission, history, regulatory powers
- “Day one” issues for the administration
- Organizational chart
- Nomination tracker + in-depth nominee profiles
- Key decision-makers at the agency level + brief profiles

### What to expect

The initial round of Agency Staff Trackers will be published for each cabinet department before expanding to independent agencies (EPA, SBA, etc.). Current organizational charts and nomination lists will be expanded as the decks are updated.



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## Mission to the UN

### Overview

The U.S. Mission to the United Nations (USUN) serves as the United States' delegation to the United Nations. USUN is responsible for carrying out the nation's participation in the world body.

### Mission

The United Nations is an international body that aims to maintain peace and security, protect human rights, deliver humanitarian aid, promote sustainable development and uphold international law. USUN represents the United States at the United Nations.

### History

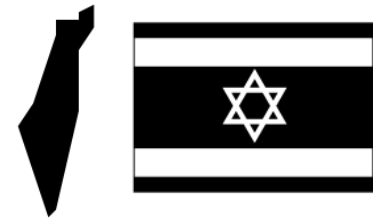
In the aftermath of World War II, the UN was formed in an effort to establish lasting peace. In 1947 the United States Mission was created by an act of Congress to assist the President and the Department of State in conducting United States policy at the United Nations. Since that time, USUN has served a vital role as the Department of State's UN branch.

## Mission to the United Nations

### “Day one” issues for the new administration

#### **New stance on Israel**

Nikki Haley, the new US ambassador to the UN, said “Nowhere has the UN's failure been more consistent and more outrageous than in its bias against our close ally Israel.” The Obama administration allowed the UN to pass a resolution condemning Israeli settlements; the Trump administration staunchly opposes this decision and may withhold funding to the UN until the resolution is overturned.



#### **Continue sanctions on Russia**

With Trump expressing admiration and approval of Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin throughout the campaign, many wondered if his administration would end sanctions against the nation. However, in her first appearance at the UN Security Council, Nikki Haley indicated that the sanctions would remain so long as Russia continued to occupy Crimea.



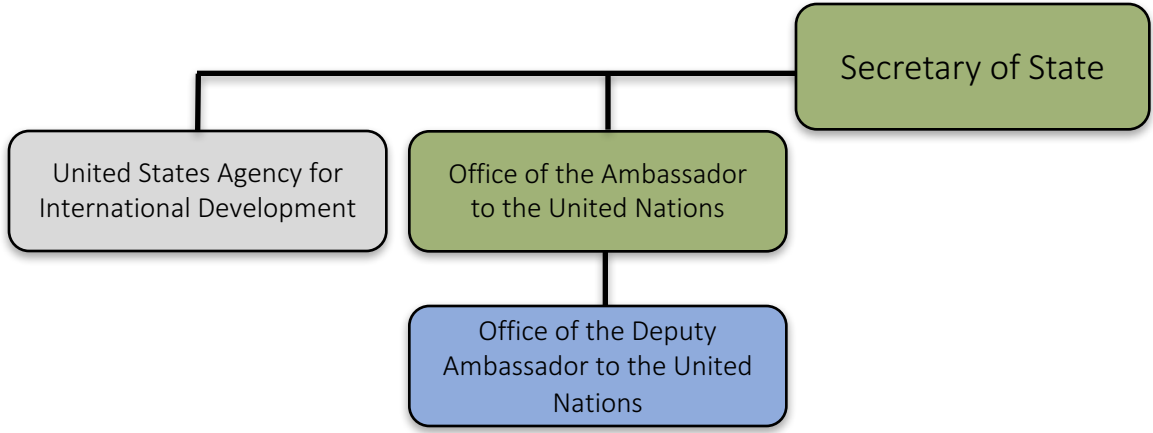
# Department of State: US Mission to the UN

## Organizational chart

Not yet appointed (S)  
  Nominated (S)  
  Confirmed (S)

Not yet appointed  
  Appointed

(S) — requires Senate confirmation



Sources: National Journal research.

# Mission to the United Nations

## Nomination Tracker

Position	Obama Administration	Trump Administration	Status
Ambassador to the United Nations	Samantha Power (Confirmed 7/18/13)	Nikki Haley	Nominated (11/23/16) Confirmed (1/24/17)
Deputy Chief, Mission to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva	Theodore Allegra		
Alternate Representative to the United Nations for Special Political Affairs	David Pressman	Jay Patrick Murray	Nominated (5/8/17)
Ambassador to the UN for Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization	Crystal Nix Hines		
Ambassador to the UN for Management and Reform	Isobel Derouet Coleman		
Representative to the UN Economic and Social Council	Sarah Elizabeth Mendelson	Kelly Eckels Currie	Nominated (6/22/17) Confirmed (8/3/17)

Sources: National Journal research.

# Mission to the United Nations

## Key decision-makers: US Mission to the UN



### Nikki Haley

*Position: Ambassador to the UN*

#### Biography

In 2004, Haley decided to challenge Republican state Rep. Larry Koon, who had been in office since 1975. She won that matchup to become the first Indian-American Republican state legislator in the United States. She won reelection in 2006 and 2008 with ease. In 2009, Haley ran for governor of South Carolina and won with 49% of the vote. Since becoming governor, has become popular and well known outside of the state. She endorsed former Mitt Romney in the hotly contested 2012 South Carolina Republican presidential primary. The spotlight turned back on her state in the wake of the Charleston church shooting in 2015 and she was praised for her success in uniting citizens in its aftermath. Paul Ryan has cited Nikki Haley as an “inclusive leader” with a “path for the future” as she represents a fresh, diverse face for Republicans while pushing a policy agenda in line with the traditional establishment.

#### Date of birth

January 20, 1972 (Age: 45)

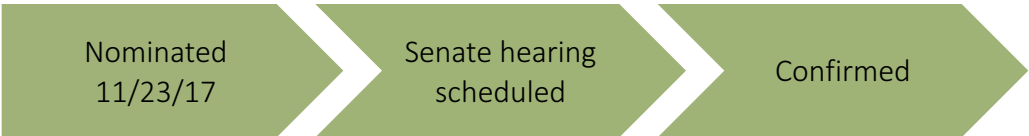
#### Education

Clemson University, BA.

#### Occupation

Governor, South Carolina

#### Confirmation status



Sources: National Journal research;

# Mission to the United Nations

## Alternate Representative to the United Nations for Special Political Affairs



### Jay Patrick Murray

*Position: Alternate Representative to the United Nations for Special Political Affairs*

#### Biography

Murray is a former advisor to the State Department’s Bureau of Political Military Affairs. Previously, Murray worked at the US embassy in Moscow and served in Iraq and the Balkans as a colonel in the Army. Murray is also the author of *Government is the Problem*, political commentator who has appeared on TV and radio, and an candidate for Congress.

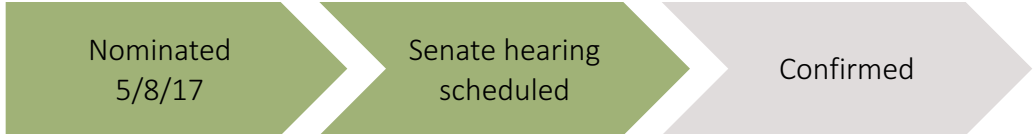
#### Date of birth

January 20, 1972 (Age: 45)

#### Education

Oklahoma State U., BS.  
Oklahoma State U., MA  
Ohio State U., MA

#### Confirmation status



Sources: National Journal research;



# Mission to the United Nations

## Representative to the UN Economic and Social Council



### Dr. Sarah E. Mendelson

*Position: Representative to the Economic and Social Council*

#### Biography

Mendelson is an international relations scholar with a focus on Russia and Eurasia. Currently, she is a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Previously she was a professor at Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Mendelson’s current research focuses on how Russians think about democracy, human rights, Chechnya and the military.

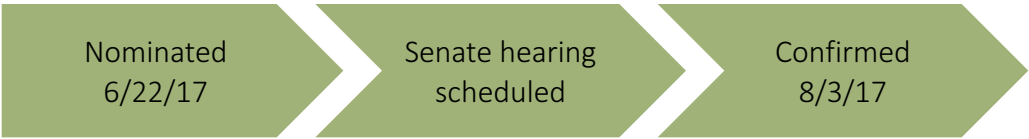
#### Date of birth

April 15, 1962 (Age: 55)

#### Education

Yale University, BA  
Columbia University, PhD

#### Confirmation status



Sources: National Journal research;