



OFFICE OF THE
HISTORIAN



CONTACT US

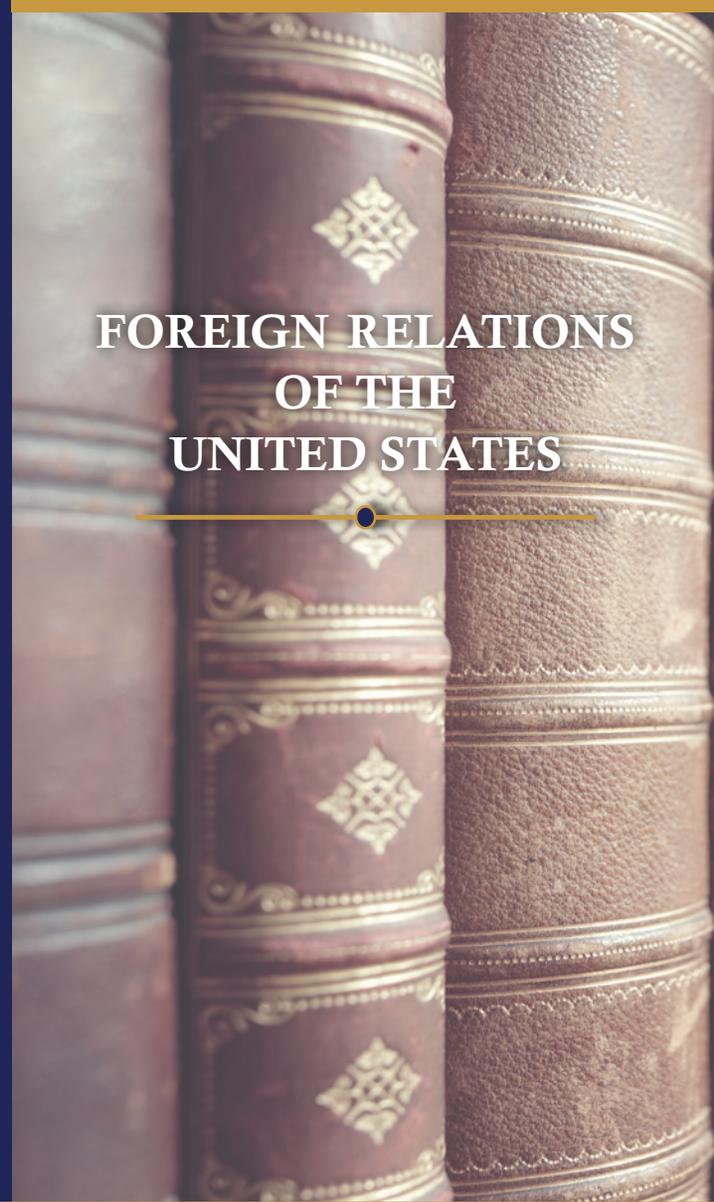
The Office of the Historian

(202) 955-0200

history@state.gov

<https://history.state.gov>

@HistoryAtState



FOREIGN RELATIONS
OF THE
UNITED STATES

Who We Are

The Office of the Historian is staffed by professional historians who are experts in the history of U.S. foreign policy and the Department of State and who possess unparalleled research experience in classified and unclassified Government records. The Office's historians work closely with other Federal Government history offices, academia, and specialists across the globe. The Office is directed by The Historian of the Department of State.

What We Do

The Office of the Historian is responsible, under law, for the preparation and publication of the official documentary history of U.S. foreign policy in the *Foreign Relations of the United States* series.

The Office prepares policy-supportive historical studies for Department principals and other agencies. These studies range from presentations of essential background information to analyses of the evolution of policies, precedents, and lessons learned. The goal of these studies is to provide rigorous historical analysis to inform the decisions of policymakers.

The Office also conducts an array of other initiatives, ranging from briefing memos to multi-year research projects.

The Office promotes the declassification of documents to ensure a complete and accurate understanding of the past.

Foreign Relations of the United States

The *Foreign Relations of the United States* (FRUS) series presents the official documentary historical record of major U.S. foreign policy decisions.

Foreign Relations volumes contain documents from Presidential libraries, the Departments of State and Defense, National Security Council, Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Agency for International Development, and other foreign affairs agencies, as well as the private papers of individuals involved in implementing U.S. foreign policy.

The series began in 1861 and now spans more than 500 individual volumes, containing more than 300,000 documents.



How to Access Our Materials

The Office of the Historian maintains a public website at history.state.gov. In addition to a full text archive of the *Foreign Relations* series, the website includes a history of U.S. diplomatic relations with states around the world and numerous institutional history resources about the Department, including a database of the Department's principal officers and chiefs of mission.

In keeping with the Open Government Directive's principle of transparency, participation, and collaboration as the cornerstone of an open government, all Office publications can be freely downloaded in the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) format, a standard used widely in scholarly electronic text projects. All source code for the website is available for download.

The Office answers research questions from within the Department and from scholars, journalists, the interagency, and the public via our history@state.gov mailbox.