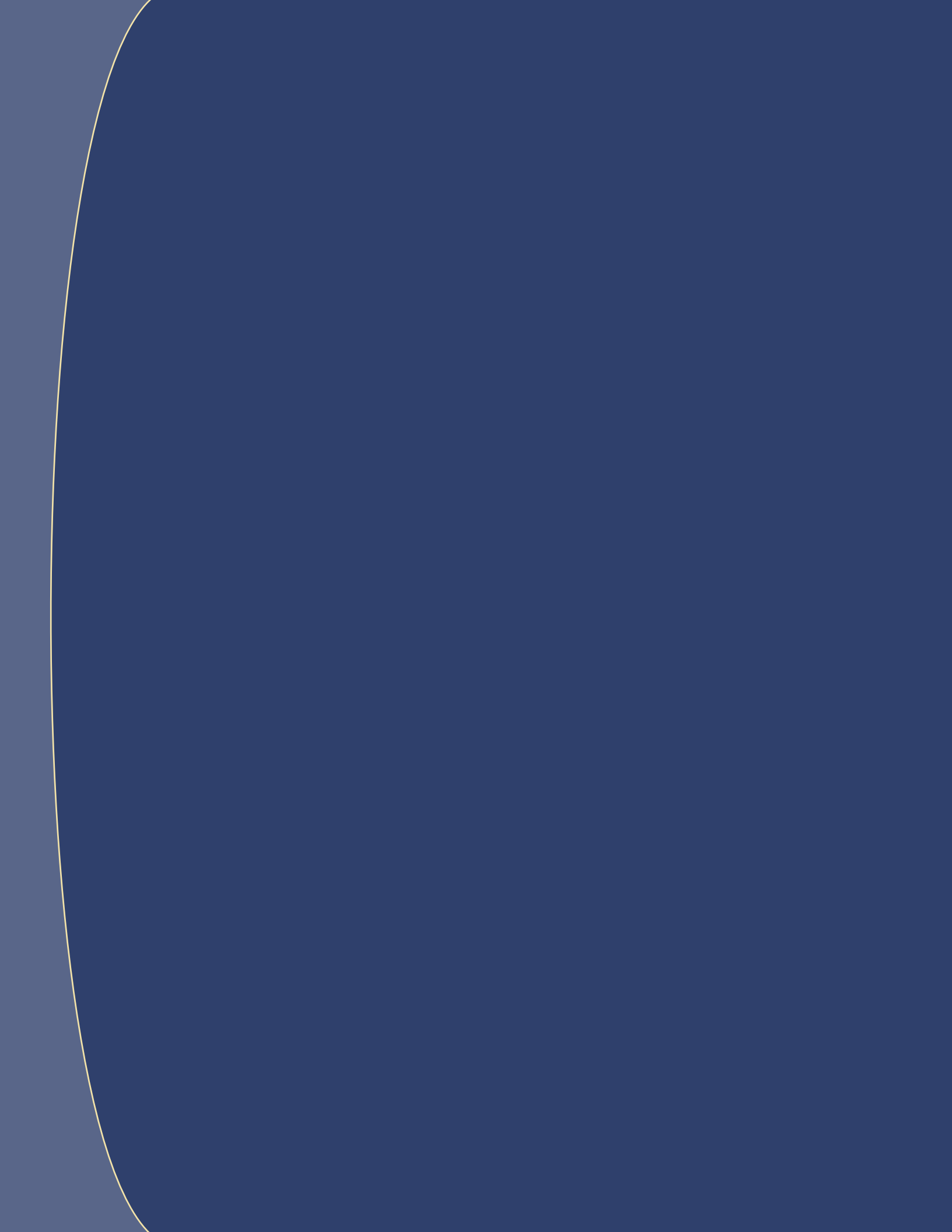




The UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION
of FORMER MEMBERS *of* CONGRESS





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Dear Friend,

As President and Vice President of the United States Association of Former Members of Congress, we are proud to share with you the progress, expansion, and accomplishments the Association has experienced over the last few years. Originally, USAFMC was founded as an alumni association for those who left Congress. However, it soon took on different purposes after the founding members realized the tremendous potential the Association possessed. It has a unique composition – a bipartisan group of former Members of the House and Senate who possess years of political experience dealing with the most difficult challenges facing our country. Given their congressional expertise and the Members’ desire to serve the public, the Association was able to create programs like Congress to Campus, seminars on foreign policy, international programs such as the four Congressional Study Groups and democracy strengthening projects. USAFMC continues to organize and manage these highly-regarded programs.



Through private donations, membership dues, and grants from foundations and organizations, the U.S. Association of Former Member of Congress has been able to expand its programming and improve its established initiatives. The Association has also collaborated with several other institutions on programs abroad. One of the most recent major projects of USAFMC is its participation in international election monitoring. Following our members experience monitoring the Ukrainian elections in 2004, the Association has joined with the

Association of Former Members of the European Parliament and the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians to form the International Election Monitors Institute. This collaboration is just one of the many examples of the Association’s work and success.

*Hon. Jim Slattery,
President of the Association;*

*Hon. John J. Rhodes, III,
Vice-President of the Association*

While the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has done extensive work abroad, it also has created domestic opportunities for its members. Through the Congress to Campus Program, the Association has sent bipartisan teams of former Members to over 200 college campuses in the United States. During these visits, they have held discussions, lectured, and educated more than 150,000 college and secondary school students about the crucial role of Congress. Other events within the United States include foreign policy seminars, holding dialogues and conferences with international leaders and legislators in the nation’s capital, and social events for Association members.

In this letter, we have mentioned only a few of the accomplishments of the Association and its 500 members. The information in this brochure gives further insight into each of our areas of interest. The United States Association of Former Members of Congress is a vibrant organization committed to enhancing public respect for the U.S. Congress at home while encouraging democracy abroad. We always welcome your ideas about how to strengthen our unique Association.

Sincerely,

Hon. Jim Slattery
House of Representatives (D-KS), 1983-95
President, USAFMC, 2006-2008

Hon. John J. Rhodes, III
House of Representatives (R-AZ), 1987-93
Vice-President, USAFMC, 2006-2008



OUR HISTORY. OUR PURPOSE.

OUR ORGANIZATION

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (USAFMC) is a dues-paying organization which limits its membership to former Members of the House and the Senate. It was founded in 1970, chartered by Congress in 1983, and currently has almost 600 members. It receives no funding from the U.S. Congress, but rather finances its activities and programs via membership dues, project-specific grants, individual and corporate contributions, and an annual fundraising dinner.

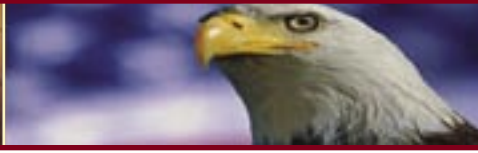
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Association conducts numerous initiatives focusing on both former and current Members of Congress. Over the past several years, the Association has expanded its programs significantly to better utilize the unique experience and knowledge of its members. In 2004 alone, the Association conceptualized and coordinated election monitoring missions which sent over 50 former Representatives and Senators to budding democracies, most notably Ukraine. In addition, the Association has engaged in democracy building endeavors, focusing particularly on emerging democracies from the former Soviet Union bloc.

“Some years ago the former Minority Leader and close friend, John Rhodes, asked me to become actively involved in the Former Members. I had been a member for a while, but really did not have much time to devote to an organization that I believed was primarily social. John suggested that there was leadership in the Association that was eager to change the organization to one where the incredible knowledge and abilities of Members of Congress could be put back into this country, especially to help young people. I became involved, and had the privilege of being the first two-term President of the Association. The leadership over the years has been outstanding. I am pleased, but not surprised, at what the Association now does. I love the Congress to Campus Program. A chance to visit with young Americans on an informal basis rejuvenates the spirit. I also have had the privilege to teach overseas, work with developing legislatures, and become part of an election monitoring process that resulted in Ukraine becoming a democracy.

I know that I never will be able to do as much as I did when I was a Member of Congress. However, the opportunity to put back on a continuing basis, and be associated with outstanding former Members of the House and Senate, is a unique opportunity and one that I cherish.”

*-Hon. Lou Frey, Jr.
House of Representatives (R-FL), 1969-79
President, USAFMC, 1996-98*



In 2005, the Association created several partnerships which will dramatically increase democracy building and legislative strengthening missions involving former Members of Congress. For example, USAFMC recently created the International Election Monitors Institute. This entity will train former legislators from the United States, Canada, and the European Union as election monitors and will send international teams of observers overseas several times a year. The Association also partnered with IFES in a successful proposal to USAID for a five-year democracy building grant. In addition, the Association is engaged with the House Democracy Assistance Commission, an undertaking by the U.S. House of Representatives to strengthen democratic institutions by assisting parliaments in emerging democracies.

DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress also oversees numerous domestic programs aimed at communicating to the public the vital role of a deliberative legislative branch. The Association sends bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress to college campuses across the country. Almost 40 colleges and universities participated in the Congress to Campus program during the 2004/2005 academic year. The Association also publishes former Members' articles and books, most notably *Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works*, a textbook which numerous political science departments at major universities use. Due to the great success of this publication, the Association currently is working with the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida on a second volume of the book.

AWARDS & DIALOGUE

The Association also recognizes the outstanding achievements of former Members of Congress by bestowing on worthy honorees the Statesmanship Award and the Distinguished Service Award. In addition, the Association oversees four legislative liaison programs establishing an avenue of dialogue involving current Members of the U.S. Congress and their colleagues in the parliaments of Germany, Turkey, Japan, and Mexico.

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

USAFMC also offers its membership participation in events akin to alumni-association programs: annual meetings in Washington, D.C. and other parts of the country; an annual golf tournament; an annual picnic; a paper and electronic newsletter and membership directory; etc.

This brochure describes in more detail the many activities of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress. Please also visit our website at www.usafmc.org for updated reports of all Association activities.

States Association Former Members of Congress

Programs.

Using the unique expertise of its membership, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has created programs to educate about the role of Congress, assist the Congress in its international relations, and support emerging democracies abroad.

“The Association of Former Members of Congress provided a vital public service in sending a delegation to observe the Ukrainian elections in 2004. I’m grateful for their efforts in this and many other areas – and I’m proud to be a member of such a distinguished, civic-minded organization.”

-Vice President Richard B. “Dick” Cheney
Vice President of the United States
House of Representatives (R-WY), 1979-89

ELECTION MONITORING

International election observation has become a recognized and highly valued aspect of the democratic process because of its crucial role to the development of a working democracy. And so, in 2004, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress initiated a new project with its campaign and election monitoring programs in Ukraine and Cameroon. Over the course of six months, more than 50 former Members of Congress and former Members of the European Parliament participated in delegations to these two nations. After monitoring the elections of the countries visited, delegation participants composed nonbiased, independent reports about the election-related issues at hand in each of these countries. Many of the delegation members continued their commitment to this valued program following their overseas experience. In fact, Association members returned to Ukraine in 2006 to monitor the parliamentary elections.

In its continuous effort to further this cause, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has collaborated with similar organizations – the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and the Association of Former Members of the European Parliament – to create the International Election Monitors Institute. This entity:

- › organizes and oversees election monitoring missions
- › trains former legislators in election monitoring standards and regulations of the United Nations Code of Conduct for Election Observers
- › educates the monitoring delegation about the political system, parties, and democratic history of the country they are preparing to observe
- › employs delegation members to engage in post-election follow-up observation missions in the emerging democratic countries as they seek to implement recommendations made by the international election observer community

Recently, USAFMC has partnered with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). This entity is the world’s largest regional security organization with its 55 participating nations in Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and North America. With the help of funding from various sources, including grants from foundations and the U.S. government, USAFMC can work with the OSCE to assist its delegations with future monitoring missions.



In addition, USAFMC works with the House Democracy Assistance Commission (HDAC) of the United States House of Representatives to conduct legislative strengthening projects in emerging democracies. Via their HDAC work, former Members interact with legislators of emerging democracies and engage in panels and presentations on subjects such as *The Committee System* or *Working as Part of the Opposition Party*. Additionally, the Association has collaborated with the International Republican Institute and the National Democratic Institute to provide former Members of Congress for election monitoring missions in countries ranging from Afghanistan to Zanzibar.

CONGRESS TO CAMPUS PROGRAM

The Association established the Congress to Campus Program as a way for former Members to educate and interact with college students about the U.S. legislative branch. Because of the time and dedication of USAFMC members, the Congress to Campus Program is able to reach out to college students throughout the United States and worldwide. The organization sends a bipartisan delegation of at least two former Members to various college and university campuses. Once on campus, they facilitate a discussion about the importance of the role of Congress and encourage young citizens to become involved in public service. During the two-day program, former Members lead and participate in political science and civics classes, hold meetings with students and faculty, and conduct interviews with media on and off campus. Association members have visited over 200 campuses nationwide.

The Congress to Campus Program has also operated at colleges and universities in China, the United Kingdom, and Germany. Because of the popularity of this program, former Members also speak to high schools and civic organizations and attend community forums. While students and citizens alike benefit from these discussions about former Members' experiences, the former Members themselves learn about the interests and concerns of the next generation of leaders. To administer the program, the Association collaborates with the Center for Democracy and Citizenship and the Stennis Center for Public Service. These invaluable alliances have allowed the program to expand considerably in recent years, with an average of over 30 visits a year.



Citizens counting ballots in Cameroon's 2004 presidential election and casting votes in Ukraine's historic 2004 presidential election. Association Members were actively involved in the monitoring of both of these elections. During a 2006 Congress to Campus UK program visit, former Members Tom Downey (D-NY) and Lou Frey (R-FL) speak to a group of students.



“As Members of Congress, our colleagues worked toward the common good in service to the American people. The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress provides them with the tools and opportunity to continue that dedicated service after their tenure in Congress. The Association’s commitment to educating today’s young people about the role of Congress in our democracy is instrumental in creating the next generation of leaders.”

*-Hon. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House of Representatives (D-CA), 1987-present*



Seminars hosted by the Congressional Study Group on Germany through the years. From its start in 1983, the Study Group has been critical in fostering the transatlantic relationship and creating avenues of discussion between American and German legislators.



One of the most geopolitical, influential aspects of the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress is its Congressional Study Groups, bringing together current Members of Congress with their peers abroad. The Association serves as the Secretariat for four Study Groups focusing on the following countries: Germany, Turkey, Japan, and Mexico. Through sharing their expertise, current legislators involved in the Congressional Study Groups help create an ongoing, transatlantic dialogue between the United States Congress and the parliaments of other countries. This program has become a successful outlet for political world leaders to come together on various issues via informational seminars and roundtable discussions.

CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: **GERMANY**

While the project has progressed tremendously since its beginnings in 1983, the Congressional Study Group on Germany has been consistent in its goals: to facilitate an open dialogue, to improve communication, and to encourage better understanding between Members of Congress and Members of the German Bundestag. In order to achieve these objectives, the Study Group has sponsored hundreds of events to strengthen transatlantic ties. Since 1983 and its official inauguration in 1987, representatives of Germany and the United States have met for more than 20 annual Congress-Bundestag Seminars to discuss issues of mutual concern. The location of the seminar alternates between Germany and the United States yearly. In addition to the annual seminars, the Study Group has organized other events, such as joint meetings of the U.S. and German Agriculture Committees, visits by Members of the German Bundestag to observe the Illinois Presidential Primary and the Iowa Caucus, annual senior congressional staff trips to Germany, and six German-American day celebrations.





The Congressional Study Group on Germany is the largest and most active organization that links Members of Congress with legislators of another country, and it is the flagship international program of USAFMC. The Study Group is a bipartisan organization involving approximately one-third of the Members of the U.S. Congress. Since its inception, the Congressional Study Group on Germany has been a forum for lawmakers from Germany and the United States to communicate about issues of mutual concern. Due to the Study Group’s continuous, open dialogue, policy-makers on both sides of the Atlantic can examine major challenges and issues affecting the United States and Germany, the European Union, and global relations. The decision-makers brainstorm and formulate solutions together during these open dialogues. Through roundtable discussions, high-level meetings, and forums with distinguished specialists and experts, the Association’s annual seminars and other Study Group events have helped in strengthening the transatlantic ties between Germany and the United States. Funded by the German Marshall Fund of the United States, as well as corporate sponsors to offset administrative costs, the Congressional Study Group on Germany has built a credible and respected reputation as a resource for information about politics in Germany and its relationship with the United States.



“The Congressional Study Group on Germany does important work. In my view, the relationship between Germany and the United States remains very significant to both countries. I am very proud that my Administration presided over the tearing down of the Berlin Wall and helped to bring about unification of Germany. These were historic events in which the U.S. played a supportive role, and it is important that we continue to be active in strengthening the American-German relationship.”

*-President George H. W. Bush
Former President of the United States
House of Representatives (R-TX), 1967-71*



“The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has provided a unique and critical forum for current and former Members to engage in timely diplomatic affairs. Its Study Group on Turkey has been particularly valuable in enhancing our nations’ bilateral relations as we both work to promote security and democratic governance in the region. In doing so, the Association adds yet another dimension to the U.S.-Turkish strategic partnership.”

*-His Excellency Nabi Sensoy
Ambassador of Turkey to the United States*



Former Members meet with Japanese Diet Members and other government officials, for example Hon. Kuniko Inoguchi, Minister of State for Gender Equality and Social Affairs, during her visit to DC in 2006 (above). The Congressional Study Group on Japan has become even more critical in recent years due to the increasing importance of the U.S.-Japanese relationship, especially in the areas of economic and international security policy.

CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: **TURKEY**

In 2005, USAFMC initiated the Congressional Study Group on Turkey, which allows Members of Congress and the Turkish Grand National Assembly, along with officials in the U.S. and Turkish governments, to discuss critical issues concerning the bilateral relationship between Turkey and the United States. The Study Group has two main programming areas: events on Capitol Hill that promote the sustained study and analysis of policy in U.S.-Turkish relations; and the annual U.S.-Turkey Seminar, which allows current and former Members of Congress to meet Turkish government officials and legislators for frank discussions about issues ranging from security and trade to social policy. This annual seminar has taken place in Ankara, Istanbul, and Cyprus, where delegation participants met with high level officials including Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Gül, and Defense Minister Mehmet Vecdi Gönül. By traveling to Turkey, Members of Congress have the chance to fully focus on issues concerning the relationship between Turkey and the United States, and adequately analyze the situation while they are experiencing the Turkish environment first hand. Spending a week in Turkey allows legislators to take full advantage of the seminar and cultural experiences to better understand the complex politics of Turkey.



CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: **JAPAN**

In 1993, in cooperation with the East-West Center in Hawaii, the Association founded the Congressional Study Group on Japan, which currently focuses on three main objectives: to develop a congressional forum for the sustained study of the major issues affecting the U.S.-Japan relationship; to analyze policy options about these issues; and to increase opportunities for Members of Congress to meet with their counterparts in the Japanese Diet for frank discussions about key subjects of mutual concern. Study Group areas of focus include: U.S. and Japanese security issues; U.S. and Japanese roles in the Asia-Pacific region; and bilateral trade and economic relations. The Study Group on Japan is an unofficial, informal, bipartisan group that engages in analysis and serves as a key resource to decision makers, but does not advocate a position on policy issues.

The Congressional Study Group on Japan also examines the effects from recent changes in the political and economic environments in Japan and the United States on each country's bilateral and multilateral relations. In a series of roundtable discussions, meetings, and events held throughout the year with U.S. and Japanese government officials and nongovernmental experts, the Study Group is able to address these issues through its in-depth programs. In addition, the Association has sponsored a Japanese Congressional Fellows Program that has brought staff members from the Japanese Diet and the policy research divisions of the Japanese political parties to serve in U.S. congressional offices and committees for 60-day periods. The program has been funded by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission and the Center for Global Partnership.

CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS: MEXICO

In 1996, the Association sent a bipartisan team of former Members of Congress to Mexico to meet with Members of the Mexican Congress and other government leaders at the national and state levels. They discussed the importance of increasing communication between Mexico and the United States as well as issues concerning immigration and drug trafficking. For the past 40 years, the Congressional Inter-Parliamentary Exchange Program with Mexico has funded and continues to sponsor annual conferences involving Members of the U.S. and Mexican Congresses, which alternate locations between the two countries every year.

While these conferences are found to be extremely useful for both nations, the open dialogues cease when the conferences are no longer in session. Therefore, USAFMC worked with the leaders of the Congressional Inter-Parliamentary Exchange Program with Mexico to provide an opportunity to continue discussion between the two nations and their Congresses. Under the leadership of Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and Representative Jim Kolbe (R-AZ), founding co-chairmen, USAFMC initiated the Congressional Study Group on Mexico in 2002, with funding from the Tinker Foundation as well as corporate sponsorship. This project facilitates and expands the official congressional exchange program by offering opportunities for ongoing, informal communication about vital aspects of the relationship between Mexico and the United States. As an unofficial, bipartisan program, the Study Group is open to all Members of the House and Senate who may participate as fully as they wish. Meetings at the U.S. Capitol are arranged while Congress is in session so that members of the Study Group, visiting Mexican dignitaries, and U.S. and Mexican experts can discuss key issues of concern to both countries. In addition, the Study Group on Mexico has organized programming for senior congressional staff, such as a Study Tour to the Yucatan region in 2003 and another to Mexico City in 2004, funded by the Tinker Foundation, Cemex Cooperation, and the Mexican Foreign Ministry.

“Today, Japan and the U.S. enjoy the strongest friendship in the history of our two nations, and crucial to further solidifying this alliance is the close partnership between the legislative leaders of both countries. In particular, I appreciate the invaluable support of the Congressional Study Group on Japan in bringing Congressional focus to Japan and the overall Japan-U.S. relationship. The Group's efforts provide a tremendous opportunity for legislators on both sides of the Pacific to exchange strategic visions and valuable insights. We look forward to further developing and expanding our close relationship with the Group and the Association of Former Members of Congress.”

*-His Excellency Ryozo Kato
Ambassador of Japan to the United States*

“The Congressional Study Group on Mexico is an important program run by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress. As a non-profit and non-partisan organization, the aim of the group is to promote thorough understanding on key issues related to the bilateral relationship. It fosters a series of programs for Members of Congress as well as senior Congressional staff. I am certain that the Congressional Study Group on Mexico will continue to host and organize events to further the relationship between our two nations.”

*-His Excellency Carlos De Icaza
Ambassador of Mexico to the United States*

In the spring of 1989, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress began a series of programs to assist the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe at the suggestion of former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary, Mark Palmer. USAFMC hosted a two-day program in which a delegation of eight representatives from Hungarian democratic opposition groups visited Capitol Hill to observe the November 1989 elections. Then, in 1990, at the recommendation of U.S. Embassy personnel in Budapest, the Association sent a delegation of members to Hungary to observe the parliamentary elections.

PROGRAMS TO ASSIST EMERGING DEMOCRACIES

In 1991, the programs to assist emerging democracies continued to focus on Hungary, but also expanded to countries including the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland. Through funding from the U.S. Information Agency and several private sources, including the Soros Foundation, the Atlantic Research and Publications, Inc., and the Ford Foundation, the Association was able to help the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, and Hungary in several ways. First, the Association sent bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress, with either a congressional or country expert, to each country to conduct workshops during which they provided instruction about legislative and other democracy-related issues. These teams also made public appearances to discuss the American political process, such as separation of powers and bipartisan cooperation in a representative democracy. In turn, the Association brought delegations of Members of Parliament from each country to the United States for two weeks to observe the workings of congressional district offices. During the visits, the delegations met with various government officials, Members of Congress and their staff, personnel of congressional support service organizations, and other distinguished individuals. Lastly, the Association arranged for a Congressional Fellow to live in Hungary for two years so that he could assist with legislative training. In addition, he provided Hungarian politicians and government officials with advice and information about implementing an effective working relationship between the Executive Branch of the government and the Parliament, its committees, and party caucuses of the governing coalition as well as the opposition.

Association Members pose after attending meetings with Ukrainian government officials in 2004. During their time in country, the delegation members met with groups from all levels of Ukrainian society in order to observe the campaign and presidential election. Supporters of Viktor Yushchenko, the eventual winner of the election, march as part of the election's 'Orange Revolution'.



These programs expanded yet again in March 1994 to include not only the new democracies of Central and Eastern Europe but also those of the former Soviet Union. With a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Association was able to send one Congressional Fellow to Slovakia and another to Ukraine to provide technical assistance to the Members and staff of Parliaments in the specified countries. Other support from various organizations, such as the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Eurasia Foundation, the Rule of Law Program, and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, enabled the Congressional Fellow in Slovakia to stay until 1996 and a Congressional Fellow to remain in Ukraine until 2000.

PARLIAMENTARY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

From 1995 to 2000, the Association administered a highly successful internship program which gave graduate students and young professionals an opportunity to work with committees, legislative support services, and leadership offices of the Ukrainian Parliament, the Verkhovna Rada, for ten months at a time. The number of participants in the program increased from the original 35 interns to 60 by the end of the grant period. These interns assisted with short-term goals, and in turn, the investment in these young, motivated interns helped the long-term goal of developing a cadre of trained professionals. The internship program focused on effective legislative oversight, drafting, research and analysis, and language and computer skills – all components of a modern democratic Parliament. The internship program, now administered by two Ukrainian non-governmental organizations, continues to benefit the parliament today.

The internship program in Ukraine was such a success that the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs awarded the Association with a sub-grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development to send a Congressional Fellow to Macedonia for five months in order to replicate the program. Former Members of Congress visited Macedonia to assist with the coordination of the program. In addition, the Association continues to assist emerging democracies through collaboration with NDI, IRI, IFES, the OSCE, and the House Democracy Assistance Commission of the U.S. Congress.

The Association is committed to assist emerging democracies worldwide in their quest for stable and representative government. USAFMC strongly believes that the unique and exceptional knowledge and experience of its membership can be invaluable as countries embrace democratic forms of government. The Association, therefore, continuously seeks opportunities for its members to share their expertise with government officials, legislators, NGOs, and academia world-wide.



STUDY MISSION TO CUBA

Funded by the Ford Foundation in 1996, the Association sent current and former Members of Congress to Cuba on a study mission to assess the country's political and economic situation and analyze the effectiveness of U.S. policies toward Cuba. After the mission, the delegation composed a detailed report of the visit, which was distributed to the media, Congress, and the Executive Branch. Additional delegations conducted two follow-up visits to Cuba in January 1999 and May/June 2000 to further report to Congress and the media regarding the progress of the country.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

In the late 1970s, with primary funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and supplemental funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, the Association conducted an oral history project to document the history of the United States Congress by preserving the papers and spoken recollections of former Members of Congress. More than 100 Association members were taped for this project and their oral histories now are available to the public in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. The Congressional Legacies Project and the Office of the Historian of the House of Representatives have taken over this enormous effort and are still conducting these historical interviews. Along with this effort to preserve America's past, the Association is an active participant in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project, which documents the experiences of those who served in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf Wars.

Seminars.

“It is becoming increasingly accepted by the international aid community that democracy building assistance is most effectively delivered multi-laterally.

Further, who are better equipped to observe election practices and offer suggestions for post-election activities to further strengthen an emerging democracy than former Members? They have lived the experience. What a wonderful way to place their knowledge, skills, and experience at the service of democracy worldwide.”

-Douglas C. Rowland

Chair, Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians

Members of Congress and Japanese Diet Members discuss policy during the East-West Seminar in Honolulu.



LIFE AFTER CONGRESS

Following congressional elections, the Association organizes a “Life After Congress” seminar during which former Members of Congress now working in the public and private sectors share insights with retiring Members about career opportunities. Also, congressional support personnel detail the services available to former Members of Congress. A reception is held after the seminar to provide an opportunity for retiring Members and their spouses to talk informally with former Members and families about the transition from their congressional role to their new occupation.

FOREIGN POLICY SEMINARS

To date, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has arranged almost 60 foreign policy seminars in over a dozen countries involving more than 2,500 participants, including current and former Members of Congress, Members of various Parliaments, government leaders, academics, and business representatives, to discuss critical issues affecting this nation and the world. For example, in cooperation with the Embassy of France and His Excellency Ambassador Jean-David Levitte, the Association established the Former Members Committee on France which brings former Members of Congress together with current legislators from the French National Assembly. Via this entity, a dialogue focusing on the U.S.-French relationship was established and a network of personal contacts is being fostered. Another example of the success of these seminars is the past cooperation with the Scandinavian Seminar College, where the Association has held a series of conferences involving current and former Members of Congress and of the Scandinavian Parliaments. These conferences focused on economic issues as well as security concerns. The Foreign Policy Seminars have taken place at various locations, including:

- › The Johnson Foundation Conference Center, Racine, Wisconsin
- › The Aspen Institute, Berlin, Germany
- › The Konrad Adenauer Foundation’s Conference Center, Cadenabbia, Italy
- › The East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii
- › The Gerald R. Ford Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- › The Fredrich Ebert Foundation’s Conference Centers, Bad Muenstereifel & Freudenberg, Germany
- › The Fredrich Naumann Foundation’s Conference Centers, Konigswinter & Konstanz, Germany
- › The Hanns Seidel Foundation’s Conference Centers, Kreuth & Staffelstein, Germany

INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATIVE & DEMOCRACY TRAINING

In collaboration with U.S. government agencies, private foundations, and other organizations, the Association fosters the involvement of its members in legislative training, democracy building, and election observation activities throughout the world. A data bank of Association members' interests and areas of expertise is maintained to facilitate matching members with specific requests for assistance. Sponsored under the American Participants Program of the U.S. Department of State, the Association has sent numerous former Members of Congress worldwide to lecture on their area of expertise or interest.

In 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives invited the Association to participate in the House Democracy Assistance Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to train newly-elected legislators in emerging democracies about in-depth legislative issues and concerns. Headed by Representative David Dreier (R-CA) and Representative David Price (D-NC), the Commission has provided Association members with several opportunities to share their experiences and knowledge within the United States and beyond its borders by participating in panel presentations and conducting seminars about issues ranging from the establishment of a viable committee system to the effectiveness of an opposition party.

EVENTS ON CAPITOL HILL

The Association has arranged more than 500 special events at the U.S. Capitol to provide opportunities for lawmakers to discuss issues of critical concern with distinguished international delegations from almost 100 countries and the European Parliament. USAFMC, with a two-year grant from the Ford Foundation, established an informal liaison office in order to facilitate various programs at the nation's Capitol with international and congressional leaders. This program continues with grants from the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, and various corporations.

“The Association started as a conduit to keep former Members in touch with each other and create social activities. In the past few years, it has evolved into a substantive and productive means of engaging its membership in democracy building and legislative strengthening missions worldwide. I am very pleased to have served as an honorary chairman of this fine organization and I believe that the future holds exciting and significant prospects for the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress.”

*-Vice President Walter Mondale
Former Vice President of the United States
Senate (D-MN), 1964-76*

Association Members Dick Nichols (R-KS), Peter Kyros (D-ME), and Jack Buechner (R-MO), attend a welcoming reception during the Association's Annual Spring Meeting.



Publications & Awards.

“From its earliest days, the Association has enabled former Members of Congress to continue their public service by sharing their experience and insights with concerned citizens across the country. The Association’s programs, conducted on a bipartisan basis, have helped to make the political and legislative process come alive, particularly for college students and other young Americans on whose interest and involvement our future so much depends.”

-Hon. Matt McHugh
House of Representatives (D-NY), 1975-93
President, USAFMC, 1998-2000

Association and congressional staff delegations take a moment to pose for photos in between meetings in Germany and Ukraine.



Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works

In March 2001, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress collected essays from its membership and then published them in *Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works*, edited by former Member of Congress Lou Frey, Jr. and Professor and Chairman of the Political Science Department at Colgate University, Michael T. Hayes. This book contains 44 chapters, authored by 35 different former Members, a congressional spouse, and two congressional staff, and covers subjects such as “Challenges That Speakers Face” by former Speaker Jim Wright and “How Congress Used to Work” by former Senator and Congressman Eugene McCarthy. Because of the book’s success, the Association, in cooperation with the Lou Frey Institute for Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida, is currently drafting a second volume, which will focus on the political rules of the road former Members used during their time on Capitol Hill.

The President, The Congress, and Foreign Policy

In 1986, at the suggestion of President Gerald R. Ford, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress conducted and published a comprehensive study, titled *The President, The Congress, and Foreign Policy*, as a joint project with the Atlantic Council of the United States (ACUS). Composed by former Senator and Secretary of State, Edward Muskie, Kenneth Rush from ACUS, and scholar Kenneth Thompson, this book still is referenced today as a tool for understanding the inside perspective of foreign policy.

The U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag

Funded by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, the German Ministry of Technology and Research, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the U.S. Information Agency, the Association published the comparative study *The U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag* in 1983. Offered in English and German, the in-depth analysis gives the reader a comprehensive perspective on the transatlantic ties between the United States and Germany before the end of the Cold War.

The Japanese Diet and the U.S. Congress

In 1983, via a partnership with the Japanese Center for International Exchange, the Association published a comparative study by scholars nationally recognized for previous work on legislatures of both countries, titled *The Japanese Diet and the U.S. Congress*. This comprehensive report focuses on the relationship between the United States Congress and the Japanese Diet, and is offered in both English and Japanese.



Association Members and Statesmanship Award recipients Lee Hamilton (D-IN) and Bob Dole (R-KS) participate in USAFMC events while serving in Congress.

AWARDS PRESENTED

Each year, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress is proud to recognize several former Members for exceptional achievement before, during, or after their service in Congress. Early in the year, the Association presents its Statesmanship Award during a gala dinner in Washington, D.C. The evening serves to highlight the extraordinary public service of a former Member of Congress. Past recipients (as of 2006) include Dan Glickman, Lee Hamilton, Lynn Martin, Norm Mineta, Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld, the Greatest Generation (represented by Bob Dole, Sam Gibbons, John Glenn, George McGovern and Bob Michel), John Breaux, and Chris Cox. During its Annual Spring Meeting, the Association bestows the Distinguished Service Award to honor an outstanding congressional career. To date, the following former Members of Congress have been acknowledged by their peers via this award: Gerald Ford, John McCormack, Lewis Deschler, Sam Ervin, Nelson Rockefeller, George Mahon, Clare Booth Luce, Edmund Muskie, Hugh Scott, Richard Bolling, Jacob Javits, J. William Fulbright, Walter Judd, Thomas “Tip” O’Neill, John J. Rhodes, Edward Boland, Edward Derwinski, Lindy Boggs, Dick Cheney, Abner Mikva, Clarence Brown, Al Gore, Bob Michel, Bill Richardson, Nancy Kassebaum Baker and Howard Baker, Jim Wright, James Ford, Jack Kemp, Tom Foley, Bill Archer, Sam Nunn, Dan Coats, and Matt McHugh.

“The Association of Former Members provides a great forum for Members to continue the work, friendship, discussion, and service that made our experience in the Congress the greatest of our lives.”

*-Hon. Leon E. Panetta
Former White House Chief of Staff
House of Representatives (D-CA), 1977-93*

Alumni Activities.



“The Association offers numerous important and substantive projects involving both former and current Members of Congress. I have been a participant in several Association-sponsored programs and am very enthusiastic about the important role the Association plays not only among its members, but also throughout the world. I am confident that USAFMC will continue to fulfill its influential position both in the United States and abroad through its wide variety of programs ranging from the Congressional Study Groups to international election monitoring.”

-Hon. Norm Mineta
Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation
House of Representatives (D-CA), 1975-95

A series of presentations are held at the Association's Annual Spring Meeting; Former Members meet the House Historian during a luncheon; Members of "The Greatest Generation" are honored at the 2004 Statesmanship Award Dinner; Mingling at the Annual Spring Meeting's closing dinner at Statuary Hall; The 2002 Auxiliary-Association Picnic, the first of what has become an annual autumn highlight.

REGIONAL FALL MEETING

The Regional Fall Meeting, which usually convenes annually, provides former Members the opportunity to come together outside of Washington, D.C. Recent locations include the following:

- › Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- › Boston, Massachusetts
- › Williamsburg, Virginia
- › San Francisco, California
- › Miami, Florida
- › Ottawa, Canada
- › Mexico City, Mexico
- › Minneapolis, Minnesota
- › The Bermuda Islands
- › Salt Lake City, Utah
- › New Orleans, Louisiana
- › Charleston, South Carolina
- › Phoenix, Arizona
- › Heidelberg, Germany
- › Palm Springs, California
- › Naples, Florida
- › Monterey, California
- › Rancho Mirage, California
- › San Diego, California
- › Austin, Texas
- › Atlanta, Georgia
- › Kansas City, Missouri

ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

The Annual Spring Meeting is the Association's most important and popular means of bringing its members together. This three-day event in the nation's capital gives the opportunity for former Members to discuss the Association's past and future programs. Along with receptions, luncheons, banquets, and a board meeting, former Members attend several presentations and panel discussions about current issues, international affairs, and the political climate. The meeting also includes a press panel discussion featuring commentators such as Charlie Cook, Cokie Roberts, Chris Matthews, and many other journalists from NPR, CNN, ABC News, *The Hill*, *Roll Call*, MSNBC, and the *Wall Street Journal*. As stipulated in the Association's charter, during the Spring Meeting, the Association presents its annual report to Congress to outline its work during the past year. The Association's Auxiliary also holds a luncheon during the event. In addition, an annual business meeting is held where the membership elects the Association officers and Board of Directors. The highlight of the Annual Spring Meeting is when the Association honors one of its own with the Distinguished Service Award recognizing exceptional congressional service. This moving ceremony takes place on the Floor of the House of Representatives.



ANNUAL STATESMANSHIP AWARD DINNER

For almost ten years, the Association has held the Annual Statesmanship Award Dinner, a fundraising event to benefit programs and projects initiated and conducted by USAFMC. Proceeds from this event support the many public service programs created and implemented by the Association. The dinner is USAFMC's sole fundraising event and helps defray the costs of the many programs administered by the Association (and financed partially via membership dues and foundation grants). In addition to raising funds for the Association, the evening is a wonderful opportunity for the Association's membership to come together in a gala dinner setting. The evening includes two highlights: first, silent and live auctions of congressional memorabilia and, secondly, the presentation of the Association's Statesmanship Award to a former or current Member of Congress in recognition of his or her exemplary public service.

STUDY TOURS

The Association conducts Study Tours to various parts of the world. At their own expense, former Members and their guests have visited nations and regions such as Vietnam, Chile, Australia, France, the United Kingdom, China, New Zealand, the former Soviet Union, and the Middle East. During these visits, the Association organizes meetings with high-ranking U.S. Embassy and foreign government officials to discuss issues pertaining to the relationship between the United States and the visited country.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

For almost 40 years, the annual Congressional Golf Tournament has been held to give current and former Members of Congress the opportunity to interact with fellow colleagues in an informal atmosphere. At the request of Congress, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress began serving as the host of the tournament in the early 1990s. Divided by party affiliation, two teams, headed by the present co-chairmen in Congress, compete for the first place trophy. The golf tournament is one of USAFMC's most popular social events, and is an outstanding means of fostering bipartisanship in a very informal setting.

ANNUAL AUXILIARY-ASSOCIATION PICNIC

Since 2002, the Association has held an annual picnic, hosted at a member's house, where Association members have a chance to talk with one another in an informal atmosphere. Like the Congressional Golf Tournament, it is one of the few times a year where the members can meet casually to simply enjoy each other's company. The event is co-hosted by the Association's Auxiliary, an organization composed of the spouses of former Members.



“One of the highlights of my professional life was when I was honored by the Association in their annual dinner in the spring of 1996. It was a wonderful evening, being surrounded by former colleagues in Congress who I had served with.”

-Hon. Dan Glickman
Former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
House of Representatives (D-KS), 1977-95

Member Contact.

“The European Parliament Former Members Association is delighted to formalise its excellent working relationship with the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress via the International Election Monitors Institute. For several years, we have had great success partnering European former legislators with their American counterparts in election monitoring missions. Creating the Institute was a natural progression of this very productive cooperation. Former Parliamentarians can play an invaluable role in strengthening the democratic process worldwide. I look forward to further developing this valuable and meaningful collaboration across the Atlantic into the future.”

*-Hon. José-María Gil Robles
President, European Parliament
Former Members Association*

NEWSLETTER

Every year, the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress publishes paper and electronic newsletters that inform members and donors about the various programs and progress the Association has made recently. The newsletters brief members about important fellow colleagues' works, such as election monitoring missions to Ukraine and other emerging democracies. It also updates members about future plans for the Association, its members, and other similar events.

DIRECTORY

The U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress has a members-only online directory. The online directory is updated every 24 hours and provides Association members' contact information and data on congressional service for USAFMC members. This can be accessed from any Internet-connected computer, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition, the Association publishes a paper version of its directory every two years and makes it available to all of its members as well as congressional and other government offices.



Jack Buechner (R-MO), moderates a discussion involving Hon. Porter Goss, former Director of the CIA, during the Association's 2004 Annual Spring Meeting; Association Members pose after a delegation meeting in Ukraine; Norm Mineta (D-CA), former Secretary of Transportation, speaks with his former Congressional colleagues at the 2006 Statuary Hall dinner.

WEBSITE: www.usafmc.org

The Association's website is an invaluable resource for its members and for the general public. Here one can find in-depth descriptions of all Association programs and events, updated reports and transcripts following USAFMC-sponsored conferences and meetings, the password-protected members directory, and links to helpful sites such as the Library of Congress biography for all current and former Members of Congress. In addition, Members can keep each other updated via our "Class Notes" section, order prints of photos taken during Association events, and contact Association staff with any questions or comments they may have.



OTHER FORMER MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

The Association strives to establish productive and cooperative relationships with former parliamentary organizations world-wide. For example, strong ties have been formed with our sister organizations in Great Britain, Germany, Canada, and Brussels with the European Union Parliament. The goal is to create a global network of former legislators who can be instrumental in shaping foreign policy and affecting positively the relations between the peoples of the United States and other countries. One recent result of this cooperative network has been the creation of the International Election Monitors Institute involving former Members from Canada, the E.U., and the United States.

“When I joined the United States Association of Former Members of Congress in 1973, few imagined how much the Association would expand and evolve. No one could have conceived during the Cold War, for instance, that the Association would one day send its members to observe elections in a free Ukraine. The Association's commitment to the historic advance of freedom abroad and to educating young people at home are demonstrations of how the Association ensures that public service can continue well after its members leave Congress. I salute you for your achievements and contributions to our country.”

-Hon. Donald Rumsfeld
Former U.S. Secretary of Defense
House of Representatives (R-IL), 1963-69

Conclusion.

The United States Association of Former Members of Congress started as an alumni association for former Members of Congress to continue contact with their fellow colleagues. Over the years, its members, board of directors, and officers recognized the great potential and expertise inherent to its unique membership. Therefore, the purpose and goals of the Association changed and it evolved into a well-respected, internationally-known institution devoted to furthering democratic ideals worldwide. The Association gives former Members the opportunity to continue their public service nationally and internationally. Through donors, grants, and members' dedication and hard work, USAFMC has substantially expanded its goals and programming, and will continue to do so.

With events or programs ranging from monitoring elections to Congressional Study Groups, USAFMC has sent its members to all corners of the globe. These opportunities have furthered its progress as an internationally respected organization by creating and having its members participate in open dialogues, roundtable discussions, research, and other means of exchanging views and ideas. Global initiatives mentioned throughout this brochure allow former Members of Congress to extend their public service beyond U.S. borders and effectively use their past experiences and expertise to assist other countries.

Along with its international programs, USAFMC takes great pride in the success of its Congress to Campus Program, connecting bipartisan teams of former Members of Congress with university students across the country. In addition, USAFMC holds events throughout the year for legislators to meet with one another for both formal and social affairs. It maintains its role as an alumni association by arranging annual events such as the Congressional Golf Tournament, Annual Fall and Spring Meetings, and the Statesmanship Award Dinner, along with the quarterly newsletters, online class notes, and published directory.

The success of the programs outlined in this brochure is only possible due to the commitment of the Association's membership, board, officers, and staff. In addition, funders, public and private organizations, as well as corporate or private beneficiaries, have banded together to help achieve the Association's goals. Because of these donors and the dedication of its members, the Association continues to flourish as an advocate for the ideals of representative democracy and the importance of a strong and deliberative legislative branch both in the United States and abroad.

If you are interested in participating in the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress as a fellow member or as a donor, please contact USAFMC via the form included in this brochure or via e-mail at admin@usafmc.org. The Association is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and donations to it are tax-deductible. USAFMC appreciates any donations given and looks forward to working with you on the success and expansion of its programs.