

# **10 FAM 140 FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE U.S. SERIES**

*(CT:PEC-20; 12-13-2011)  
(Office of Origin: PA)*

## **10 FAM 141 POLICY, SCOPE, AND AUTHORITY**

### **10 FAM 141.1 Policy**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

- a. It is Department policy to publish a documentary record of U.S. foreign policy.
- b. The published series, *Foreign Relations of the United States*, is the official documentary record of United States foreign policy. The series shall be published not more than thirty years after the events recorded.

### **10 FAM 141.2 Responsibilities**

#### **10 FAM 141.2-1 Office of the Historian (PA/HO)**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

- a. Prepares the volumes of the Foreign Relations of the United States series and arranges for their publication, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 4351 et seq.
- b. Serves as the Executive Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation and provides it with staff support, arranging meetings of the Advisory Committee at least four times a year and providing a draft agenda for each meeting.
- c. Coordinates with various professional organizations, as named in 22 U.S.C. 4353, the nomination of members to the Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation and submits those names and background information to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

## **10 FAM 141.2-2 Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

The Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation, established in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 4356 and other applicable acts and regulations, reviews records, advises the Department Historian (PA/HO), and makes recommendations on all aspects of preparation and publication of the Foreign Relations series, including the selection and declassification review of records proposed for inclusion in the series.

## **10 FAM 141.3 Definitions**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

- a. The Foreign Relations of the United States volumes include all unclassified and publicly available documents needed to provide a comprehensive record of the major foreign policy decisions and actions of the U.S. Government, including the facts that contributed to the formulation of policies and documentation providing supporting and alternative views of the policy positions ultimately adopted.
- b. Publication is intended to mean in printed form as books, but does not exclude other forms of dissemination, including microfiche, electronic, or other publishing technologies.
- c. Declassification is that process by which historical documentation is reviewed for public release by the Department, agencies, other government agencies, and foreign governments.

## **10 FAM 141.4 Authorities**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

See subchapter 1 FAM 320.

## **10 FAM 142 GENERAL**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

- a. The Foreign Relations of the United States series is a thorough, accurate, and reliable documentary record of major United States foreign policy decisions and significant United States diplomatic activity. The records

selected for publication shall include all those necessary to provide comprehensive documentation of the major foreign policy decisions and actions of the U.S. Government, including the facts that contributed to the formulation of the policies and any records providing supporting and alternative views of the policy position ultimately adopted.

- b. The Office of the Historian, Bureau of Public Affairs (PA/HO) prepares the series. To obtain appropriate declassification and prepublication clearances of documentation selected for publication in the series, the Department Historian coordinates the declassification review of all documents that have been so selected with all appropriate Departments, agencies, or other entities of the United States government and by foreign governments and international organizations.

## **10 FAM 143 PA/HO PROCEDURES**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

- a. Determines the major foreign policy decisions and events to be included in each volume of the series.
- b. Researches and finds all pertinent documentation for possible inclusion in published volumes by consulting records of all agencies of the U.S. Government dealing with the formulation and implementation of U.S. foreign policy.
- c. Edits records to be included in published volumes according to principles of historical objectivity and accuracy. Edits records for publication by ensuring that no record is altered and that any necessary deletions, for reasons of national security or privacy considerations, are made by indicating the omission in the published text.
- d. Prepares the record for publication by ensuring that no unclassified facts shall be omitted that were of major importance in reaching a foreign policy decision and that no unclassified information shall be omitted for the purpose of concealing a defect of policy.
- e. Submits to the Historical Documents Review Division (A/IM/IS/FPC/HDR) documents selected for inclusion in Foreign Relations volumes for declassification review. FPC/HDR conducts the declassification review and obtains appropriate bureau clearances in the Department within 120 days.
- f. Submits to all other appropriate Departments, agencies, or other entities of the U.S. Government for declassification review of any document

selected for inclusion in Foreign Relations volumes that was originated by or that contains information of concern to those Departments, agencies, or entities.

- g. Submits to foreign governments or international organizations, as appropriate, the documents selected for inclusion in Foreign Relations volumes that were originated by those foreign governments or international organizations or that contain information provided by them in confidence.
- h. Takes steps to achieve a satisfactory resolution with any Department, agency, or other entity of the Government whose declassification review of documents selected for inclusion in Foreign Relations volumes would result in the publication of a misleading, inaccurate, or incomplete published historical record, as determined by the Department's Historian. Responses from the originating agency to such proposed solutions by the Department Historian shall be provided within 60 days.
- I. Obtains the recommendations and findings of the Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation as required by 22 U.S.C. 4353 by enabling it to review compiled manuscripts intended for publication in the Foreign Relations series and to review declassification decisions made by the Department, other government agencies and entities, and foreign governments.
- j. Obtains all appropriate access for Committee members to historical records necessary for them to complete their duties under the law.

## **10 FAM 144 PRODUCTION**

*(TL:PEC-01; 10-01-1999)*

PA/HO arranges, with the cooperation and assistance of the Department's Publishing Services (A/IM/IS/OIS/PS/GP), for the printing, binding, and distribution of the Foreign Relations series, in print or other publication format, by the Government Printing Office, an approved contractor, or by other means deemed acceptable and authorized by the Department (OIS/PS).

## **10 FAM 145 THROUGH 149 UNASSIGNED**