

A photograph of the State Department building at dusk. The building is a large, multi-story structure with a central entrance and many windows. Two flags are flying on a tall pole in front of the building: the United States flag and the State Department flag. The sky is a deep blue with some clouds. The overall scene is dimly lit, with the building's lights providing the main illumination.

# STATE DEPARTMENT

**GOVLEARN 2022 US CABINET SERIES**

**CREATED BY LUKE GIALANELLA**

***“EVERY DAY AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT,  
WE TACKLE ISSUES AT THE  
INTERSECTION OF FOREIGN POLICY  
AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.”***

**ANTONY BLINKEN  
US SECRETARY OF STATE**

# WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT?

## A BRIEF DISCUSSION

- A federal department dedicated to foreign affairs and international relations.
- Works directly with the President to carry out their foreign policy plans and policies.
- Cooperates with other foreign ministries around the world.
- Known as the most powerful federal department.



# THE SECRETARY OF STATE

## WHAT DO THEY DO?

- Directly represents the U.S. on many visits to other countries.
- Negotiates with foreign leaders and diplomatic officials.
- Determines U.S. foreign policy strategies.
- Advises the President directly.
- Informs American citizens of American foreign policy news.
- Supervises U.S. immigration policies abroad.

AS OF FEBRUARY 16, 2022, ANTONY BLINKEN IS THE CURRENT UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE.



# **OTHER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS**

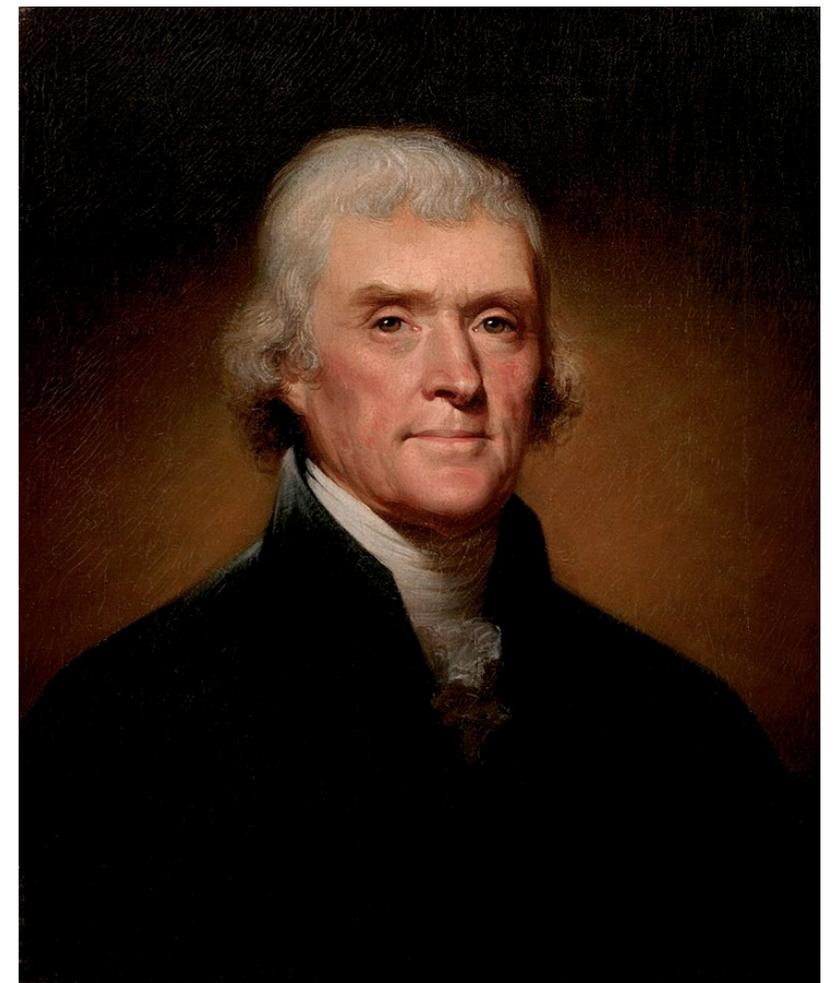
## **AND THEIR ROLES**

- Deputy Secretary of State: Advises the Secretary of State and fills their position if they are incapacitated. Often associated with departmental management and more administrative concerns.**
- Bureau Directors: Manage bureaus focused on specific issues, such as geographical regions or strategies.**
- Senior Advisors: Assist senior officials with their decisions and communicate with bureau directors.**
- Diplomatic Security Service: Law enforcement branch of the State Department that enforces foreign policy laws, as well as immigration policy.**

# CREATION OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT

## HOW DID IT START?

- Department of Foreign Affairs created in 1789, and name was shortly after changed to Department of State.
- Responsibilities included managing the Mint (money in the U.S.), and taking the census, though these duties eventually were moved to other departments.
- Thomas Jefferson was the first Secretary of State, and took office in 1790.
- The Department of State moved to its permanent headquarters in Washington, DC in 1800.



# STATE DEPARTMENT

## A CONCISE HISTORY

- Secretaries of State were often key figures in presidential administrations, and the position became defined as perhaps the second-most powerful in the U.S. federal government, only surpassed by the President.
- Under William Henry Seward, the department grew in scope during the Civil War, and became a leading figure of diplomatic strength around the world.
- After a period of isolation, the department returned to the forefront in the 1900s during World Wars I and II, and particularly during the Cold War.
- As the U.S. grew in power and scope, so did the State Department, as it hired thousands of employees, and deployed diplomats around the world.

# WHERE ARE THEY LOCATED?

## STATE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

- The State Department is headquartered at the Harry S. Truman Building in Washington, D.C.
- The building is located in the Foggy Bottom neighborhood, and was built in 1941, and subsequently renovated in the 1960s and 2000s.
- The building's size is a whopping 53 acres, and was co-designed by Gilbert Stanley Underwood, known for his creation of many national park "lodges". It is built in the modernist, stripped classic style.
- The building is listed as an official "Historic Location" in the United States.

# **ONE AMONG MANY**

## **THE STATE DEPARTMENT + THE OTHER FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS**

**- The State Department works with many other federal departments, more specifically:**

### **Defense Department**

**To discuss foreign policy and potential military strategies.**

### **Homeland Security Department**

**To discuss potential threats to the United States, and**

### **Treasury Department**

**To discuss potential economic strategies by the State Department, and how that could affect the economy.**

# **THE UNITED STATES IN THE WORLD**

## **THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON A GLOBAL STAGE**

- The State Department is one of the most prestigious government agencies around the world.**
- The department has 273 diplomatic posts and outlets around the world, all of which are united under the singular leadership of the Secretary of State.**
- However, in recent years, the State Department has been criticized as becoming more political and less focused on diplomacy.**
- Still, the department remains widely respected and looked up to by U.S. allies.**

---

***"ALL WAR REPRESENTS  
A FAILURE OF  
DIPLOMACY."***

**TONY BENN**

**THANK YOU!**

**GOVLEARN**

**THE CABINET**

**A NEW SERIES OF SLIDESHOWS + VIDEOS  
EVERY WEDNESDAY**

**GOVLEARN**

**VOLUNTEER PRESENTATIONS**

**COMING THIS SPRING**