Taking a break this summer? Don’t take a break from online safety! Use the Department of Homeland Security’s [Cybersecurity While Traveling tip card](https://www.dhs.gov) to help you stay safe online no matter where you are.

While you are traveling, you will probably rely heavily on your mobile devices. Review the [Stop.Think.Connect. - Safety Tips for Mobile Devices](https://www.dhs.gov) (Pg. 3) and take a look at the [Cyber Trip Advisor - Top Tips While on the Go](https://www.dhs.gov), created by the National Cyber Security Alliance, to learn best practices for staying safe and secure online during your trip.

This year marks the centennial of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Republic of Finland. To celebrate the 100 year journey of U.S.-Finnish cooperation, U.S. Embassy Helsinki has planned a series of special activities such as our “Visit 100 Places in Finland Challenge” and the “100 Years - 100 Images” photo exhibition completed in partnership with the Finnish Embassy in Washington, D.C.

We welcome you to join us in commemorating this special relationship. Learn more about the rich history of U.S.-Finnish diplomatic relations and how we are marking this anniversary by visiting [fi.usembassy.gov](http://fi.usembassy.gov).

Kind regards,

Jeremy R. Wisemiller
Consul, U.S. Embassy Helsinki

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**Voting Absentee?**
Register to vote by completing a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA). Visit [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov) to learn more about state specific requirements.

**Family members that aren’t U.S. citizens?**
The Visa Waiver Program permits eligible citizens from 38 countries to visit the United States visa-free by applying for the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (#ESTA).

To find out if you’re eligible and to apply, visit [esta.cbp.dhs.gov](http://esta.cbp.dhs.gov).

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Celebrating 100 Years of U.S.-Finnish Diplomatic Relations

U.S. Embassy Helsinki teamed with the Finnish Embassy in Washington, D.C., to create a “100 Years – 100 Images” photo exhibition. Starting on January 1, each embassy posted images to commemorate the 100-year journey of upholding U.S. and Finnish relations tagged with #USFIN100 and #FINUS100.

Finland and the United States share a rich history. The past 100 years have been filled with memorable moments of presidential visits, diplomatic engagement, and touching cultural performances and other events. To see some of the glimpses of our joint history please follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and check out “100 Years of Diplomatic Relations” produced by the Finnish Embassy in Washington, D.C.

A Guide to the United States’ History of Recognition, Diplomatic, and Consular Relations since 1776: Finland

Office of the Historian
United States Department of State

The 100th Anniversary Concert

The U.S. Embassy celebrated the 100th anniversary of U.S.-Finnish diplomatic relations at Musiikkitalo on April 17. The program included a joint concert by a clarinet quartet from the United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) Band and a clarinet ensemble from Kaartin Soittokunta. Welcome remarks were provided by U.S. Ambassador to Finland Robert Pence, Communications and Public Affairs Director at the Finnish Defense Forces Colonel Sami Nurmi, and the Commander of the United States Air Forces in Europe Band Lt. Colonel Cristina Urrutia.

Before the concert, U.S. Embassy Helsinki debuted the “100 years of diplomatic relations” photo exhibition, a joint project with the Finnish Embassy in Washington, D.C. The exhibit, which highlights 100 years of relations through 100 historic and contemporary images, will travel around Finland for events throughout the year.

U.S.-Finnish Diplomatic Relations – Suomen ja Yhdysvaltain diplomaattisuhteet

Publish by
U.S. Embassy Helsinki (1999)
A joint concert featuring the Colgate University Chorus from Hamilton, New York, and the Akateeminen Laulu Choir from Helsinki will take place on Saturday, May 25, 2019, beginning at 19:00.

The concert will be held at the Rock Church (Temppeliaukion kirkko).

Admission to this exciting event is FREE.
SAFETY TIPS FOR MOBILE DEVICES
Stay #CyberAware While On the Go

Your mobile devices – including smartphones, laptops and tablets – are always within reach everywhere you go, whether for work, travel or entertainment. These devices make it easy to connect to the world around you, but they can also pack a lot of info about you and your friends and family, like your contacts, photos, videos, location and health and financial data. It’s important to use your mobile device safely.

The first step is to STOP. THINK. CONNECT.
STOP: make sure security measures are in place. THINK: about the consequences of your actions and behaviors online. CONNECT: and enjoy your devices with more peace of mind.

PERSONAL INFORMATION IS LIKE MONEY. VALUE IT. PROTECT IT.

- **Secure your devices**: Use strong passwords or touch ID features to lock your devices. These security measures can help protect your information if your devices are lost or stolen and keep prying eyes out.

- **Think before you app**: Information about you, such as the games you like to play, your contacts list, where you shop and your location, has value – just like money. Be thoughtful about who gets that information and how it’s collected through apps.

- **Now you see me, now you don’t**: Some stores and other locations look for devices with WiFi or Bluetooth turned on to track your movements while you are within range. Disable WiFi and Bluetooth when not in use.

- **Get savvy about WiFi hotspots**: Public wireless networks and hotspots are not secure, which means that anyone could potentially see what you are doing on your mobile device while you are connected. Limit what you do on public WiFi and avoid logging in to key accounts like email and financial services on these networks. Consider using a virtual private network (VPN) or a personal/mobile hotspot if you need a more secure connection on the go.

KEEP A CLEAN MACHINE:

- **Keep your mobile devices and apps up to date**: Your mobile devices are just as vulnerable as your PC or laptop. Having the most up-to-date security software, web browser, operating system and apps is the best defense against viruses, malware and other online threats.

- **Delete when done**: Many of us download apps for specific purposes, such as planning a vacation, and no longer need them afterwards, or we may have previously downloaded apps that are no longer useful or interesting to us. It’s a good security practice to delete all apps you no longer use.

Created by the National Cyber Security Alliance
Made possible in whole by a grant from the Digital Trust Foundation

STOPTHINKCONNECT.ORG

@STOPTHNKCONNECT  STOPTHINKCONNECT  STOPTHINKCONNECT
Tips for Minor Passports

- Children should sign their own passport book (but not in crayon!). If a child is too young to write a parent may print their child’s name in the passport along with one parent’s signature.

- Kids grow up fast! Passports for minors under the age of 16 are only valid for five years. Keep an eye on passport expiration dates and apply early for a replacement passport when needed.

- Having trouble snapping an infant’s passport photo? Try covering their car seat with a plain white or off-white sheet and taking their picture while seated. Or try laying your baby on his or her back on top of a white sheet and taking the photo from above. Make sure there are no shadows on their face.

- It can be hard to get a good passport photo for children. Eyes wide open, winks, and blinks – all are acceptable when it comes to your baby’s passport photo! While infants may have their eyes closed or partially open, older kids must have both eyes open.

- We know you love your kids’ smiles - we do too! Don’t hesitate to say cheese next time you snap that passport photo. It’s a common (false!) myth that you can’t smile in your passport photo. Just keep them natural and unexaggerated.

- Only 1 parent or guardian available? You may need to submit additional paperwork: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/apply-renew-passport/under-16.html

- Confused by two-parent consent? It means you and your child’s other parent or legal guardian must authorize your child having a passport. It’s all about their safety. Learn more: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/apply-renew-passport/under-16.html

Visit fi.usembassy.gov for additional information regarding first-time passport or passport renewal application requirements for minor applicants under age 16.
Intern in Washington, D.C. or Abroad

How far could a student internship at the U.S. Department of State take you? Just for starters, it would give you a coveted inside look at diplomacy in action, and the range of careers and responsibilities found in the Foreign Service and Civil Service.

Think of it as test-driving a career before you decide what you’re going to do with your life. You’ll gain valuable work experience that you can apply to virtually every endeavor — whether you work in government or the private sector. Most of all, you will feel good about doing something worthwhile for your nation.

At the U.S. Department of State, we like to say that we represent America to the world. As an intern here or abroad, you will, too. The U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program is an unpaid internship with the opportunity to work in U.S. embassies and consulates throughout the world, as well as in various bureaus located in Washington, D.C. and at Department offices around the United States. This program is designed to provide substantive learning experiences in a foreign affairs environment.

While the duties of U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program participants vary from bureau to bureau, office to office, and embassy to embassy, it is not uncommon for these students to:

- Participate in meetings with senior-level U.S. Government or foreign government officials
- Draft, edit, or contribute to cables, reports, communications, talking points, or other materials used by policymakers in furthering U.S. foreign policy objectives
- Support events, including international and/or multilateral meetings and conferences
- Engage directly with U.S. audiences in helping to explain the work of the Department of State or foreign audiences in helping to promote U.S. foreign policy and improve understanding of U.S. culture and society

For internship program details such as duties of an intern, participating offices and bureaus, types of internships, and housing information, please view and download the Student Internship Program Brochure. Also review the program requirements and application process at Careers.State.gov.
Employment with U.S. Embassy Finland

The Human Resources (HR) Office at U.S. Embassy Helsinki manages all open vacancies at the United States Mission to Finland.

All open vacancies are announced through the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA), an electronic applicant management system. The HR Office also advertises all of its positions through the embassy’s social media sites.

The Embassy’s website includes detailed instructions on how to create a personal ERA account, search for open vacancies, and apply for open positions. The webpage includes instructions in both PDF and video formats. Additional information available here.

Avoid Scams: Know the Facts on How the IRS Contacts Taxpayers.

Crooks impersonating representatives from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) cost tax payers time and money. The IRS urges people to stay vigilant against schemes and scams and avoid becoming a victim.

Here are some important tips for taxpayers to keep in mind to avoid scams:

How the IRS initiates contact
The IRS initiates most contacts with taxpayers through regular mail delivered by the U.S. Postal Service. However, there are special circumstances in which the IRS will call or come to a home or business, such as:

- When a taxpayer has an overdue tax bill,
- To secure a delinquent tax return or a delinquent employment tax payment, or
- To tour a business, for example, as part of an audit or during criminal investigations.

Even then, taxpayers will generally first receive a letter or sometimes more than one letter, often called notices, from the IRS in the mail.

Avoid telephone scams
Criminals impersonate IRS employees and call taxpayers in aggressive and sophisticated ways. Imposters claim to be IRS employees and sound very convincing. They use fake names and phony IRS identification badge numbers. They’re demanding and threatening – and do not reflect how the IRS handles enforcement matters.

Note that the IRS does not:

- Demand that people use a specific payment method, such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. The IRS will not ask for debit or credit card numbers over the phone. For people who owe taxes, make payments to the U.S. Treasury or review IRS.gov/payments for IRS online options.
- Demand immediate tax payment. Normal correspondence begins with a letter in the mail and taxpayers can appeal or question what they owe. All taxpayers are advised to know their rights as a taxpayer.
- Threaten to bring in local police, immigration officers or other law enforcement agencies to arrest people for not paying. The IRS also cannot revoke a license or immigration status. Threats like these are common tactics scam artists use to trick victims into believing their schemes.
Replacing a Lost, Stolen, or Expired U.S. Green Card (Form I-551)

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) issues alien registration cards (commonly known as “green cards”) to immigrants who are legally admitted for residence in the United States. If a legal permanent resident departs the United States a green card is required for re-entry. A green card can only be issued or replaced in the United States and can never be obtained overseas.

If you left your green card in the U.S., try to arrange for someone to send it to you overseas.

If your green card has been lost, stolen or expired, you may be able to obtain a “boarding foil” valid for one month authorizing an airline to transport you to the United States without penalty. To issue a boarding foil the embassy must be satisfied that you hold legal resident status in the United States.

For information on the process and requirements to apply for a transportation boarding foil please review the embassy’s Lost, Stolen, or Expired Green Card Information page.

NOTE: If the applicant has been outside the United States for a year or more and did not obtain a reentry permit, the applicant may have lost legal permanent residency status, and would not be eligible for a boarding foil. In this instance the applicant would need to apply for a proper visa to return to the United States. Please contact HelsinkiIV@state.gov for additional information.

Embassy Holiday Closures

U.S. Embassy Helsinki will be closed in observance of the following Finnish and U.S. holidays:

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<td>Thursday, May 30, 2019</td>
<td>Ascension Day (Finnish Holiday)</td>
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<td>Friday, June 21, 2019</td>
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