



# NEWS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

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Contact: Isabel de Prado

tel: (202) 331-3721

e-mail: [ideprado@academyofdiplomacy.org](mailto:ideprado@academyofdiplomacy.org)

**AAD and Texas Tech University will host the second  
Annual Ambassadors Forum to discuss  
*Changing Constants: Diplomatic challenges for the New Administration*  
March 27, 2017 - International Cultural Center - Lubbock, Texas**

**Washington, DC** - The **American Academy of Diplomacy** (AAD) and **Texas Tech University** will host the Second Annual Ambassadors' Forum to Discuss the Diplomatic challenges faced by the New Administration of President Trump. Among the challenges may be adequate funding for diplomacy and how the State Department's strength is essential to the success of our national security goals.

The dynamic panel discussion will feature four AAD members with different perspectives on foreign policy gained from more than 100 years of combined foreign service experience. Three specific cases will be examined, with [John Beyrle](#), former Ambassador to the Russian Federation and Bulgaria, serving as moderator of the debate and touching on Russia:

- [Ronald Neumann](#), former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and Ambassador to Algeria, Bahrain and Afghanistan, will address the challenge of Islamic Violent Radicalism and the Islamic State.
- [Kathleen Stephens](#), former Ambassador to Korea and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, will provide her perspective on whether the US will maintain its role of stabilizing Asia.
- [Kurt Volker](#), former Ambassador to NATO and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, will share his views on the future of the security of Western Europe.

"The American Academy of Diplomacy includes some of our nation's most senior and knowledgeable diplomats and other foreign affairs specialists, and we are pleased to have this distinguished group coming to share their insight into the world's current foreign policy challenges" said **Ambassador Tibor Nagy**, vice provost for International Affairs. "Texas Tech is delighted to partner with the Center for Global Understanding and The CH Foundation in sponsoring this annual event."

The panel discussion with the ambassadors will occur at the International Cultural Center auditorium, located at 601 Indiana Ave., at 5:30 pm on March 27 and is free and open to the public. The speakers will be **available for interviews** from 10:15 - 11 am on March 27 in Room 105 of the International Cultural Center, located at 601 Indiana Ave, Lubbock, TX 79409. Advance interviews possible with Ambassador Ronald Neumann. Please send your requests to [ideprado@academyofdiplomacy.org](mailto:ideprado@academyofdiplomacy.org).

For more information, please visit [Texas Tech Ambassadors Forum](#), or contact the American Academy of Diplomacy at 202 331 37 21 and [academy@academyofdiplomacy.org](mailto:academy@academyofdiplomacy.org).

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