PROTECTING AMERICAN INTERESTS OVERSEAS

The U.S. Department of State’s Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) is a unique public-private partnership established in 1985 by then-Secretary of State George Shultz. Led by 31 U.S. private-sector organizations and three U.S. government agencies, OSAC provides U.S. companies, organizations, and citizens working abroad with critical, security-related information and communications networks.

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BENEFITS

Membership is open to any U.S. organization, and all services, events, and benefits are free.

> OSAC.GOV: Registered users can receive 100+ monthly security notices, including daily news highlights, upcoming events, analytical reports, embassy/consulate alerts, and city-specific crime and safety reports.

> INDUSTRY REPORTING: Expert staff research issues affecting the private sector overseas and produce reports, briefings, and consultations.

> GLOBAL NETWORKS: Industry-specific working groups (academia, aviation, energy, faith-based, hospitality, media and entertainment, and development) offer targeted information-sharing, while Regional Councils focus on Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. Country Councils replicate the OSAC partnership overseas, bringing together U.S. diplomatic missions and local private-sector organizations.

> THREAT NOTIFICATIONS: OSAC works with government partners to immediately alert U.S. organizations of specific and credible threats targeting their facilities or personnel abroad.
2017-2018 HIGHLIGHTS

GLOBAL REACH
For security professionals worldwide, OSAC’s Annual Briefing in Washington, D.C. every November is the keystone event. The 2018 Annual Briefing attracted 1,200 OSAC members.

OSAC’s Major Event Team provided on-the-ground support and daily security reports to more than 80 U.S. organizations at the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympics and the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia.

NEW PROFESSIONAL NETWORKS
In 2017, OSAC launched Women in Security, a professional networking group, and the Europe Regional Council, a network dedicated to Europe’s emerging security challenges.

In 2018, OSAC founded new overseas Country Councils in Porto Alegre, Brazil; Vilnius, Lithuania; and Yekaterinburg, Russia, and sponsored the inaugural All-Australia meeting, joining China, India, Guatemala, Mexico, and Vietnam holding country-wide annual meetings.

INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES
The International Security Foundation (ISF) funded the 2017 Crisis Management Forum and the 2018 International Travel Safety & Security Forum for OSAC members to discuss pressing security issues and crisis management.


PEER GROUPS
OSAC’s Common Interest Councils (Regional Councils and Sector-specific Working Groups) remained active in 2017-2018:

► The Pan-Asia Regional Council (PARC) celebrated its 10-year anniversary with former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in Redwood City, CA.

► The Middle East and North Africa Regional Council (MENA RC) issued a white paper on business resilience from their 5th Annual Meeting.

► For the first time, the Aviation Security Working Group (ASWG) brought 30 air carriers to London, England to meet with Federal Aviation Administration officials and their British, Dutch, French, and German counterparts to discuss overflight risk.

► Former Costa Rica President Luis Guillermo Solis addressed the Latin America Regional Council (LARC) in Miami, FL.

► The Academia Working Group (AWG) held its annual Health, Safety and Security Seminar in Jerusalem, Israel.

► OSAC produced 14 webinars, including the International Development Working Group’s (IDWG) “Gender and Diversity in Security” and the Faith-Based Working Group’s (FBOWG) “Terrorism in the Sahel.”

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