

Proposal to participate

“U.S. Policy Study Tour”

Washington, D.C.

October 27, 28, & 29, 2009

PURPOSE:

A Transatlantic Dialogue with high-level representatives of the Obama administration and Members of the 111th Congress of the United States

CONTEXT:

Over the past two years, the **French-American Foundation – France** has followed the U.S. Presidential Election with you - from the exciting primaries up to the historic victory of Barack Obama in November, 2008. Since his inauguration, his young administration has been moving at record pace in the midst of perhaps the worst global economic crisis ever known and a fragile world situation with on-going wars and obligations in Iraq and Afghanistan and the ever-present Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

With its teams mostly in place, the White House has begun working with the leaders and membership of the 111th Congress, addressing the pressing issues and submitting legislation at an unprecedented rate. While trying to deliver on campaign promises as well as dealing with the vital issues such as the stimulus package, oversight and regulation of the financial sector, housing, Iraq and Afghanistan, Obama has wasted no time in dealing with a broken economy; overturning many of the policies from the last 8 years and establishing new priorities. To everyone’s surprise, the House has already passed the Waxman-Markey Bill, dealing with climate change, and now all sides are engaged in what has become a true test for this new Administration, Health Care Reform.

As a result, new leaders and coalitions are coming to the fore. Democrats control the White House, the House of Representatives and the Senate. The Congressional Democratic leadership is now responsible for promoting the President’s agenda and priorities. The “Blue Dogs”, a group of fiscally conservative Democrats in the House, have proven to be a formidable force which the Obama administration must learn to deal with in order to maintain party unity as it pushes forth its ambitious agenda. The Republicans are trying to overcome the image of the “Party of No” and become a credible opposition while struggling internally with their identity and future orientation. Will they be able stop the electoral erosion of the past few years and shift control over their party from the neo-con wing to a more moderate and inclusive leadership? One thing is for sure, since January 20, 2009, Washington is a different place.

TRIP:

The French-American Foundation – France will lead **a delegation of French business executives** to Washington, D.C. on October 27, 28, & 29, 2009 to meet key players within the Obama administration and obtain a first-hand understanding of its policies and

orientations in the midst of the monumental debates on health-care reform and climate change.

We hope that you and your company can join us as a member of our delegation.

You will have ample opportunity for dialogue and will meet with Members of Congress and their staff; high-level officials from the Obama administration in the White House; the Departments, i.e. State, Defense, Energy, Commerce, Trade, Treasury, Health and Human Services, Justice; Environmental Protection Agency, Homeland Security; and international institutions - the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund. You will also meet with U.S. business leaders, experts from Think-Tanks and the French Embassy as well as top representatives from both political parties.

The delegation will have the opportunity to meet with Members and their expert staff from various Congressional committees both privately and during a **cocktail reception in the US House of Representatives, which will be hosted by the Chairmen of the French Caucus in the House and the leadership of the House NATO Parliamentary Assembly.** They will address the invitation to their fellow members in the US House of Representatives. There will also be the possibility to organize individual private meetings with the U.S. Congressman from the district in which your group might have current or planned investments.

In addition to the House reception, the delegation will also have the honor to be invited to a reception in the presence of the **French Ambassador to the United States, Pierre Vimont, at his residence.** Dignitaries, government officials, representatives from international organizations, U.S. business leaders, representatives from Think Tanks, journalists and French diplomatic personnel will be among some of the invited guests.

COST:

In order to encourage a valid exchange, the delegation will be limited to a **maximum of 15 persons.**

Estimated cost: **4000€ per person*** – excluding air fare

*Cost includes lodging (i.e. Mayflower Hotel or Hay Adams Hotel), meals, receptions, ground transportation, organization, animation and follow-up

*- Please note that plane tickets are **not included** in this price. Each participant should ensure the proper visas and arrange his or her flights so as to join the group by Monday evening, October 26. The meetings will begin on Tuesday morning, October 27 and will end on October 29 in the evening.*

All payments should be addressed to the:

**French-American Foundation -- France
Attention: Janet Steinmetzer
21, boulevard de Grenelle
75008 Paris**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The U.S. Policy Study Tour is organized by the French-American Foundation – France and animated by Janet Steinmetzer, Director of Development.

To maximize the benefit of these high-level exchanges, all participants should have a good command of English.

An informational meeting will be held for all interested parties to discuss the general outline and content of this tour. (Date to be announced)

Study tour participants will also be invited for a meeting prior to departure to review the itinerary of the trip as well as a debriefing upon return. A final document based upon the trip findings will be distributed to each participant.

The final schedule, briefing materials as well as biographies of the participants and the officials with whom the group will meet will be available one week prior to departure.

For more information, please contact:

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French-American Foundation – France

**U.S. Policy Study Tour
Washington, D.C. 27 - 29 octobre 2009**

Bulletin d'inscription

Prénom.....
Nom.....
Fonction.....
Organisme/société.....
.....
Adresse.....
CP :..... Ville :.....
Tél..... Portable :.....
Email.....

J'ai bien pris note que les frais de participation au voyage d'étude « U.S. Policy » de la French-American Foundation – France s'élèvent à 4.000 euros. Ces frais incluent la totalité des frais liés aux transports intérieurs, à l'hébergement et aux repas ainsi que la préparation et l'animation du voyage (du départ de Paris au départ de Washington, D.C.).

Ci-joint un acompte de 2.000 € pour réserver ma place.

Signature du participant :

Le bulletin d'inscription doit être adressé à la French-American Foundation – France -
21 boulevard de Grenelle – 75015 Paris

*Pour toute annulation après 5 octobre, aucun remboursement ne pourra être effectué.
Avec tous nos remerciements.*