



## U.S. Mayor Meets EU Local Leaders, Highlights Climate Change Efforts



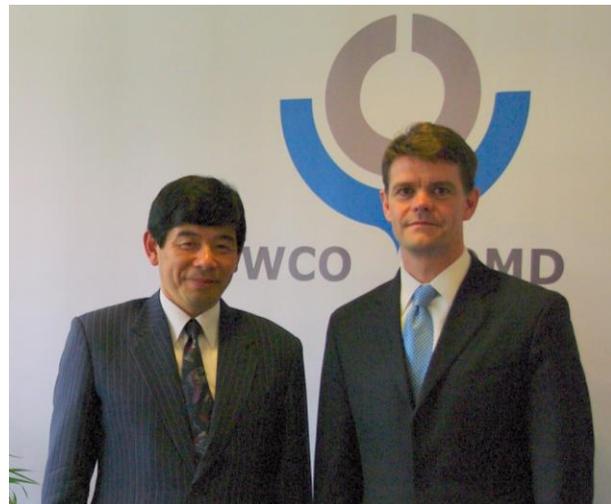
Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz signs a globe destined for the Copenhagen climate summit (photo: Melissa Jennings)

"U.S. mayors stand solidly with mayors across the globe who believe that climate disruption is an urgent threat to the environmental and economic health of our communities," Mayor Elizabeth B. Kautz (Burnsville, Minnesota), the Vice President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, said in Brussels on October 7. "Although our national government did not sign the Kyoto Protocol, almost 1,000 U.S. mayors have subsequently signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, pledging to meet or beat Kyoto Protocol targets. Mayors continue to devise successful, effective strategies for climate protection and to push national leaders to support these efforts," Kautz told the plenary session of the EU's Committee of the Regions (COR), which was taking place as part of the European Week of Regions and Cities OPEN DAYS 2009. In her remarks, she discussed the efforts of U.S. mayors to help address climate change at the local level, and pledged, with COR

President Luc Van den Brande, to work together to highlight the key role played around the world by the local and regional level in adapting to the effects of climate change in a bid to ensure recognition of this role at the UN climate change summit in Copenhagen in December. She also met separately with European Energy Commissioner Andris Piebalgs and COR President Van den Brande.

## Cooperation Against Transnational Crime

On September 30, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Assistant Secretary John Morton visited the European Commission and met with Lotte Knudson, the Acting Director for Security in the Directorate General for Justice, Freedom and Security. Morton emphasized that ICE remains committed to collaborating with its European partners in joint efforts to disrupt and dismantle organized criminal organizations. They also discussed human smuggling and trafficking and child exploitation, two areas where the United States and Europe share common challenges and opportunities for collaboration. On this first visit to Belgium, the recently appointed ICE Assistant Secretary reinforced in a series of meetings the importance of multilateral cooperation to combat transnational crime that threatens national security and global prosperity. Morton also took advantage of the opportunity to meet with the Secretary General of the World Customs Organization, Kunio Mikuriya.



Secretary General of the WCO, Kunio Mikuriya, and ICE Assistant Secretary John Morton (photo: WCO)



Ditchley Mansion  
(photo: Chris Davis)

## "What Next for U.S.-EU Relations?"

That is the question which brought together 40 politicians, journalists, writers, professors, and diplomats from Europe, the United States and Canada at the Ditchley Mansion near Oxford, England. For two days in mid-October, Ditchley Foundation Director Sir Jeremy Greenstock and Robert Kaiser, Board Member of the American Ditchley Foundation, chaperoned lively discussions on the mutual expectations between Europe and the U.S. nine months into the Obama Administration, on better policy coordination under the anticipated Lisbon Treaty, and on the need to be on the look-out for flashing yellow lights in Transatlantic relationships. USEU Political Affairs Minister-Counselor Christopher Davis participated in the conference.

The findings of the conference will be posted on the Ditchley Foundation website, [www.ditchley.co.uk](http://www.ditchley.co.uk).

## U.S. and EU Discuss Coming Together on Climate Change

Jane A. Leggett, Energy & Environment Specialist at the Congressional Research Service (CRS) of the U.S. Congress, and Laurence Graff, Member of Cabinet for European Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas, discussed international climate change talks at *The Centre* think tank in Brussels on October 14. Leggett explained the legislative process in the U.S. and the ongoing Congressional debate related to climate change. She provided examples of successful U.S. climate initiatives outside the legislative mandate, including local actions and private sector innovations. Despite the uncertainties over whether legislation will pass in the U.S. before the end of the year, Leggett argued that the Copenhagen conference could already be considered a success due to the remarkable number of countries taking concrete actions to reduce greenhouse gases and otherwise addressing the issue in a serious manner.



Martin Porter of The Centre, Jane Leggett of CRS, and Laurence Graff, of the Cabinet for the Environment Commissioner (photo: Melissa Jennings)



USEU Political Officer Emily Katkar and YFPF Member (photo: Virginia Stern)

## Discussion Presents Post-Election Afghanistan to Young European Professionals

To address Europeans' doubts about efforts in Afghanistan, USEU Public Affairs hosted 50 members of Young Professionals in Foreign Policy, the Brussels-based chapter of the international group. Political Officer Emily Katkar spoke of her recent experience in Kabul, painting a picture of possibility in Afghanistan with opportunities created by sustained diplomacy, defense, and civilian development. The Chargé d'Affaires and other Mission officers also stressed the importance of persevering. The evening was the launch of a new USEU-YFPF partnership dedicated to transatlantic policy dialogue with Europe's younger generation.

## U.S. Chamber of Commerce and BUSINESSEUROPE Discuss Border Security Measures



Panelists (from center to right): Peter Kovacs, European Commission; David Dolan, CBP Attaché; Adam Salerno, U.S. Chamber of Commerce (Moderator); Wolter Boerman, Philips International; and Phil Challen, GE  
(photo: BUSINESSEUROPE – Carston Dannöhl)

On September 7, BUSINESSEUROPE and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce jointly held a conference entitled “EU & U.S. – On A Joint Approach to Global Security?” The participants discussed the U.S. mandate for 100% maritime container scanning and the current state of mutual recognition between Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) and the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT), the trade partnership programs of the EU and U.S. respectively. Since the passage of the 100% scanning mandate, European industry, ports and governments have raised concern about its feasibility, and the U.S. Administration has included their concerns in progress reports to Congress. David Dolan, Customs and Border Protection Attaché at the U.S. Mission to the EU, along with fellow panelists from the European Commission, World Customs Organization, and various private sector entities, engaged in dialogue on the current state of play and forecast additional opportunities for engagement on these high-profile issues, such as the fall session of the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) scheduled for October 26-27 in Washington, DC.

## Commodity Futures Trading Commission Chairman Gensler Discusses Regulation of Derivative Markets



Commodity Futures Trading  
Commission Chairman Gary Gensler  
(photo: J@YS)

Gary Gensler, Chairman of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), participated in a conference September 25 on "Derivatives in Crisis: Safeguarding Financial Stability," organized by the European Commission's Internal Market Directorate General, which discussed the results of a consultation on which direction European regulation of the derivatives markets should take.

Gensler also spoke to members of Journalists @ Your Service (J@YS), an organization of EU-accredited media. He explained the CFTC's role in assuring the economic utility of the futures markets by encouraging their competitiveness and efficiency, protecting market participants against fraud, manipulation, and abusive trading practices, and by ensuring the financial integrity of the clearing process. Through effective oversight, he emphasized, the CFTC enables the futures markets to serve the important function of providing a means for price discovery and offsetting price risk.

This was Mr. Gensler's first trip to Brussels since becoming CFTC Chairman in May 2009.