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One Hundred Seventeenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

December 20, 2021

Ambassador David Miller
President
U.S. Diplomatic Studies Foundation
1200 18th St. NW
Suite 1001
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ambassador Miller:

We recognize that the U.S. Diplomatic Studies Foundation is active on several fronts, marshalling private sector resources and expertise to assist with the training of our nation's diplomats through various programs. We write today to encourage you to proceed expeditiously to implement your "Peace Games" program, which we believe could become a very important element of training U.S. Government personnel charged with advancing American interests overseas. There is no time to waste in improving the education and training of those working to represent the U.S. in increasingly challenging environments abroad.

Though in its early stages of development, we are encouraged by the clear potential of the Peace Games to promote diplomatic excellence by training personnel from various U.S. Government agencies to work together in computer simulation scenarios that replicate real-world problems challenging our personnel abroad. These challenges include instability driven by violent extremism, resource scarcity, malign influence from foreign competitors and non-state actors, and health pandemics. In addition to training personnel, these simulations can bolster national security by identifying gaps in our government's authorities and capabilities to deal with instability abroad, as well as promoting information sharing across agencies. Possessing chief of mission authority abroad, the State Department has a clear and critical role to play in the Peace Games and we would be encouraged to see increased interest and involvement from the Department. We understand that the Department was an active participant in your initial simulation, taking place over two days in September at the University of Maryland's ICONS Project facility, and we encourage you to move forward with the possibility of implementing this scenario-based training on a larger scale for Department of State personnel.

We appreciate that you have kept us apprised of the Foundation's activities, including your progress in developing the Peace Games. To that end, we would welcome the Foundation providing Committee staff with regular updates on the program's progress and your engagement with relevant agencies in order that we might assist where appropriate and provide guidance where helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael T. McCaul". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

MICHAEL T. McCAUL
Ranking Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory W. MEEKS". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

GREGORY W. MEEKS
Chairman
House Foreign Affairs Committee