

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House by email at [gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov](mailto:gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov), within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Catherine Treadwell
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None  
b. Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates: Departure: 6/16/25 Return: 6/20/25  
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR**  None
4. Departure City: Washington DC Destination: Ecuador Return City: Washington DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: Global Foreign Policy Center and Tunacons
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings with President of Ecuador and their President of the Congress, as well as, stakeholders to learn about fishing issues and foreign policy.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
  - a.  a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
  - b.  the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
  - c.  page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
  - d.  the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a.  I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. *Signify statement is true by checking the box.*  
b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 7/7/25

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Cory Mills Date: 7/7/25

Signature of Supervising Member: 

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original  Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated in the trip within 10 days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House Rules and the Committee's Travel Regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

- Sponsor(s) who paid or provided in-kind support for the trip: Global Foreign Policy Center (primary)  
TUNACONS (secondary)
- Travel Destination(s): Guayaquil and Quito, Ecuador
- Date of Departure: June 16, 2024 Date of Return: June 20, 2024
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Heather Swift, Sarah Gilbert, Tom Moran, Catherine Perry, Mary Rosado  
*Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.*
- Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$3158.50	\$687.43	\$270	NONE
Accompanying Family Member	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

- All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

**I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature:  Date: July 2, 2024

Name: Justin Russell FB007C40938C466... Title: Executive Director

Organization: Global Foreign Policy Center (GFPC)

**I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.**

Address: 1201 Wilson Blvd. - Suite 26-111 Arlington, VA 22209

Telephone: (703) 348-7325 Email: justin.russell@globalfpc.org

*Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.*

**If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.**

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## TRAVELER FORM

This form should be completed by House Members, officers, or employees seeking Committee approval of privately-sponsored travel or reimbursement for travel under House Rule 25, clause 5. The completed form should be submitted directly to the Committee by each invited House Member, officer, or employee, together with the completed and signed trip sponsor form(s) and any attachments. A copy of this form, minus this initial page, will be made available for public inspection.

This form and any attachments may be submitted at 1015 Longworth House Office Building or [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

**Your completed request must be submitted to the Committee no less than 30 days before your proposed departure date.** Absent exceptional circumstances, permission will not be granted for requests received less than 30 days before the trip commences. **You must receive explicit approval from the Committee before you depart on this trip.**

Name of Traveler: Catherine Treadwell

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

**I certify that the information contained on both pages of this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature: 

Name of Signatory (if other than traveler): \_\_\_\_\_

For Staff (name of employing Member or Committee): Congressman Cory Mills

Office Address: 346 Cannon HOB

Telephone Number: 202-225-4035

Email Address of Contact Person: catherine.treadwell@mail.house.gov

Check this box if the sponsoring entity is a media outlet, the purpose of the trip is to make a media appearance sponsored by that entity, and these forms are being submitted to the Committee less than 30 days before the trip departure date.

**NOTE: You must complete all of the contact information fields above, as Committee staff may need to contact you if additional information is required.**

**KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM.** Page 2 (but not this page) must be submitted to the Clerk as part of the post-travel disclosure required by House Rule 25. Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting paperwork for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If there are any questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or via email: [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

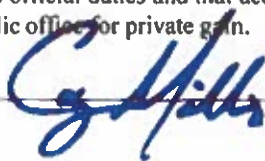
## TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Catherine Treadwell
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: Global Foreign Policy Center Incorporated
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Guayaquil and Quito, Ecuador
4. a. Date of Departure: 6/16/2025 Date of Return: 6/20/2025  
b. Yes  No  Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?  
If yes, list dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Yes  No  Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**  
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Relationship to Traveler:  Spouse  Child  Other(specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Yes  No  Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age?
6. a. Yes  No  Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?  
b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Yes  No  *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitation, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.  
NOTE The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. **Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.**  
I am a chief of staff for a member on HFAC, who is Chairman of the oversight and intelligence subcommittee. This trip is to learn about countering China influence on trade and the environment in the southern hemisphere.
9. Yes  No  **Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

### ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5/12/25

# COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

## PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee's website ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.**

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:

Global Foreign Policy Center Incorporated

2.  I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box.

3. **Check only one.** I represent that:

- a.  The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip; **OR**
- b.  The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds; **OR**
- c.  The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds, services, or in-kind assistance from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.

If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary): Heather Swift, Sarah Mary Rosado, Catherine Treadwell, Tom Moran, Nicole Rapanos, Nick Hawatmeh, Andrew Ross

5. Yes  No  Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: June 16th 2025 Date of Return: June 19th 2025

7. a. City of departure: Washington DC

b. Destination(s): Guayaquil and Quito, Ecuador

c. City of return: Washington DC

8. **Check only one.** I represent that

- a.  The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; **OR**
- b.  The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent; **OR**
- c.  The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.

9. **Check only one of the following.**

- a.  I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
- b.  I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
- c.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
- d.  I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted. \_\_\_\_\_

10.  Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following.**

- a.  I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify the statement is true by clicking the box;* **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.

12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

The Centers research portfolio includes international trade, making the study of IUU fishing essential for understanding the distortion of global markets. This allows the Center to generate policy recommendations that align environmental protection with fair trade practices.

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**

- a. Mode of travel: Air  Rail  Bus  Car  Other  (specify: international and domestic flight)
- b. Class of travel: Coach  Business  First  Charter  Other  (specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:  
Business class was selected because it is an international flight longer than 8 hours. Charter flight due to no commercial air service within 50 miles of NARSA facility, and due to security/expedient concerns.

14.  I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:

- a.  The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b.  The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation. If "b" is checked:
  - 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \$40 June 16th (dinner); \$130 June 17th (lunch/dinner); \$100 June 18th (dinner); breakfast cost included in hotel cost
  - 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: The location for the meals were chosen based on availability and suitability for the delegator

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Hotel Del Parque City: Guayaquil, Ecuador Cost Per Night: 251.72 USD  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: availability, location and proximity to institutional agenda

Hotel Name: JW Marriott City: Quito, Ecuador Cost Per Night: 184 USD  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: availability, location and proximity to institutional agenda

Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Cost Per Night: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Reason(s) for Selecting: \_\_\_\_\_

17.  I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

18. **Total Expenses for each Participant:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$3158.50	\$687.43	\$270
For each Accompanying Family Member			

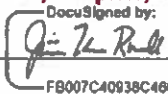
	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	None	
For each Accompanying Family Member		

19. **Check only one:**

- a.  I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b.  *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. **I certify by my signature that**

- a. **I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;**
- b. **I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and**
- c. **The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature:  Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: Justin Thomas Russell Title: Executive Director  
 Organization: Global Foreign Policy Center  
 Address: 1201 Wilson Blvd, Suite 26-111 Arlington, VA 22209  
 Email: Justin.russell@globalfpc.org Telephone: 703-348-7325

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or [travel.requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:travel.requests@mail.house.gov).

## **Ecuador Agenda**

### Mon 16 June

Delegation Departure IAD at 9.32am on COPA

Delegation Arrival at Guayaquil at 5:32, transportation to hotel is arranged

Check into Hotel Del Parque

**8pm dinner at Hotel Del Parque, Casa Julian Restaurant**

### Tuesday 17 June

**6:30am Breakfast at Hotel Del Parque**

Briefing by Justin Russell, Executive Director, Global Foreign Policy Center

**8:00am Depart for NIRSA Facilities and Headquarters (Transportation arranged)**

**11:30am Tour Factory, Fishery, and Shrimp farms**

*(suggested dress code consists of jeans, polo shirts and sneakers, must wear socks; no jewelry or watches can be worn at the factory)*

**2:00pm Lunch and Briefing at the NIRSA Facilities**

Presentation on Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Initiatives

**4:00pm Depart Facilities / Return to Hotel Del Parque**

(Transportation arranged)

**8:00pm Dinner / Reception at Club de la Union**

Meetings, Reception and Dinner with local Business Leaders, current and former government ministers, Guayaquil Chamber of Commerce members, and Foundation Members

*(required dress code - business formal (tie preferred), please no jeans or sneakers, men must wear socks; for ladies dressy separates and bare legs are allowed)*

### Wed 18 June

**6:30 am Breakfast at Hotel Del Parque**

Briefing by Justin Russell, followed by check out

**8.15am Depart to UIO for flight from GYE to Quito**

7.45am flight into Quito, arrival approximately at 8.30am (transportation to hotel arranged)

**9.30am to 10.00am Check in to Hotel JW MARRIOT**

**12pm to 6pm Institutional Agenda: Meetings with Minister of Trade, Minister of Fisheries, Minister of Energy (required dress code: business proper, please no jeans or sneakers, men must wear socks)**

**7.00pm dinner at Convento Santo Domingo de Guzman with Government Ministers, Foundation members and Business Leaders (required dress code: smart casual, jacket is recommended)**

**Thursday 19 June**

**7am Breakfast at Hotel JW MARRIOT**

**Final Briefing by Justin Russel (GFPC)**

**7.30am depart hotel for airport for those on 10.30am flight (transportation is arranged)**

**11am depart hotel for airport for those on 3.15pm flight (transportation is arranged)**

**14.00pm depart hotel for airport for those on 6.32pm flight (transportation is arranged)**

## Doan, Brandon

---

**From:** Treadwell, Catherine  
**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 3:06 PM  
**To:** GiftTravelReports  
**Subject:** Re: Treadwell Post Travel

Attendees: Mary Rosado, Heather Swift, Tom Moran, Sarah Gilbert, & Catherine Treadwell

---

**From:** GiftTravelReports <GiftTravelReports@mail.house.gov>  
**Date:** Monday, July 7, 2025 at 2:45 PM  
**To:** Treadwell, Catherine <Catherine.Treadwell@mail.house.gov>, GiftTravelReports <GiftTravelReports@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Treadwell Post Travel

Thank you for the gift travel submission. Please submit the following to complete the filing:

- Attendees List

All the best,

**Brandon Doan**

Public Information Specialist | Legislative Resource Center  
202-225-8075 | [clerk.house.gov](http://clerk.house.gov)

---

**From:** Treadwell, Catherine <Catherine.Treadwell@mail.house.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 2:04 PM  
**To:** GiftTravelReports <GiftTravelReports@mail.house.gov>  
**Subject:** Treadwell Post Travel

Please find attached my post travel forms.

Thank you,

Catherine  
*Catherine Treadwell, Esq.*  
Chief of Staff and General Counsel  
C O N G R E S S M A N  
  
**CORY MILLS**  
HONORED TO SERVE FLORIDA'S 7TH DISTRICT

Michael Guest, Mississippi  
*Chairman*  
Mark DeSaulnier, California  
*Ranking Member*

John H. Rutherford, Florida  
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York  
Ashley Hinson, Iowa  
Nathaniel Moran, Texas

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina  
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland  
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas  
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Jordan Downs  
*Chief of Staff to the Chairman*

David Arrojo  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
<https://Ethics.House.gov>

June 13, 2025

Ms. Catherine Treadwell  
Office of the Honorable Cory Mills  
346 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Treadwell:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Ecuador,<sup>1</sup> scheduled for June 16 to 20, 2025, sponsored by Global Foreign Policy Center Incorporated and Tuna Conservation Group.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$480] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

---

<sup>1</sup> Please be aware that the Committee's review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or [ohsstaff@mail.house.gov](mailto:ohsstaff@mail.house.gov). House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael Guest in blue ink.

Michael Guest  
Chairman

Handwritten signature of Mark DeSaulnier in blue ink.

Mark DeSaulnier  
Ranking Member

MG/MD:amr



**Global Foreign Policy Center**  
1201 Wilson Blvd.  
Suite 26-111  
Arlington, VA 22209  
**+1-703-348-7325**  
**info@globalfpc.org**

---

28 MARCH 2025

Catherine Treadwell  
Chief of Staff and General Counsel  
Office of Congressman Cory Mills  
346 Cannon House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515

Washington, DC 20001

Dear Ms Treadwell,

On behalf of the Global Foreign Policy Center, I am pleased to extend an invitation to you to participate in a Congressional Staff Delegation to Ecuador from June 16-19, 2025, with an option to extend an additional day should you request it. This delegation will provide a unique opportunity to gain firsthand insight into the critical trade relationship between the United States and Ecuador, and to explore the complex issue of Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in the region.

Ecuador is a key South American trading partner for the United States, and this delegation will facilitate a deeper understanding of the bilateral trade dynamics that benefit both nations. We will be meeting with government officials, industry leaders, and local stakeholders to discuss current trade practices, opportunities for expansion, and the challenges facing our economic partnership.

Furthermore, the delegation will delve into the multifaceted issue of IUU fishing, which poses a significant threat to Ecuador's marine ecosystems, economy, and security. As you know, IUU fishing extends beyond environmental concerns, impacting political stability, diplomatic relations, maritime security, and the global seafood market, including the U.S. market.

Specifically, we will:

- **Examine the economic impact of IUU fishing** on Ecuadorian fisheries and the broader U.S. seafood market.
- **Assess the political and diplomatic challenges** related to addressing IUU fishing in the region.
- **Meet with Ecuadorian government officials** to discuss their efforts to combat IUU fishing and strengthen trade relations.
- **Engage with local fishing communities and environmental organizations** to understand the on-the-ground realities of IUU fishing.
- **Tour key port facilities and processing operations** to understand the seafood trade.

This delegation will provide valuable insights into the interconnected

nature of trade and IUU fishing, highlighting the importance of U.S. engagement in addressing these critical issues. Your participation would be highly valued and contribute significantly to the delegation's objectives.

A detailed itinerary and logistical information will be provided upon confirmation of your participation. Please RSVP by April 10 to Dr. Tanja Flanagan at [tanja.flanagan@globalfpc.org](mailto:tanja.flanagan@globalfpc.org) or 703-348-7325 .

We believe this delegation will be an informative and productive experience. We look forward to the possibility of your participation.

It should be noted that the Global Foreign Policy Center will work with the Committee on Ethics to ensure that this Staff Delegation trip will comply with all applicable House Gift and Travel rules and regulations.

We look forward to your participation in this Staff Delegation and to your engagement in our exciting work on free trade, the fishing industry and the important bi-lateral relationship between Ecuador and the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Thomas Russell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "R".

Justin Thomas Russell  
Executive Director