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The Starry Night, 1889, Vincent van Gogh. Image credits (2): Wikipedia



Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan



2021-2023

Provide a salute to members of each demographic who have made great strides in aeronautics and astronautics

- ✓ **February** - Black History Month
- ✓ **March** - Women's History Month
- ✓ **May** - Asian Pacific American Heritage Month
- ✓ **June** - LGBTQ Pride Month
- ✓ **September 15–October 15** - National Hispanic Heritage Month
- ✓ **November** - National American Indian Heritage Month



Diversity

The 2021-2023 AIAA Diversity Plan Archived on our Houston Section Server

The 2021-2023 AIAA Diversity Plan

Goals and Objectives

GOAL 1: DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION ARE WIDELY RECOGNIZED WITHIN THE AIAA COMMUNITY AS ESSENTIAL TO THE MISSION AND VISION OF THE INSTITUTE.

OBJECTIVE 1: Increase awareness within the AIAA community of the importance of diversity and inclusion.

US supreme court rules against affirmative action in Harvard and UNC cases



Edwin Rios in Oakland and Chris Stein in Washington

Thu 29 Jun 2023 13:54 EDT

Biden said he was considering executive action following court's decision to limit power of universities to consider an applicant's race in admissions

Waking Up White

And Finding Myself in the Story of Race

By Debby Irving · 2014

Google Books

For twenty-five years, Debby Irving sensed inexplicable racial tensions in her personal and professional relationships. As a colleague and neighbor, she worried about offending people she dearly wanted to befriend. As an arts administrator, she didn't understand why her diversity efforts lacked traction. As a teacher, she found her best efforts to reach out to students and families of color left her wondering what she was missing. Then, in 2009, one "aha!" moment launched an adventure of discovery and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and upended her life plan. In *Waking Up White*, Irving tells her often cringe-worthy story with such openness that readers will turn every page rooting for her—and ultimately for all of us.

Source: Publisher

Just as some states found legal ways to subvert voting rights in the face of changing laws, organizations can undermine policies that are aimed at intervening in racial inequality, such as diversity programs. Diversity replaced affirmative action as a rationale for promoting integrated organizations following Supreme Court justice Lewis Powell's opinion in *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*. Allan Bakke was a white engineer whose legal team argued that affirmative action unconstitutionally denied him admission to the University of California at Davis medical school. The Bakke decision banned the use of racial quotas in admissions. Powell's opinion also established that the state had a compelling interest in promoting a diverse student body. This compelling interest meant schools could therefore continue to consider race as one factor in a holistic admissions process. Importantly, Powell's opinion in *Bakke* rejected the traditional rationales of slavery, Jim Crow, or ongoing racial discrimination as reasons to diversify. In line with Bell's interest convergence thesis (see chapter 5), Powell focused on the shared educational benefits of diversity for both whites and people of color. Diversity is a nebulous concept that equates highly politicized identities (race) with relatively benign ones (region of origin). Powell's opinion domesticated diversity, helping to make it palatable by detaching the concept from a commitment to righting historical injustice.

Following *Bakke*, many organizations claim to support diversity in principle. But diversity policies have done little to change the overall distribution of racial power within organizations. Despite widespread perceptions that Black professionals are sought after, they remain underrepresented in positions of power. White men remain at the top of most workplace hierarchies, in the most high-status and well-paid jobs, and progress on Black-white occupational segregation "essentially stopped after 1980." High-status firms select employees from elite schools whose pool of nonwhite students is limited. Many of these firms see diversity primarily as a public relations exercise, not as a moral or business imperative. Organizations have even reshaped legal responses to civil rights law, capturing and subverting the very laws designed to stop discrimination. For some organizations, having a diversity program is the whole program, as courts have blunted the impact of antidiscrimination law by ruling that the presence of antidiscrimination programming—regardless of that programming's effectiveness at stopping discrimination—is a good-faith effort and can protect companies from legal liability.

Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard



Supreme Court of the United States

Argued October 31, 2022
Decided June 29, 2023



On Critical Race Theory: Why It Matters & Why You Should Care
The 2022 book by Victor Ray

“Diversity is a nebulous concept that equates highly politicized identities (race) with relatively benign ones (region of origin). Powell's opinion domesticated diversity, helping to make it palatable by detaching the concept from a commitment to righting historical injustice.”

Regents of the University of California v. Bakke



Supreme Court of the United States

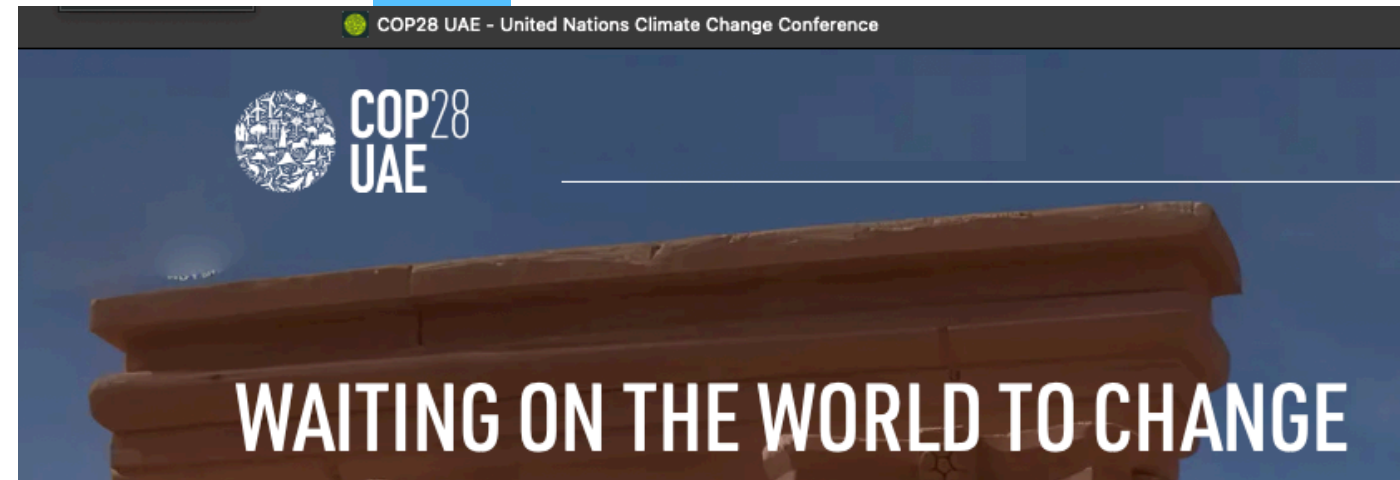
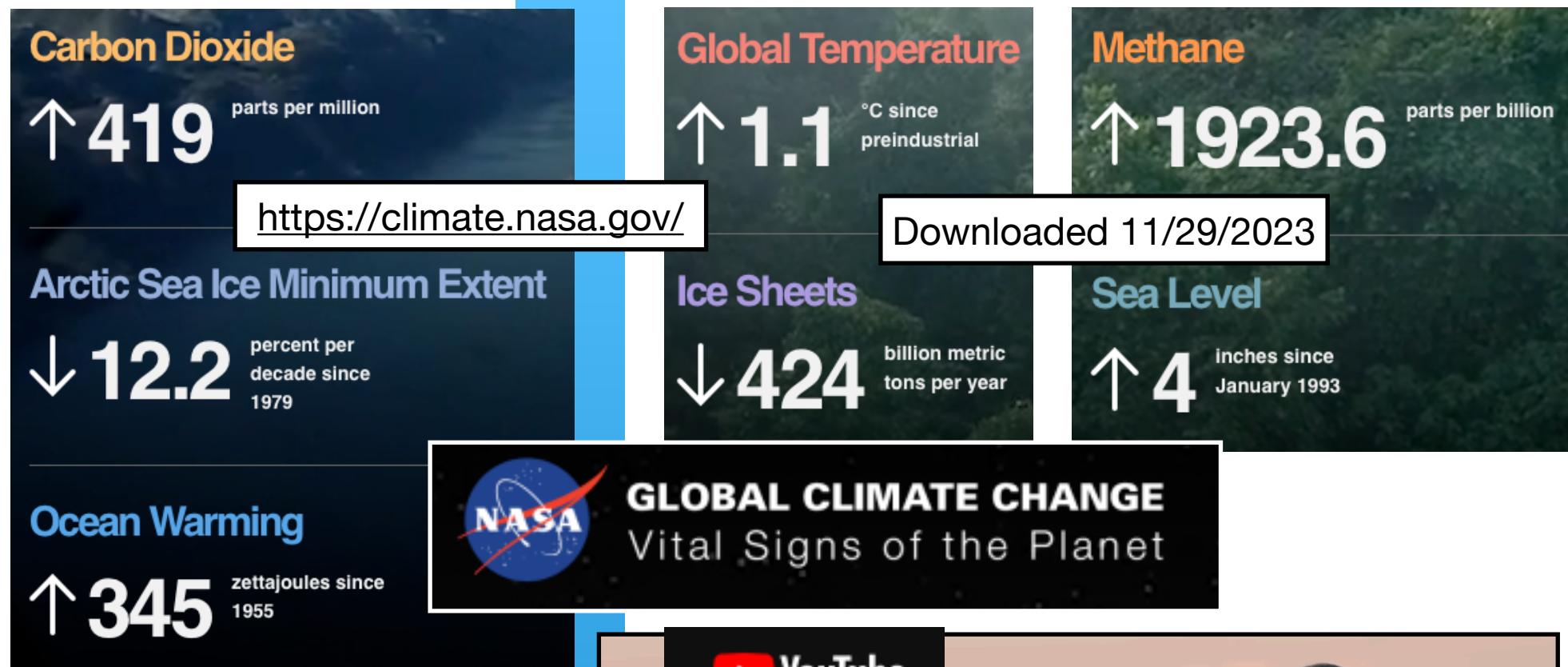
Argued October 12, 1977
Decided June 28, 1978



AIAA Statement on Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion from AIAA Executive Director Dan Dumbacher, Written Monday, June 2, 2020.

Climate

“...the ultimate sense of urgency...”



Jie Ma
Lanzhou, China

Jason Tamba
Lukala, DR Congo

Hiro Hayashida
Saitama, Japan



Arqam
Dubai, UAE

GEMA 4
Havana, Cuba

Phill Bitencourt
Balneário Camboriú, Brazil

Soul de Brasileiro
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Domou Grand Dakar
Toubab Dialaw, Senegal

Manuel Perez Salinas
Palenque, Colombia

Amaan Choir
Wadi Rum Village, Jordan

Yamane El Hage
Dubai, UAE

Baboulaye Sissokho
Dakar, Senegal

Alana Alberg
Paraty, Brazil

Jas & Kamaljeet Anluwalia
Punjab, India

Julian Mojica
Cartagena, Colombia



Baaba Maal
Dakar, Senegal

John Ryan
Los Angeles, California USA

Twanguero
Madrid, Spain

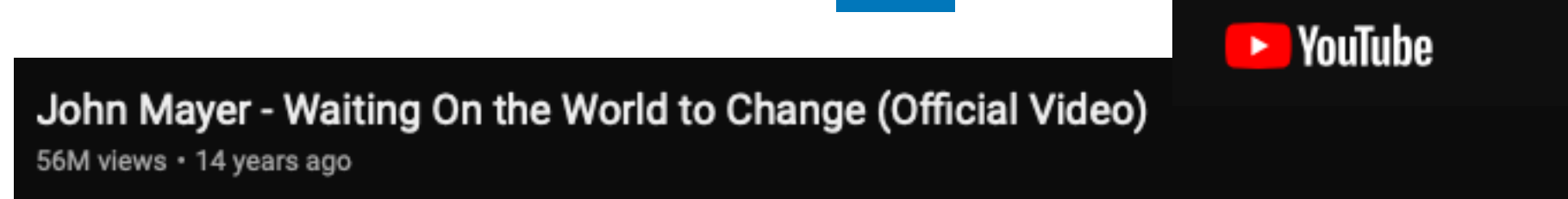
Macarena Montesinos
Galicia, Spain

Paulo Heman
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Orpheus Choir
Dortmund, Germany

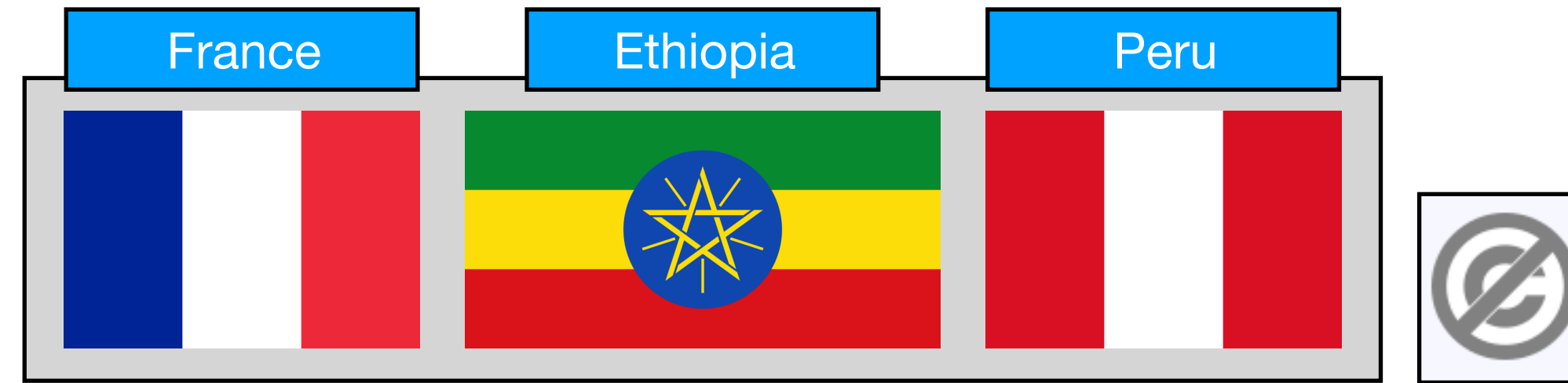


Isaan Dance Group
Don Hai Sok, Thailand



Views expressed in this document are opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect views of AIAA.

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AIAA Houston Section sister sections

France-USA: www.3af-mp.fr

France: Francis Guimera, preceded by Alain Chevalier
Houston: Douglas Yazell

Ethiopia-USA:

Ethiopia: Tulu Bessa Bedada, PhD and Berhan Gessesse, PhD
Houston: Thomas Haregot

Peru-USA:

Houston: Jackelyne Silva-Martinez
Peru: Julio Valdivia, Saul Perez

AIAA Houston Section International Activities Committee (IAC)
Chair: Douglas Yazell, douglas.yazell@me.com



Globe images: Wikipedia.

France

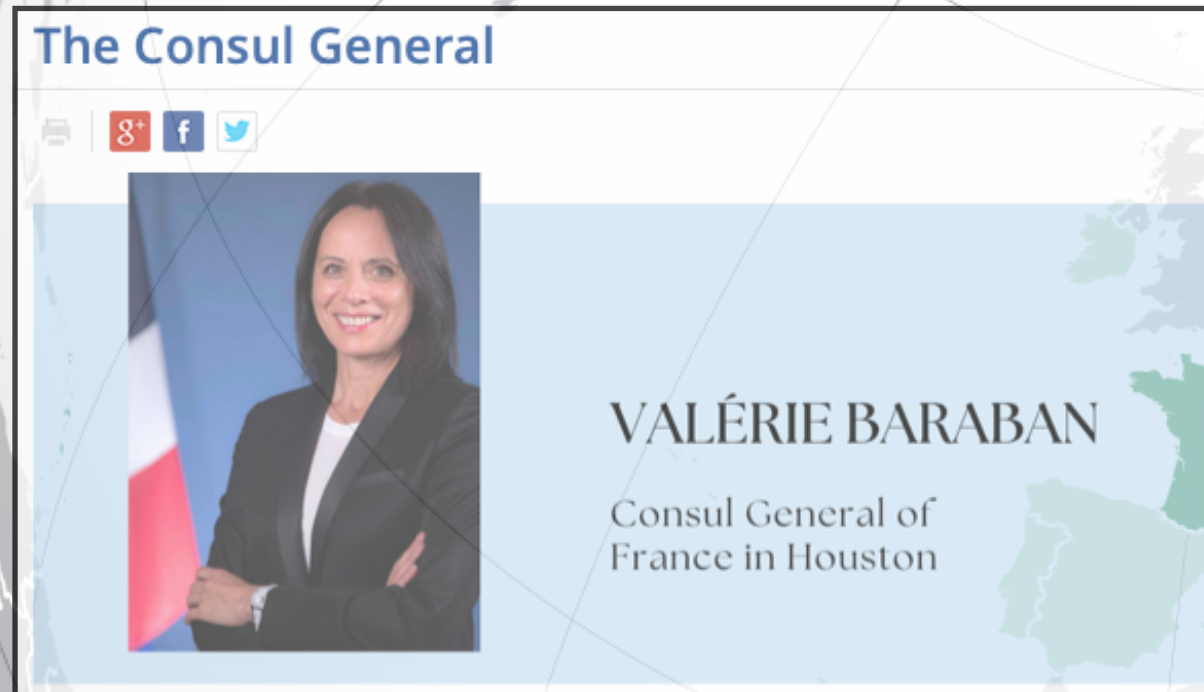
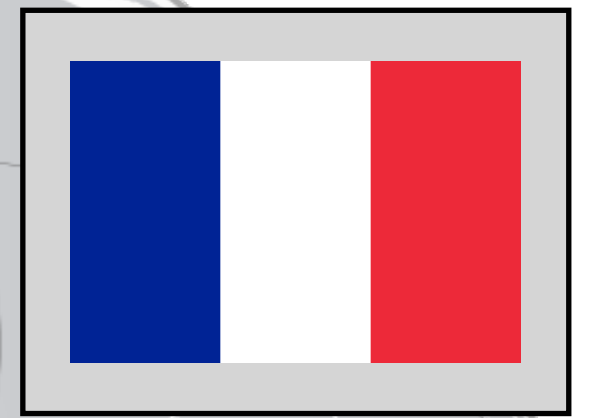
Angelique Chrisafis in Lyon

@achrisafis
Fri 1 Dec 2023 00.00 EST

France

Forty years on, can legacy of pioneering anti-racism march help a divided France?

After recovering from being shot by police in 1983, Toumi Djaidja led a protest historians say must be written into the nation's narrative



Globe image: Wikipedia.



flickr

NASA HQ PHO...
PRO NASA HQ ...

Follow

Ariane 5 Rollout with James Webb Space Telescope (NHQ202112230009)

Arianespace's Ariane 5 rocket, with NASA's James Webb Space Telescope onboard, is seen in this false color infrared exposure as it is rolled out to the launch pad, Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021,

Ethiopia

Ethiopia in the News
Lucy and Dinkinesh

The two small bodes that Lucy encountered first were the main belt asteroid **(152830) Dinkinesh** and its satellite. These tiny asteroids are the smallest of main Lucy's targets, measuring only about 700 m (0.5 miles) 200 m (0.15 miles) in diameter. This encounter was added to the Lucy tour in early 2023 to provide an early test of Lucy's instruments, especially the terminal tracking system. Based on the Lucy observations in the weeks leading up to the encounter, the team began to suspect that Dinkinesh might be a binary. But no one was sure until the first encounter images came down! This small main belt asteroid is an interesting link between the main belt asteroids visited by other spacecraft (which have all been larger than Dinkinesh), and the near-Earth asteroids visited by spacecraft (which have all been more similar in sized to this object). Lucy flew by this **S-type asteroid** on November 1, 2023.



<https://lucy.swri.edu/mission/Targets.html>



Name [edit]

Dink'inesh is the **Ethiopian** name for the **Lucy fossil**, after which **NASA's Lucy** mission is named.^[22] The name means "you are wonderful" in the **Amharic** language (ድንቅነሽ).^{[23][24]} "Din(i)k'i" means "wonderful"^[25] and "nesh" means "you are" in feminine form of this pronoun and verb.^[26] The asteroid was unnamed when it was selected for exploration by the *Lucy* spacecraft, so the *Lucy* mission team proposed the name Dinkinesh to the **International Astronomical Union's Working Group for Small Bodies Nomenclature**, which approved and announced the name on 6 February 2023.^{[22][23]}



AL 288-1, commonly known as **Lucy** or **Dinkinesh** (ድንቅነሽ, which means "you are marvellous" in **Amharic**), is a collection of several hundred pieces of fossilized bone representing 40 percent of a female of the **hominin** species *Australopithecus afarensis*. It was discovered in 1974 in **Ethiopia**, at **Hadar**, a site in the **Awash Valley** of the **Afar Triangle**, by **paleoanthropologist Donald Johanson** of the **Cleveland Museum of Natural History**.^{[1][2][3]}

ETHIOPIAN SPACE SCIENCE SOCIETY



<https://www.ethiosss.org>

Current events:
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/ethiopia>



Head of mission	Mr Gezahegn Kebede, Honorary Consul
Consular services	No information available
Supervising authority	Embassy of Ethiopia in Washington, D.C.

Ethiopian Honorary Consulate in Houston, United States

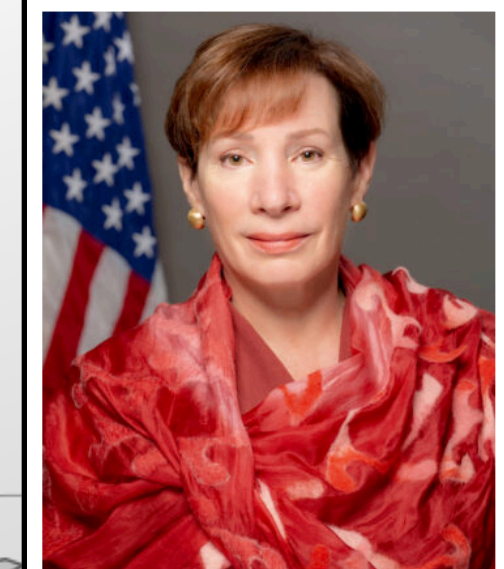
Globe image: Wikipedia.

U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia

Ambassador Tracey Ann Jacobson



Deputy Chief of Mission Fiona Evans



Ambassador Tracey Ann Jacobson, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, arrived in Addis Ababa on February 25, 2022 to begin her assignment as Chargé d'Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia. She previously served as Ambassador to Kosovo, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. Ambassador Jacobson's earlier overseas assignments include Seoul, Moscow, Nassau, and Riga. Her domestic assignments include serving as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs, Deputy Director of the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, and Deputy Executive Secretary of the National Security Council at the White House. Ambassador Jacobson is joined in Ethiopia by her husband, David Baugh, a retired member of the British Diplomatic Service.

Southern frontlines: Latin America and the Caribbean Global development

'Everything is dry and very sad': Lake Titicaca gripped by drought crisis

The waters of South America's largest freshwater lake have severely receded leaving the Indigenous people around its shores struggling to maintain their livelihoods



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About this content

Words and photographs by Magda Gibelli in Puno

Wed 22 Nov 2023 06.00 EST



NASA Johnson

Following

PRO NASA Joh...

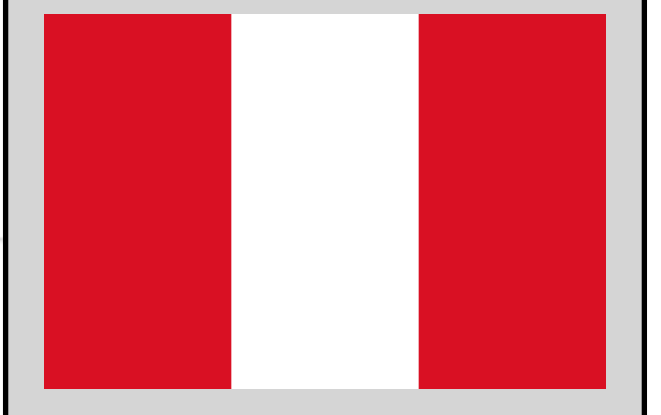
Lake Titicaca in the Andes Mountains

iss068e025502 (Nov. 30, 2022) --- Lake Titicaca in the Andes Mountains is pictured from the International Space Station as it orbited 264 miles above western Bolivia on the South American continent

flickr

Peru

Globe image: Wikipedia.



Peruvian Consulate General in Houston, United States

Head of mission

Mr Rodolfo Enrique Coronado Molina, Consul General

Consular services

No information available

Supervising authority

Embassy of Peru in Washington, D.C.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/peru>



U.S. EMBASSY IN PERU



Lisa Kenna

Ambassador

Ambassador Lisa Kenna is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister Counselor. She served most recently as the Executive Secretary of the Department of State.

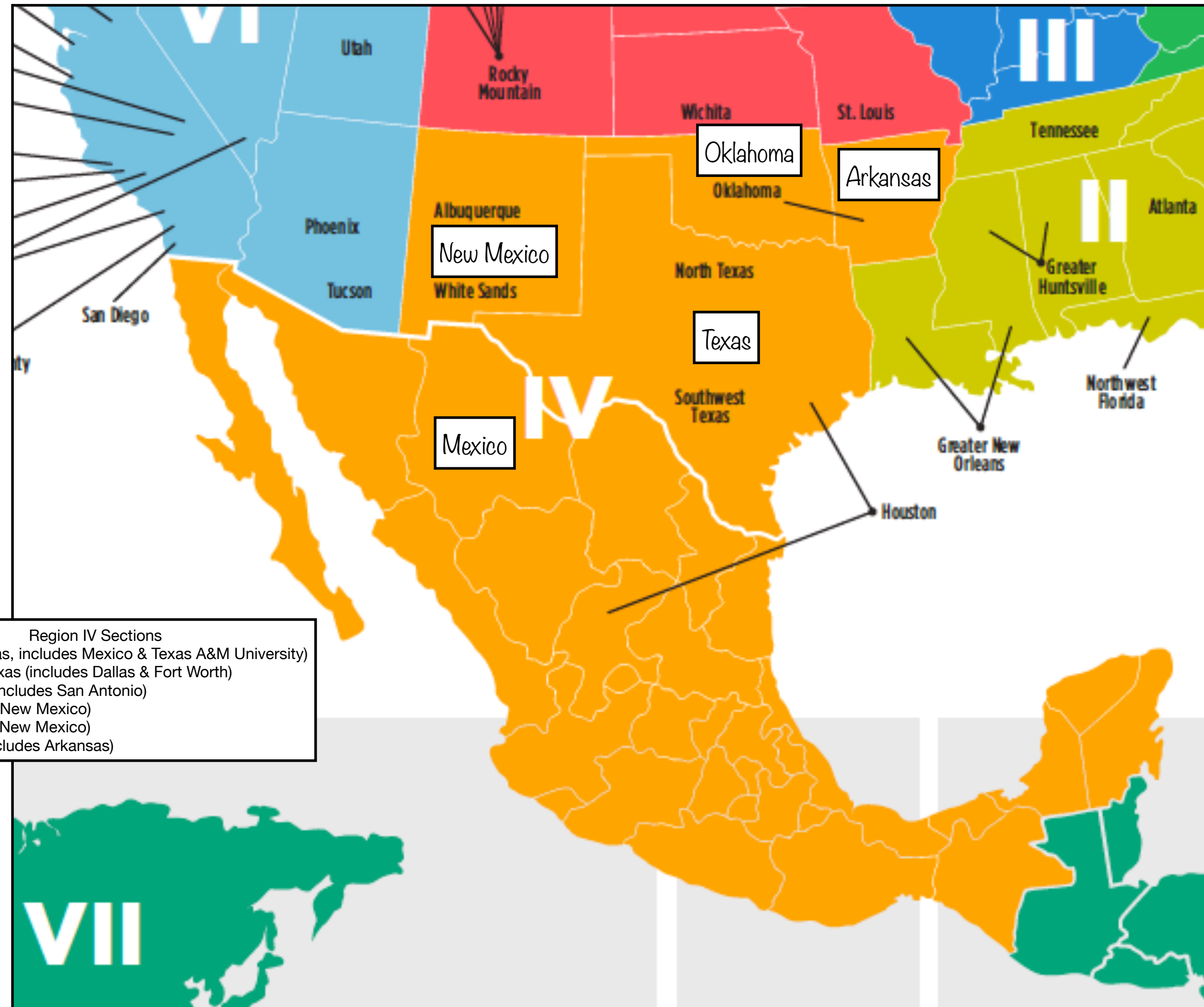


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Mexico



AIAA Houston Section: Mexico and the Section's territory in Texas
AIAA Region VII (International) and Region IV (Mexico and four states of the USA)



- Region IV Sections
1. Houston (Texas, includes Mexico & Texas A&M University)
 2. Southwest Texas (includes Dallas & Fort Worth)
 3. North Texas (includes San Antonio)
 4. Albuquerque (New Mexico)
 5. White Sands (New Mexico)
 6. Oklahoma (includes Arkansas)

Mexico

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/mexico>

Guardian staff and agencies

Thu 9 Nov 2023 17:00 EST



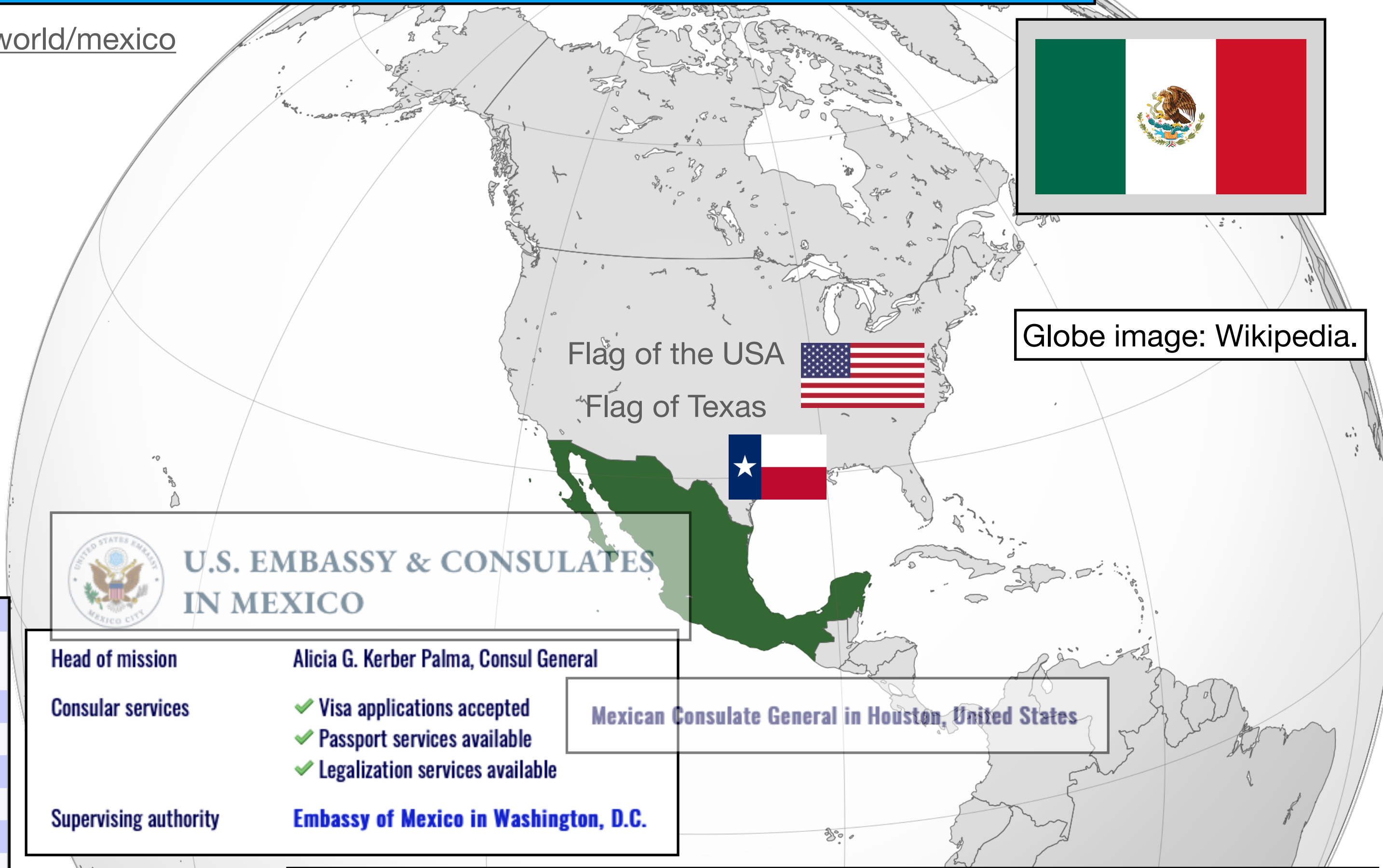
Apple

Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak hospitalized for stroke in Mexico City

The 73-year-old had been slated to speak at a business conference when he suffered a 'minor but real stroke'



Globe image: Wikipedia.



Description	
English:	Steve Wozniak speaking at an event in Paradise Valley, Arizona.
Date	12 October 2017
Source	Own work
Author	Gage Skidmore
Permission	(Reusing this file)
Must attribute to Gage Skidmore if used elsewhere, other than on Wikimedia and its projects.	



Head of mission	Alicia G. Kerber Palma, Consul General
Consular services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Visa applications accepted ✓ Passport services available ✓ Legalization services available
Supervising authority	Embassy of Mexico in Washington, D.C.

Mexican Consulate General in Houston, United States

U.S. AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO – KEN SALAZAR



Ken Salazar was sworn in as United States Ambassador to Mexico on September 2, 2021.

In 2009, President Obama nominated Mr. Salazar to serve as Secretary of Interior where he had a lead role on the Obama-Biden agenda on energy and climate, the nation's conservation agenda including America's Great Outdoors, and Indian Country. Ambassador Salazar has been a lifelong fighter for civil rights and the inclusion of Latinos in the American dream.

In 1998, Mr. Salazar was elected as Colorado Attorney General and became the first Latino ever elected to statewide office in Colorado. He was reelected as Attorney General in 2002. In 2004, Attorney General Salazar was elected to the United States Senate for Colorado becoming the first Latino democrat to be elected to the United States Senate since 1972.

Ambassador Salazar has been admitted to practice law in state and federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court.

Ambassador Salazar and his family have farmed along the banks of the Rio Grande River in New Mexico and Colorado for more than four centuries.

<https://climate.nasa.gov/>

AIAA Houston Section History Technical Committee Chair-Douglas Yazell

"...the ultimate sense of urgency..."

History

The climate emergency is here, and electric vehicles (EVs) are a big help. My wife and I rented a blue 2023 Tesla Model Y from Turo for three weeks in June and July of 2023. We drove it from Houston Texas to New Mexico and Utah.

Henrietta Texas

