



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Ag negotiators to examine trade issues at Tuesday's Farm Foundation Forum

OAK BROOK, IL May 17, 2018: The current and three former Chief Agriculture Negotiators—whose combined experience spans three Administrations and almost 20 years of agricultural trade negotiations—will discuss their perspectives on today's trade environment at the Farm Foundation® Forum on Tuesday, May 22, 2018.

The Forum—*A Conversation with the Ambassadors: Trade War or Rhetoric?*—will be 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. EDT at the National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C. A free, live audiocast will be available for those unable to participate in the Forum in person.

Recently the United States and its trading partners have exchanged signals that tariff escalation and other trade barriers could significantly alter long-term trading relationships. Actions on everything from tariffs on non-agricultural products such as steel and aluminum, to the potential for trade sanctions are raising concerns among many trading partners.

All these actions have agricultural producers and industry experts asking: Is this a trade war or just trade rhetoric?

Providing their perspectives on this and other trade questions at the Forum will be:

- Ambassador Gregg Doud, Chief Agriculture Negotiator, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
- Ambassador Darci Vetter, former Chief Agriculture Negotiator (2014-2016)
- Ambassador Richard Crowder, former Chief Agriculture Negotiator (2006-2008)
- Ambassador Allen Johnson, former Chief Agriculture Negotiator (2001-2005)

Megan Provost, Farm Foundation Vice President of Policy and Programs, will moderate the discussion. After comments by the panelists, the floor will be opened for questions and discussion.

There is no charge to participate in the Forum, but registration is requested.

- Register [HERE](#) if you plan to attend the Forum in person at the National Press Club.
- Register [HERE](#) for the free, live audiocast. Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit.

Who should participate in the Forum: People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry representatives, NGO representatives, Embassy representatives, academics and members of the media.

The Forum: Farm Foundation organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy options, and give voice to new proposals.

Audio from the session will be posted on the Farm Foundation [website](#). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.