



# FOREIGN AFFAIRS MANUAL

VOLUME 2 – General

Transmittal Letter: GEN-294

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## SUBCHAPTER 070 DISSENT CHANNEL

### MAJOR CHANGES

1. This issuance articulates the policy and procedures for the use of the Dissent Channel. Treat this issuance as new material. Similar material in 11 FAM is being cancelled. Please note in the text those references to other relevant FAM regulations.

2. The Dissent Channel is an important method of ensuring that dissenting views on substantive foreign policy issues are available to the Department and its decision-makers.

3. Chiefs of Mission/Principal Officers are to ensure that the regulations issued herein are disseminated to mission and post staffs, and that employees clearly understand their rights thereto and the procedures thereof.

4. This is a uniform directive, it also applies to USAID, USIA, and ACDA.

5. Revisions since the last update appear in italics. The italics will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italics. Italics provide a historical record of changes.

6. Officers are reminded that Department-issued materials not codified in the *Foreign Affairs Manual* or its supplemental *Foreign Affairs Handbook* series generally have no regulatory validity (see 2 FAM 1115.2).

### FILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Remove and destroy the text of the old 2 FAM subchapter 070 (unassigned, 1 page) and replace it with the attached revised subchapter 070 and Exhibit 073 (9 pages total).

2. After inserting the material in the binder, insert this transmittal letter immediately following the TL Checklist, then fill in the entry line for TL:GEN-294, and initial.

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2. All posts and offices keeping paper versions of the *Foreign Affairs Manual* are responsible for maintaining the FAM on a current basis (see 2 FAM 1116.5), and for ensuring that all copies (including binders) are either retained or returned to A/RPS/DIR if no longer needed. **When returning excess or unused materials include your office/post symbols and inform MMS/PB and your message center if you need to have your distribution reduced** (this generally applies only to time-sensitive paper issuances). A/RPS/MMS/PB, Room 1853, 202-736-7470, FAX 202-647-4535, handles all requests for paper copies, including non-government users (include either fiscal information or payment with request, as appropriate).

3. Use KFAM and AINF TAGS on **all** communications on FAM/FAH issues; direct questions concerning issuance, validity, and updating to A/RPS/DIR. Direct questions concerning substance and interpretations to [the office indicated at the end of this transmittal letter.

(S/P)