



Photo: Dr. Giuseppe Mazza

*Embassy of the Principality of Monaco to
the United States & Canada*

The Year in Review

Washington, D.C.

2024



EMBASSY ACTIVITIES & NEWS

- 3 Diplomatic Digest
- 14 Cultural & Sporting Affairs
- 20 For the Environment
- 24 The Republican & Democratic
National Conventions
- 27 At The Residence of Monaco
- 30 Monaco's Space Affairs
- &
- 33 Coming Up in 2025



Above: In mid-June at the Women's Foreign Policy Group's annual keystone event co-hosted by the Irish Embassy to honor D.C. diplomats, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle (far right) joined colleagues including (from left to right): Audra Plepytė (Lithuania), Petra Schneebeauer (Austria), Elisenda Vives (Andorra), Jacinth Henry-Martin (St. Kitts and Nevis), and Geraldine Byrne Nason (Ireland).

Embassy Activities & News *Diplomatic Digest*



Diplomatic Digest

Whether making new connections, strengthening business and social ties, discussing subjects of mutual importance, welcoming international visitors, or celebrating notable dates, it was a busy year for international diplomacy with colleagues from D.C.-based missions. A selection of highlights follows.



Held on the eve of International Women’s Day in March, at the State of The Union 2024, Monaco’s Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle joined her ambassadorial colleagues (from left to right): Dame Karen Pierce (Great Britain), Mariangela Zappia (Italy), Kirsten Hillman (Canada), Bergdis Ellertsdottir (Iceland), Oksana Markarova (Ukraine), and Anniken Huitfeldt (Norway) at the US Capitol. For a selection of US State Department-hosted events, please visit pages 12 and 13.

Rwanda’s Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana (at right, center) was the featured guest at The Washington Diplomat’s Ambassador Insider Series in January which highlighted her country and the key role women are playing in rebuilding their nation. She and Ambassador Maccario Doyle are pictured with Tunisia’s Ambassador Hanene Tajouri.



At the Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide (AAFSW) Ambassador Speaker Series in January, Austria’s envoy to the USA, Petra Schneebauer discussed her country’s challenges in today’s world – and on a happier note, she noted how Austria was celebrating the 200th anniversary of renowned composer and musician, Anton Bruckner’s birth.

Pictured from left are philanthropist and businesswoman Shahin Mafi, Ambassador Schneebauer, PR maven Jan Du Plain, and AAFSW’s Program Director Sheila Switzer.



Diplomatic Digest *continued...*



Brazil's Ambassador to the United States Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti hosted an elegant dinner in the Spring in honor of the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina J. Mohammed.

She assembled a group of inspiring, accomplished women diplomats from many nations including Austria, Iceland, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Luxembourg, and Tunisia, to discuss challenges and issues facing colleagues in diplomacy, government and other world affairs.



In support of the Autism Society, Qatar's envoy to the USA, Sheikh Meshal Hamad Al-Thani and Mrs. Eva Al-Thani (below left) hosted the 5th annual Gala in May featuring the talented musician Kodi Lee (top left) and acclaimed dance troupe from Lebanon, MAYYAS (below). Honorees included Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI), the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and football legend, Dan Marino.



Above: In June, Egyptian Ambassador Motaz Zahran held a welcome reception for former tourism and antiquities minister, Khaled El-Enany, Egypt's nominee for the UNESCO director-general post, at the Egyptian Embassy (both shown above with Ambassador Maccario Doyle).





Diplomatic Digest *continued...*

Springtime in Washington, D.C.!

It's always inspiring when (extra) ordinary ladies get-together! The British Ambassador Dame Karen Pierce and the Italian Ambassador Mariangeles Zappia (both at right) co-hosted a splendid Spring gathering in the gardens of the British Embassy residence for women ambassadors. Guests at this 'Salute to (Extra Ordinary) Ladies', included (below from left to right) Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana (Rwanda), Ambassador Petra Schneebauer (Austria), and Angélique Gakoko Pitteloud, wife of former Swiss Ambassador, Jacques Pitteloud.



Nothing says "Spring Has Sprung" in Washington, D.C., more than the annual Dutch Tulip Days, graciously hosted this year by Ambassador Birgitta Tazelaar of The Netherlands.

Ambassador Maccario Doyle literally tiptoed through the tulips at the delightful yearly display of hundreds of native plants and dozens of cut flowers as they blossomed at the Embassy of The Netherlands on April 13, which marked the unofficial start of Springtime to the nation's capital.



Diplomatic Digest *continued...*



A special celebration to remember! The 76th Israeli Independence Day solidarity event on May 28 called 'United in Hope', was an inspiring evening with heartfelt speeches by Israel's Ambassador Michael Herzog, Speaker Mike Johnson, and Congressman Pete Aguilar with dazzling musical performances by Israel's much-loved, David Broza.

To celebrate the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, and to toast WBD, the official European broadcasters, a reception was held on June 14 at the French Ambassador's residence. This year breaking - aka break dancing - debuted as an Olympic sport, and H.E. Laurent Billi (right with Ambassador Maccario Doyle) welcomed b-boys/breakers for some vigorous demonstrations to set the Olympic stage...



The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, and Goodwill Ambassador Sheikha Rima Al-Sabah (both above left) co-hosted a benefit evening on June 3 in Washington, D.C. for refugees and displaced persons. Felicitations to worthy honorees including US Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, and acclaimed Chef and humanitarian Chef José Andrés (all at right).





Diplomatic Digest *continued...*



The Spanish Cultural Center was the venue for this year's grand celebrations to mark the National Day of Spain hosted by Ambassador Angeles Moreno Bau (left) on October 16. Guests included Austria's Ambassador Petra Schneebauer and Rwanda's Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana (pictured below from left to right with Ambassador Maccario Doyle).



A happy cultural celebration of Arab Andalusian and Latin American heritage was co-hosted by Morocco's Ambassador H.E. Youssef Amrani and H.E Ana Irene Delgado, Panama's Ambassador to the Organization of American States (left). The event showcased Moroccan art, and Andalusian and Latin American music fusion with renowned artists including Rachid Halihal and Samuel Batista (below) in early December.





Diplomatic Digest *continued...*



The International Monetary Fund's Managing Director, Kristalina Georgieva, hosted women diplomats in mid-September at the IMF's headquarters in Washington, D.C. On the agenda were discussions related to challenges and opportunities for fostering cooperation, global prosperity, and the pivotal role of innovation, collaboration, and bold leadership for sustainable progress. Ms. Georgieva is pictured (above right) with Spanish Ambassador Ángeles Moreno Bau and Lithuanian Ambassador Audra Plepytė, and (left) with Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle.

The IMF's mission and its 191 member nations is to improve lives through global growth and economic stability.



Diplomatic Digest *continued...*



During her visit to Monaco for the annual National Day/Sovereign Prince's Day on November 19, Ambassador Macario Doyle participated in celebrations including the Te Deum at the Cathedral, an impressive National Parade on the Palace Square and a memorable Gala featuring a performance of *La Bohème*, along with (at left, from left to right): Jaret Matthews, Founder and CEO, Astrolab Space, Tobias Ziegler, partner at Stinson, and Antonio Delfino, co-founder of Venturi Lab. Also below left from left to right: ESA astronaut and Air Zero G founder Jean-Francois Clervoy, Antonio Delfino, Lukas and Bettina Viglietti of SwissApollo, and Xavier Chevrin of Venturi Space, France.



Amid the National Day festivities, the Princess Grace Irish Library (PGIL) hosted their 40th anniversary reception in the presence of H.S.H. Prince Albert and H.R.H. The Princess of Hanover, among other dignitaries (below right). A film by the Institut Audiovisuel de Monaco was screened with music from l'Académie Rainier III Conservatoire pupils and Dr Fintan Vallely. The event, sponsored by the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, also served as the official launch of a new historical reference book commemorating the PGIL's 40th anniversary. The beautiful book may be viewed [at this link here](#).



In November breathtaking photographic images by Monaco's honorary consul in Miami, Tomas Abreu, went on display at his first exhibition, *Secret Florida*, in Monaco, courtesy of the Monégasque National Committee of the A.I.A.P. To UNESCO. Tomas is pictured below with Marie-Aimée Tirole (center) and his wife, Maria Abreu, and (far right) with Mr. Vincent Floreani, Chief of Protocol at the Prince's Palace, and the Ambassador. Discover more images at: www.tomasabreuphotography.com





Diplomatic Digest *continued...*



During her May visit to Washington, D.C. Monaco's Ambassador to UNESCO in Paris, Anne-Marie Boisbouvier (far left), was welcomed to dinner at the Irish Embassy by Ireland's Ambassador Geraldine Byrne Nason (center) with Ambassador Maccario Doyle, to discuss Monaco and the Princely Family's close cultural and deep personal connections with Ireland.

Monaco's consular corps in North America welcomed its newest member in 2024. Mr. Greg Lill is President Emeritus of DeLille Cellars, and Principal at Chateau Lill and Cashmere Partners. A longtime friend and supporter of the Principality in the United States, Greg was named Monaco's honorary consul in Seattle, responsible for the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. He is pictured here with the Ambassador and his wife, Stacy, in Seattle. ***Congratulations & welcome!***



The Principality's chancery in Washington, D.C. warmly welcomed more than 30 students and staff from Monaco's Lycée Albert Ier during their educational visit to the nation's capital in mid-October. The Embassy gave a presentation to the students on US-Monaco ties and arranged a private guided tour of the National Air and Space Museum for the group. Photos by Alexandra Pani.



Diplomatic Digest *continued...*

US Department of State Events

Since 2021, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle has served as the Dean of the European and Eurasian regions, and on February 29, more than 50 colleagues from those regions were hosted by Acting Chief of Protocol Ethan Rosenzweig at a diplomatic lunch to exchange ideas and hear remarks from Assistant Secretary for the State Department's European and Eurasian Affairs, Jim O'Brien, newly arrived EU Ambassador Jovita Neliušienė, and the NSC's Curtis Ried (all at right).



The US State Department's Office of Protocol hosted numerous "State of..." diplomatic forums, informative briefings, and Q&As in 2024 including on January 18 to hear Chair of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Reta Jo Lewis, and USTDA Director Enoch T. Ebong at Blair House discuss the President's commitment to international trade, job creation, and economic growth; on February 4, the second State of the Administration's discussion with Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg (top right) on the global impact of the White House's transportation policies; and on March 25, to hear White House Press Secretary Karen Jean-Pierre (left) on peace and security, the war in Ukraine, and the future and regulation of A.I.



In May, during Space Diplomacy Week in Washington, D.C., diplomats were briefed by NASA's Administrator Senator Bill Nelson (above) and its director of the Office of International Affairs, Karen Feldstein, on global cooperation with the United States' space exploration, scientific discoveries and the benefits of space for all nations, as part of their science diplomacy program.

On July 24, diplomats including (bottom left) H.E. Nicole Bintner-Bakshian (Luxembourg), H.E. Geraldine Byrne Nason (Ireland) and H.E. Maguy Maccario Doyle (Monaco) attended an address before a Joint Meeting of Congress by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu organized by the Office of the Chief of Protocol, Ethan Rosenzweig (far left).



Diplomatic Digest *continued...*

US Department of State



“Women and girls are leading the charge for their rights and for human rights and democracy around the world. And they’re demonstrating the importance of having women at the decision-making table.”

Secretary Antony Blinken



On March 4, during Women’s History Month, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken hosted an inspiring gathering to honor the inspiring 2024 International Women of Courage (IWOC) Awardees presented by First Lady Dr. Jill Biden (left), USAID’s Samantha Power (below left), and the Secretary’s Office of Global Women’s Issues. The theme for the 2024 IWOC Awards was ‘Women and girls are leading the charge for their rights and for human rights and democracy around the world.’



The 2024 IWOC recipients were Fátima Corozo (Ecuador), Benafsha Yaqoobi (Afghanistan), Fawzia Karim Firoze (Bangladesh), Volha Harbunova (Belarus), Ajna Jusić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Myintzu Win (Burma), Martha Beatriz Roque Cabello (Cuba), Fatou Baldeh (The Gambia), Rabha El Haymar (Morocco), Rina Ganoi (Japan), and Agather Atuhaire (Uganda).

Established in 2007, this annual award honors women from around the world who have demonstrated exceptional courage, strength, and leadership in order to bring about positive change to their communities, often at great personal risk and sacrifice. To date, under the IWOC program, the U.S. Department of State has recognized more than 190 women in 90 countries.

During the December 5 holiday reception at Blair House to celebrate the 56th Annual Meridian Ball Leadership and co-hosted by the State Department, Ambassador Stuart Holliday, CEO of Meridian International Center. thanked guests for their continued support of Meridian’s mission to strengthen US engagement with the world.
Pictured from left to right are Acting US Chief of Protocol Ethan Rosenzweig, Natalie Jones Hallahan, Executive VP of Meridian, Ambassador Holliday, and Ambassador Maccario Doyle.





Above: Love meets A.I. in Les Ballets de Monte Carlo's *Coppél-i.A*, Jean-Christophe Maillot's astonishing take on Léo Delibes' classic ballet. Sold out performances at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, California in March 2024 wowed audiences of all generations. Photo by Alice Blangero.

Embassy Activities & News *Cultural & Sporting Affairs*



Cultural & Sporting Affairs



Above: NOBA, the New Orleans Ballet Association, presented Monaco’s national ballet company, Les Ballets de Monte-Carlo, at the Mahalia Jackson Theatre for a one-night-only sold-out show when they performed ‘LAC’, (Les Ballets’ version of ‘Swan Lake’) on March 2, 2024 (top left and center). And, billed as ‘Love Meets A.I.’, Jean-Christophe Maillot’s astounding production of ‘Coppel-i.A.’, a reimagined future of love and human connections was performed to great acclaim in March by Les Ballets at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, CA. Photos above by Alice Blangero.

Under the High Patronage of His Serene Highness Prince Albert, with the support of the Princely Government, and in collaboration with Monaco's Embassy and its honorary consulates in Canada, the Monaco Boys Choir kicked off their 2024 concert tour of Canada on July 4.

The modern-day version of this award-winning Choir was founded by Prince Rainier in 1974 to showcase Monaco’s historic association with culture and the performing arts.

It is a part of the Monaco Cathedral Choir and is composed of talented children from ages eight to 18, who traditionally embark on a spring tour of Europe and an international summer tour.

The Choir, well-known for their repertoire for children, have visited more than 35 nations and perform an average of 30 to 40 concerts a year.

The musical program includes works by Charpentier, Mozart, Bach, Mendelssohn, Fauré and Franck; French, Monégasque and English-language songs, and patriotic US anthems.

Below: *The Choir’s long-time musical director Mr. Pierre Debat welcomed crowds to their performances in Toronto, Ottawa, Quebec, and Montreal. In Quebec City a Mass at Notre Dame Quebec was organized with the kind assistance of Canada’s Ministry of International Relations and La Francophonie. DCM Jean Philippe Bertani also attended their concert at the St Joseph of Quebec’s Oratory in Sainte Foy hosted by La Maîtrise des Petits Chanteurs de Québec.*





Cultural & Sporting Affairs *continued...*



Above: The Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation-USA partnered with the City of Fort Lauderdale on April 10 for Play Fort Lauderdale student's inaugural 'Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation Water Safety Day' at the Aquatic Center. Mayor Dean Trantalis and Monaco's honorary consul in Miami, Tomas Abreu, welcomed students from across Broward County who participated in swimming demonstrations and water safety lessons. It is hoped the event will become a regular fixture on their swimming calendar.

In 2024's pre-summer months the Foundation urged swimmers to stay safe by learning water safety skills and how to swim. Drowning is among leading the causes of death and the Foundation, through their program #beasilenthero, called for prevention, education, and cooperation to advance water safety, and swimming lessons.

Visit the Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation's websites: [Monaco](#) and [USA](#) and watch and share [this important video](#). Together we can all make a difference!





Cultural & Sporting Affairs *continued...*

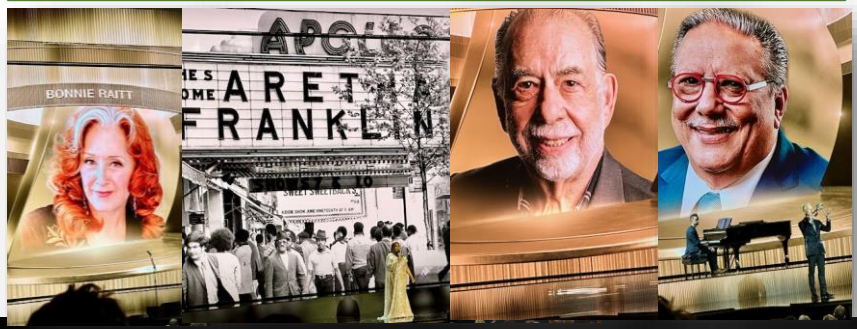
As 2024 marked the 50th anniversary of the Monte-Carlo Circus Festival, the Embassy was proud to congratulate Her Serene Highness Princess Stephanie (right at the Circus de Monte-Carlo in 2024) founder of the World Circus Federation (Fédération Mondiale du Cirque), on her induction to the prestigious Circus Ring of Fame! The ceremony to honor her and three other inductees was held in Florida on February 13 and was attended and the honor accepted, in her absence, by Monaco's honorary consul in Miami, Mr. Tomas Abreu.



Ambassador Maccario Doyle joined chef and restaurateur Rose Previte and publicist Aba Kwawu on Meridian International's Culturefix panel on June 6 to explore Culinary Crossroads: 'The Intersection of Food, Culture & Diplomacy' with an introduction by Ambassador Stuart Holliday (all at right), and guests including the Princess Grace Foundation-USA's and Ballet Hispanico's Eduardo Vilario and the Kennedy Center's Alicia Adams (from left to right).



At the 47th Kennedy Center Honors held in December, Ambassador Maccario Doyle congratulated the outstanding honorees including Bonnie Raitt, Arturo Sandoval, Francis Ford Coppola, the Apollo Theatre, and The Grateful Dead.





Cultural & Sporting Affairs *continued...*

The Princess Grace Foundation-USA's 40th Anniversary Awards & Gala



Left: *His Serene Highness Prince Albert is joined at the Gala by (from left) The Honorable John Lehman, Chairman of the Princess Grace Foundation-USA, Her Excellency Isabelle Picco, Monaco's Ambassador to the United Nations and Her Excellency Maguy Maccario Doyle, Monaco's Ambassador to the United States and Canada.*

In the presence of His Serene Highness Prince Albert, Consul General Gildo Pastor, and the Consulate General of Monaco in New York graciously hosted a welcome champagne reception for VIP guests at New York's prestigious Pierre Hotel prior to this year's Princess Grace Foundation-USA annual Awards and Gala Dinner. In 2024 the Foundation marked its 40th anniversary. Visit www.PGFUSA.org to learn about their important mission of supporting emerging artists in film, theatre and film through career-advancing grants.

Right: *His Serene Highness Prince Albert is flanked (from left) by Cuisine Solutions founder, Stanislas Vilgrain, Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle, Maggie Gao Vilgrain, and Laura Modi, co-founder and CEO of Bobbie.*



Below: *(From left to right) Alexandra G. Kelly, Prince Michael Ilyinsky, Princess Debra Ilyinsky, Consul General Gildo Pallanca Pastor, Ms. Della Britton, president and CEO of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, H.E. Maguy Maccario Doyle, and Ms. Sheila Johnson, philanthropist and founder of Salamander Hotels and Resorts.*





Cultural & Sporting Affairs *continued...*

It's the world's most exclusive club: all members must be Chef to their nation's head of state or government. The 'G20' of gastronomy, le Club des Chefs des Chefs (CCC), under the presidency of Chef to HSH Prince Albert, Christian Garcia, held their 47th annual summit in Rome in October. Ambassador Maccario Doyle, who is a CCC committee member and who was instrumental in arranging several events and activities during their 2023 visit to Washington, D.C., was invited to attend with Monaco's Ambassador to Italy and Malta, Anne Eastwood (left top with Chef Garcia) and (bottom) with Fra' John T. Dunlap, Grand Master of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, who hosted a lavish dinner for the Club at the historic Villa Magistrale. The CCC was founded in 1977 by French businessman Gilles Bragard (top right) who welcomed the Chefs to the summit which included a meeting with Italy's President Sergio Mattarella (below) at the Quirinale Palace.



*The Club's motto is:
'If politics divides men, a good table always reunites them...'*



For the third consecutive year, the Embassy of Monaco collaborated with CINEMANIA, the largest French-language film festival in North America. On November 6, DCM Jean-Philippe Bertani (left with Guilhem Caillard, CINEMANIA's CEO) attended the gala opening of the Festival's 30th edition and the Canadian premiere the French-Canadian movie 'Bergers'.

Sports diplomacy - and especially motor racing with the thrill of Monaco's Charles Leclerc's F1 hometown victory still fresh - was the theme of Meridian's celebration in September at the launch of D.C.'s new F1 Arcade. Guests included F1 Arcade's Diane Jervis and Liz Norris (top right), along with Ambassadors Jorge Arguello (Argentina) and Ralf Heckner (Switzerland).





Photo: Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Embassy Activities & News
For the Environment



For the Environment



HSH Prince Albert in Svalbard.
Photo by Nicolas Saussier/Palais Princier



The prestigious Galien Foundation presented their annual Roy Vagelos Pro Bono Humanum Award to HSH Prince Albert in 2024. This distinguished prize celebrates His Highness's unwavering commitment, through the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, to environmental stewardship and humanitarian efforts that positively impact our world. The honor was accepted on His Highness's behalf by his cousin and president of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation-USA, Mr. John 'J.B.' Kelly at the National Museum of Natural History in New York City in the fall.



In mid-April Monaco formally joined more than 60 other nations on the Greening Government Initiative (GGI) and was welcomed by White House Council on Environmental Quality's Chair Brenda Mallory (left). The GGI pledges to increase the environmental sustainability of national government operations. Through GGI, nations share best practices, showcase innovation, and collaborate to advance their greening work.



Conservation and Africa's future were discussed at the May 22 (ICCF) International Conservation Caucus Foundation lunch featuring Kenya's President H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, the US Congressional International Conservation Caucus and the Oceans and the Climate Solutions Caucuses, and environmental foundation supporters and guests.



The Embassy of Monaco joined forces with the Swiss Embassy at the French Embassy on April 22 to focus on glaciers and the importance of preserving them at a special seminar with the Ice Memory Foundation. The Foundation aims to create, in the Antarctica, an international repository of ice cores from glaciers in danger of degradation or disappearance. Glaciers are not only important for our ecosystems but also to understand our climate's history.





For the Environment *continued...*



At the invitation of H.S.H Princess Angela of Liechtenstein, Ambassador Maccario Doyle, in her capacity as the vice-president of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation-USA, visited Vienna for meetings of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) between April 27-28 with a program hosted by His Serene Highness, The Hereditary Prince of Liechtenstein, Prince Alois, at the Palace Ferstel. Called 'The Future of the Tropics Is the Future of the World', the event brought together scientists, diplomats, senior leadership from the Smithsonian Institution, its donors and individuals interested in environmental issues. Meetings covered topics including living on a sustainable planet, tropical forests and the global climate, resilience, and vibrant tropical oceans.

Keynote speakers discussing these issues, included Dr. Ellen Stofan, Under Secretary for Science and Research for the Smithsonian Institution (top right), Dr Joshua Tewksbury, STRI Director, (top left) Dr. Ana Spalding, Dr. Stuart Davies, Dr. Matthieu Leray of STRI (center), En Lee, Managing Director, Head of Sustainable and Impact Investments in Asia, LGT Bank Singapore, Mirei Endara, Co-Founder and President of Marea Verde, Cristian Samper, Managing Director and Leader of Nature-Based Solutions for the Bezos Earth Fund, and Dr. Alfredo Giron from the World Economic Forum's Ocean Action Agenda and Friends of Ocean Action (top, center panelist).

Located in Panama, the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute provides a multicultural forum for biologists from around the world, allowing them to exchange ideas, information, and subjects of concern regarding the Tropics and its preservation and conservation.



Above: Mr. En Lee, HRH Sophie, the Hereditary Princess of Liechtenstein, Ambassador Maccario Doyle, and the STRI's Dr. Ana Spalding.



For the Environment *continued...*



On May 30 France’s Ambassador Laurent Bili and Costa Rica’s Ambassador Catalina Crespo Sancho (left) co-hosted a panel (right) at the Embassy of France on international ocean governance in advance of the third UN Ocean Conference (UNOC) to be staged between June 9-13, 2025 in Nice.



In July at Monaco’s Oceanographic Museum, the Ocean Space Forum, also in advance of UNOC was co-hosted by Promethee, CNES, and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation (right) with guests including Jean d’Haussonville, French Ambassador to Monaco, and Frederic Genta, Interministerial Delegate for Attractiveness and Digital Transition of the Monaco Government, with Ambassador Maccario Doyle (left).



Above (from left): Nora Pouillon, Kristin Rechberger, CEO of Dynamic Planet, Dr. Enric Sala, founder of Pristine Seas and National Geographic’s Explorer-in-Residence, and the Ambassador.



Nora Pouillon, renowned chef, author and owner of (the now-closed) Restaurant Nora, the USA’s first certified organic restaurant, hosted a well-attended garden party on May 31 to benefit the D.C. Environmental Film Festival featuring a fascinating conversation with its impressive founder, Flo Stone, both shown at left with the Ambassador.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF WASHINGTON POST PHOTOGRAPHY

*The 2024 Republican &
Democratic National
Conventions*



The Republican National Convention – July 15-18, 2024, Milwaukee, WI



In Milwaukee, Wisconsin, between July 15 through 18, delegates from all 50 states and US territories convened and selected former President Donald Trump and Senator J.D. Vance from Ohio as the Republican nominees for President and Vice President of the United States. The ticket won the general election held in November defeating Vice President Kamala Harris and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. The US Department of State’s Office of the Chief of Protocol organized events and activities for international diplomats during the convention. A small selection of snapshots from the historic event are displayed above.

Clockwise from top left: The gathering of guests at American Family Field for the Metro Milwaukee Association of Commerce business breakfast to kickoff the convention. Pictured are Rome Rauter of WEDC and Ambassadors Maccario Doyle (Monaco), Petra Schneebauer (Austria), and Viorel Ursu (Moldova). Panel discussion on the topic of ‘A Republican Vision of a Future World’ with Ambassador Robert O’Brien, Former National Security Advisor, moderated by: Liz Schrayner, President and CEO, USGLC. A highlight on day three was ‘Rise and Shine’ hosted by Global WIN, a group of dynamic bipartisan women leaders who inspire future women innovators. Guests included Ambassadors from Austria, Canada, the European Union, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Great Britain, Ireland, and Spain.



The Democratic National Convention – August 19-22, 2024, Chicago, IL



The D.C. diplomatic corps was welcomed to Chicago for a series of events and sessions during the 2024 Democratic National Convention between August 19-22, hosted by the US Department of State's Office of the Chief of Protocol. A wide-ranging program of panel discussions, sessions, and receptions was prepared by the National Democratic Institute's (NDI) International Leaders' Forum which attracted senior leadership from political, business, diplomatic and philanthropic spheres. At the convention's conclusion, Vice President Kamala Harris and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz accepted their party's nominations. The convention kicked off with welcome remarks from President Joe Biden, former Secretary of State Hilary Clinton, Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, and Vice President Kamala Harris, among others. Ambassadors pictured (from top right) are from Monaco, Spain, Lithuania, Italy, Armenia and Liechtenstein. Day two featured an open house at Willis Tower, the global HQ of United Airlines. Pictured (bottom left) are Stephen Morrissey, UA's VP of regulatory and policy, Ambassador Maccario Doyle, businesswoman Sheila Johnson, and British Ambassador Dame Karen Pierce. In the margins of the convention, panel discussions included (bottom center) 'Our Democracy, Our Security: The EU-US Alliance for a Secure Future' hosted by the NID and EU's Ambassador Jovita Neliupšienė with Rep. Jim Costa, Sen. Chris Murphy, Rep. Gerry Connolly, and moderator, Suzanne Lynch of POLITICO (Europe), and (far left center) 'Political Trends Influencing US Voters' with moderator, Michelle Goldberg from The New York Times.



Photo: Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Embassy Activities & News *At The Residence of Monaco*



Marking the Princess Grace Foundation-USA's 40th Anniversary in 2024



Envoys from more than a dozen nations joined friends and colleagues from the White House, NASA, the State Department, and DC cultural institutions, at a mid-winter celebration of cultural diplomacy and to mark the 40th anniversary of the Princess Grace Foundation-USA on February 8. Clockwise from top left: H.E. Mathilde Mukantabana (Rwanda), Isabel de la Cruz Ernst, H.E. Ivonne A-Baki (Ecuador), H.E. Oksana Markarova (Ukraine), former US Chief of Protocol Capricia Marshall, and H.E. Ángeles Moreno Bau (Spain) with Ambassador Maccario Doyle; Monegasque Daniele Menache with D.C. philanthropist Adrienne Arsht, and the Kennedy Center's Director of International Programming, Alicia Adams; Grace Nelson with Diane Howard of the White House's National Space Council; the State Department's Katherine Harris and guest; AOL founder and philanthropist Steve Case with the Ambassador; US Commerce Dept's Nick Schmit and The Washington Post and MSNBC journalist, Jonathan Capehart; J.B. Kelly, President of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation USA with Christine Bisunia of the Swiss Embassy; H.E. Georg Sparber (Liechtenstein) with the NSC's Curtis Ried; Dr Jim and Mrs., Amal Misto; Maggie Gao Vilgrain, Cuisine Solutions founder and chairman Stanislas Vilgrain with Grace and Bill Nelson, NASA Administrator.





The Embassy was honored to donate prizes of dinners with the Ambassador to benefit the Prevent Cancer Foundation Galas in 2023 and again in 2024. The winners from both Galas and their guests were welcomed to the Residence of Monaco; first on March 15 medical, financial, technology and property specialists from the DC area gathered (left) to celebrate philanthropy and charitable diplomacy with the Ambassador as guests of Lisa and Paul Phaneuf, treasurer of the Prevent Cancer Foundation.

And in early December, the Embassy warmly welcomed the winner from the Foundation's Gala held in September.

Mr. Ted Okon of the Community Oncology Alliance, his board and guests (right), including oncologists and cancer policy experts from across the United States who were in town for meetings and congressional consultations, enjoyed a champagne reception and seated dinner in support of the Foundation.



On September 18, the Ambassador warmly welcomed VIP guests (left) of a generous donor at this year's St. Jude Children's Research Hospital's Annual Global Gala. Guests from across the DC, Virginia and Maryland region included prominent business, social and political leaders.



The Government of Monaco, with its D.C. Embassy and Consulate General in New York have a proud history with St. Jude's, going back to at least 1998! This [video link takes you on our happy collaborative journey!](#)



Astronaut and Apollo 15 commander General David R. Scott presents a photograph to HSH Prince Albert during a tour of Venturi Space's premises in Monaco in October, with founder Gildo Pallanca Pastor.

Embassy Activities & News *Monaco's Space Affairs*



Monaco's Space Affairs



The Ambassador joined a fascinating 'cosmic' visit to Monaco's Venturi Space lab in the presence of His Serene Highness Prince Albert with Apollo 15's Commander David Scott, CNES and ESA astronaut and Air Zero G founder, Jean-François Clervoy, Venturi founder Gildo Pallanca Pastor (all shown above far left) and senior Monaco Government leadership. Venturi is a key strategic partner with Venturi Lab in Switzerland and Astrolab* in the USA, which is one of three companies selected by NASA to advance capabilities for the next lunar terrain vehicle for the Artemis Program.

**Get a close-up look and pose for photos at Astrolab's Flexible Logistics and Exploration (FLEX) lunar rover between March 28-April 1, 2025, at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. as part of the Embassy's collaboration on the festival called EARTH TO SPACE Arts Breaking The Sky. This multi-functional vehicle is a vital part of the infrastructure enabling humanity to survive and thrive on new worlds. Astrolab staff will be on-hand to answer questions and distribute free giveaways. Visit this link for details: [Astrolab FLEX Rover at the Kennedy Center](#)*





Monaco's Space Affairs *continued...*

Following his successful mission and return to earth, Axiom Space's Chief Astronaut and Commander of Axiom's Mission 3, Michael Lopez-Alegria hosted a lunch for Ambassadors to discuss space diplomacy in February in Washington, D.C.

He was joined (from left to right) by Ambassadors Bakyt Amanbaev (Kyrgyz Republic), Mathilde Mukantabana (Rwanda), Maguy Maccario Doyle (Monaco) and Ángeles Moreno Bau (Spain). Commander Lopez Alegria has become a regular panelist and popular guest speaker at the Embassy's space-related forums.



Space affairs, soft diplomacy, and the environment were highlighted topics at the Meridian International Council's Salon Dinner Series called 'An Entrée to Dialogue: A Sustainable and Equitable Planet' on February 27. Ambassador Maguy Maccario Doyle was joined on the panel by the Smithsonian Institution's Under Secretary for Science and Research, Ellen Stofan, and former Congresswoman Jane Harman (all left). At right (center) is NASA's Director of the Office of International Affairs, Karen Feldstein, and Luxembourg's Ambassador Nicole Bintner-Bakshian.



In early December, Congressman Babin (TX-36) was selected as the next House Science, Space, and Technology Committee Chairman for the 119th Congress by the Republican Steering Committee. He graciously welcomed the Ambassador, Astrolab's Jaret Matthews and government affairs representative Caryn Schenewerk to his office for a meeting to discuss Monaco's nascent space industry. The meeting was organized with the kind assistance of former Congressman Jack Fields of the Twenty First Century Group.

Left: CS Consulting's Caryn Schenewerk, Astrolab founder and CEO Jaret Matthews, Congressman Brian Babin, and the Ambassador.



As we embark on a New Year, we wish all our readers and friends a bright, peaceful and magical 2025. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Coming Up in 2025. . .

SPRING: The Embassy of Monaco is collaborating with the Kennedy Center on their international arts festival, called **EARTH TO SPACE Arts Breaking The Sky** to be held March 29 – April 13, 2025:

- **FLEX-LTV Rover Exhibit:** From March 28 to April 1, 2025 explore Astrolab's Flexible Logistics and Exploration (FLEX) lunar rover. Astrolab is one of three companies selected by NASA to advance capabilities for the next lunar terrain vehicle for the Artemis Program. This multi-functional vehicle is a vital part of the infrastructure enabling humanity to survive and thrive on new worlds. From uncrewed cargo delivery and deployment to crewed transportation and exploration, FLEX provides the capacity and capabilities to power the next era of lunar exploration. This exhibit offers a unique opportunity to see cutting-edge lunar exploration technology up close. Visit [Astrolab FLEX Rover](#)
- **Monaco's Leap to the Stars: Innovations, Astronaut Perspectives, Lunar Exploration:** On March 29, 2025, the Embassy presents a panel talk on advancements in space technology, insights from astronauts, and the future of lunar exploration. This event promises engaging conversations with experts: Axiom Space's Chief Astronaut, Commander [Michael López-Alegría](#), the Smithsonian's Under Secretary for Science and Research, [Dr. Ellen Stofan](#), Astrolab Founder and CEO, [Jaret Matthews](#), and NASA Administrator in the Biden Administration, [Senator Bill Nelson](#). Moderator is former NASA Associate Administrator and astronaut, [Bob Cabana](#). Visit [Monaco Space Panel](#)

SUMMER: The Blue Economy and Finance Forum (BEFF): The Oceanographic Institute of Monaco and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation will host the BEFF as part of the United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) on June 7 – 8, 2025 at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco, ahead of the United Nations Ocean Conference in Nice, France on June 9-13, 2025.

FALL: The Princess Grace Foundation-USA's Annual Gala on October 29 in Los Angeles, California.

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