



U.S. Embassy Pristina, Kosovo

June 2022

UKRAINE-RELATED OVERSIGHT

The Office of Inspector General is initiating oversight of Department of State (Department) and U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) Ukraine-related activities. OIG has extensive experience conducting oversight of this kind and, with the supplemental oversight funding provided by Congress, is well positioned to deliver on its oversight commitments. OIG is coordinating with others in the oversight community and will be providing additional information to Congress in the coming weeks.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

OIG Office of Investigation efforts led to the June resignation of the executive director and chief operating officer of a Department grantee organization. OIG special agents determined the organization falsely charged work hours to a Department grant and instructed an employee to forge the signature of the financial controller on a document to justify grant expenses to the Department. As a result of OIG’s findings, the Department was able to use the misallocated cost to cover a deficit in funding to the same nongovernmental organization, which had recently been given a higher indirect cost rate structure.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Innovative Fulbright Program Management (*Inspection of Embassy Pristina, Kosovo, ISP-I-22-17*)

Embassy Pristina’s Public Diplomacy Section successfully piloted a new oversight model that offered a lighter administrative footprint without sacrificing strong binational stakeholder engagement. As the Department no longer supports the creation of new binational Fulbright Commissions to oversee bilateral academic exchange programs, Embassy Pristina needed a new approach. The section worked with the Kosovan Ministry of Education and other partners to create the U.S.-Kosovo Educational Exchange Board composed of embassy and ministry representatives and three volunteers from academia, civil society, and Fulbright alumni who serve rotating 2-year terms. The board oversees program policies and candidate selection, while the Public Diplomacy Section

RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS

as of June 30, 2022

1,040*

Open
Recommendations

37

Recommendations
Closed During June

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* This total also includes 45 recommendations associated with U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission.

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enlisted an American education nongovernmental organization to manage program logistics. During the inspection, the embassy and Kosovan government signed an updated Fulbright memorandum of understanding through which Kosovo was to double its program contribution to \$3 million over the next 5 years. At the time of the inspection, this represented the largest per capita investment in Fulbright by any government worldwide, and—demonstrating the effectiveness of this new program oversight model—the largest annual contribution by a partner government in a non-Fulbright Commission country.

NEW WORK STARTED

- Audit of the Department of State’s Efforts To Identify and Terminate Unneeded Contracts Related to Afghanistan*

REPORTS ISSUED

- Audit of Department of State FY 2021 Compliance With Payment Integrity Requirements* ([AUD-FM-22-30](#))
- Audit of U.S. Agency for Global Media FY 2021 Compliance With Payment Integrity Requirements* ([AUD-FM-IB-22-29](#))

REPORTS ISSUED *(continued)*

- *Inspection of Embassy Pristina, Kosovo* ([ISP-I-22-17](#))
- *Management Assistance Report: The Department of State's Records Retirement Process* ([ISP-22-20](#))
- *Semiannual Report to the Congress | October 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022*
- *Classified Semiannual Report to the Congress | October 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022* ([ISP-S-22-12](#))



The Office of Inspector General conducts independent oversight of the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for Global Media on behalf of American taxpayers to:

- Promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- Prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse.
- Identify vulnerabilities and recommend constructive solutions.

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