RE-2 Employee Post Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

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Post Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the Office of Public Records in 144 Hart Building.**This form is a public disclosure. The form and all attachments will be made publicly available.**

Certification:*In compliance with the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel, Senate Rule 35, and the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007, I certify that I accepted the following gift of privately sponsored travel:*

Private Sponsor(s):
Center for Strategic and International Studies

Travel Dates:
09/20/2025 to 09/27/2025

Name of accompanying family member (if any):

Relationship to Traveler:

Expenses

Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meals Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
$3,004.46	$1,490.44	$851.54	$0.00

I also certify that attached to this form are all required documents for post travel disclosure, including:

- **The final Employee Pre-Travel Authorization** (Form RE-1)
- The final **Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form** with all attachments
- The final invitation
- The final approved itinerary

Finally, I certify that all trip information reflected in the attachments above accurately reflects the travel that I accepted. If there were any changes to the trip after I received approval from the Committee, the changes are described in ATTACHMENT 1.

10/6/25
Date

Camilla Vogt
Printed Name of Traveler

Signature of Traveler

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the Employee Pre-Travel Authorization form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

10/6/25
Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

ATTACHMENT 1 – CHANGES FROM APPROVED PRE-TRAVEL

Note: Material changes to a trip that occur after the Committee has issued an approval letter may invalidate the Committee's approval. Please contact the Committee with any questions regarding changes to an approved trip.

Were there any changes to the pre-approved travel expenses? (Transportation, Meals, Lodging, Other)?

Yes No

Expense Change	Revised Amount	Explanation
Lodging	$1,490.44	Actual Hotel Expenses
Meals	$851.54	Actual Cost of Meals
Transportation	$3,004.46	Includes actual costs for charter busses in all three cities along with actual costs for flight

Were there any changes to the pre-approved itinerary?

Yes No

Explanation: All but one meeting on the trip occurred as planned.. For the meetings, there were small variations in the start and end times, but we still met the requirements set by Senate Ethics. The one meeting that didn't occur was a lunch meeting on Friday, September 26th. We still met Senate Ethics meeting requirements for that day.

Were there any additional changes to the pre-approved trip?

Yes No

Explanation: There were no additional changes to the pre-approved trip.

CSIS | CENTER FOR STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

August 13, 2025

Camilla Vogt
United States Senate
316 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ms. Vogt,

Over the past year you have distinguished yourself as a thoughtful and engaged member of our 2024-2025 cohort of CSIS Congressional Foresight Initiative fellows. As a part of the fellowship, we are organizing a staff delegation to Norway and Finland this September and would like to formally invite you to join us.

This will be a bipartisan delegation of Congressional staff from both the Senate and House. The objective of this capstone trip is to build on the Congressional Foresight Initiative's programming over the past year, in order to enhance your understanding of long-range trends and key changes in the global environment affecting U.S. and international security. Over the course of seven days, we will meet with experts, industry leaders, and government officials in both Oslo and Helsinki to explore U.S. cooperation with the two countries on Arctic security issues. We will also travel to Tromsø, Norway in the Arctic Circle to witness firsthand how these dynamics play out, shaping the strategic landscape in the High North.

This delegation will depart Washington, D.C. on Saturday, September 20 (arriving in Oslo on Sunday, September 21) and return on Saturday, September 27, departing from Helsinki. We are consulting with the House and Senate Ethics Committees, as well as the U.S. embassies in both countries in planning this trip to ensure that our plans meet the necessary requirements. This trip will be paid for and organized by CSIS, which is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization and as such does not employ lobbyists. The Congressional Foresight Initiative is made possible through support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

We hope that you are able to join us for what will surely be an enriching professional experience. Please contact Shivani Vakharia (SVakharia@csis.org) if you are able to travel with us and submit this letter, along with the itinerary and necessary disclosure forms to your Ethics Committee **no later than Thursday, August 21**. Please find attached the necessary documents to obtain approval from your offices and your relevant Ethics Committee. We will contact you soon regarding next steps and provide additional information as we get closer to the departure date.

Sincerely,

Chloe J. Himmel

Chloe Himmel
Director, Congressional & Government Affairs
Project Lead, Congressional Foresight Initiative

RE-1 Employee Pre-Travel Authorization

Date/Time Stamp

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics in SH-220.** Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved.

Name of Traveler:
Camilla Vogt

Employing Office/Committee:
HICKENLOOPER, JOHN

Private Sponsor(s):
Center for Strategic and International Studies

Destination(s):
Oslo, Norway Tromso, Norway Helsini, Finland

Travel Dates:
09/20/2025 to 09/27/2025
NOTE: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties.

Meetings with senior leaders will focus on U.S. policy, regional security, and economic development in the Arctic. This trip will build greater awareness and understanding among congressional policymakers of the challenges and opportunities facing Norway and Finland, as well as support informed US policy toward the Arctic region.

Do you have an accompanying family member or spouse on this trip?
No

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
N/A

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

8/21/25
Date

Signature of Employee

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER
(President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain)

I Senator Hickenlooper
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name)

hereby authorize Camilla Vogt
(Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate.

☑ (signify "yes" by checking box)

8/21/25
Date

Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer

Center for Strategic and International Studies: CSIS Congressional Foresight Initiative Delegation

Camilla Vogt

Title:
None

Employing Office/Committee:
HICKENLOOPER, JOHN

Duty Station:
WASHINGTON,DC

Destination(s):
Oslo, Norway
Tromso, Norway
Helsini, Finland

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

Meetings with senior leaders will focus on U.S. policy, regional security, and economic development in the Arctic. This trip will build greater awareness and understanding among congressional policymakers of the challenges and opportunities facing Norway and Finland, as well as support informed US policy toward the Arctic region.

Name of accompanying family member (if any):
Not Entered

Name and Relationship to Traveler:
None

Organization Information

Organization Name
Center for Strategic and International Studies

§501(c)(3) Organization Type
Public Charity

Address 2 (Optional)
None

Phone Number
202-644-5615

Is your organization classified as a §501(c)(3)?
Yes No

Address
1616 Rhode Island Ave. NW

City, State Zip
Washington, District Of Columbia 20036 United States

Organization URL
https://www.csis.org/about

History of Congressional Travel

In the past decade, CSIS has organized over a dozen trips with Congressional staff and members (including trips in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2022, and 2024). Most recently, starting in August 2023 through April 2025, CSIS led a 5 separate member and staff delegations of House and Senate staff to Poland, Ukraine, and Moldova to examine the impacts of the ongoing war in Ukraine.

Educational Activities

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) is a bipartisan, nonprofit policy research organization dedicated to advancing practical ideas to address the world's greatest challenges. CSIS's purpose is to define the future of national security. We are guided by a distinct set of values—non-partisanship, independent thought, innovative thinking, cross-disciplinary scholarship, integrity and professionalism, and talent development. CSIS scholars bring their policy expertise, judgment, and robust networks to their research, analysis, and recommendations. We organize conferences, publish, lecture, and make media appearances that aim to increase the knowledge, awareness, and salience of policy issues with relevant stakeholders and the interested public.

Lobbyist and Foreign Agent Registration Information

Lobbyist Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not a federally registered lobbyist and do not retain or employ a federally registered lobbyist.*

Foreign Agent Registration Status: *I certify that the sponsor is not an agent of a foreign principal and do not retain or employ an agent of a foreign principal.*

Foreign Government Involvement

Foreign Agent Registration Status:

I certify that the sponsor is not a foreign government.

I certify that the sponsor is not an entity that is owned or operated by a foreign government.

I certify that the sponsor does not receive funding from a foreign government.

Comments

None Entered

Signature Page

The signature page is below.

Purpose and Details

Provide a brief description of the trip.

This is a week-long Congressional staff delegation to Finland and Norway organized by CSIS, focusing on Arctic security, as well as U.S. cooperation with the region. The trip includes visits to Oslo, Tromsø, and Helsinki, with meetings at key government ministries, parliaments, and defense-related organizations in both countries. Major highlights include discussions on Arctic governance with the Arctic Council Secretariat, energy cooperation with Equinor, a site visit to the Cold War era Olavsvern Navy Base in Tromsø, hybrid threats training in Helsinki, tours of Finland's civil defense shelters, and extensive briefings on icebreaker capabilities in Helsinki. Throughout the journey, the delegation will engage with U.S. embassy personnel, research institutes, and local officials to gain Nordic perspectives on regional security challenges, NATO partnerships, and the strategic importance of the Arctic region.

Explain how the purpose of the trip relates to your organization's mission.

In 2021, CSIS established the Congressional Foresight Initiative to enhance congressional staff's understanding of long-range trends and key changes in the global environment affecting U.S. and international security. Through a series of seminar discussions and interactive exercises this initiative fosters new opportunities for bipartisan collaboration to address challenges to international peace and prosperity. This trip will allow the 2024-2025 cohort of Congressional Foresight Fellows to consider best practices in long-range strategic planning and its implementation in government drawn from around the globe.

Is your organization the only sponsor for this trip?

Yes No

Grantmaking Organizations (Optional)

1. Carnegie Corporation of New York

With or Without Regard for Congressional Participation

The trip is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Involvement in Planning, Organizing, Requesting or Arranging

The trip will not in any part be planned, organized, requested, or arranged by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal, other than de minimis involvement.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Financing

The trip will not be financed in any part by a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal.

No funds or in-kind contributions were earmarked directly or indirectly for the purpose of financing this specific trip from a registered lobbyist or agent of a foreign principal or from a private entity that retains or employs one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal.

Lobbyist/Foreign Agent Accompaniment

Complete if all sponsors are §501(c)(3) organizations

The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip

Complete if any of the sponsors is not a §501(c)(3) organizations.

The trip is limited to three days (for trips inside the continental United States) or seven days (for trips outside the continental United States), and no lobbyist or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee at any point throughout the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **one** overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

The trip is limited to a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and **two** overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee on any segment of the trip

Certification of No Recreational Activity and No Alcohol

Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for recreational activities.

Travel expenses paid for will not include expenditures for alcohol, except as permitted by the Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel.

Invitees

Members and staff from the House of Representatives **will** receive invitations.

The list of invitees is below.

Travel Details

Trip Start Date/Time:
09/20/2025 @ 03:25 PM

Trip End Date/Time:
09/27/2025 @ 07:25 PM

Will the traveler be accompanied by a family member for whom the sponsor will pay travel expenses?

Yes No

Itinerary

The itinerary is below.

Transportation (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $2,720.00 | Accompanying Family Member: $0.00)

Transportation Type	Class	Amount
Airfare	Coach	$2,095.00

Note
roundtrip airfare to/from Washington, DC (including flights from Oslo to Tromsø and from Tromsø to Helsinki)

Ground Transportation	Coach	$625.00

Note
charter bus for transportation between meetings and to/from the airport in Oslo, Tromsø, and Helsinki

Lodging (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $1,621.81)

Check-In	Check-Out	Facility	City	State	Country	Nights	Cost/Night	Cost Exceed Per Diem
09/21/2025	09/23/2025	Hotel Christiania Theater	Oslo	None	Norway	2	$251.37	Yes
Cost Exceeds Per Diem Reason $11 over USG per diem rate but includes breakfast								
09/23/2025	09/24/2025	Dock 6939	Tromso	None	Norway	1	$306.70	No
09/24/2025	09/27/2025	Scandic Grand Central Helsinki	Helsini	None	Finland	3	$270.79	No

Meals (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $860.00)

Date	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	Incidentals	Total	City	State	Country	Cost Exceeds Per Diem
09/21/2025	$0.00	$40.00	$100.00	$0.00	**$140.00**	Oslo	None	Norway	No
09/22/2025	$0.00	$40.00	$100.00	$0.00	**$140.00**	Oslo	None	Norway	No
09/23/2025	$0.00	$50.00	$100.00	$0.00	**$150.00**	Tromso	None	Norway	No
09/24/2025	$0.00	$50.00	$100.00	$0.00	**$150.00**	Tromso	None	Norway	No
09/25/2025	$0.00	$40.00	$100.00	$0.00	**$140.00**	Helsinki	None	Finland	No
09/26/2025	$0.00	$40.00	$100.00	$0.00	**$140.00**	Helsinki	None	Finland	No

Reasonable Miscellaneous Expenses (Per Member/Officer/Employee: $0.00)

Expense Type	Amount	Notes

There are no miscellaneous expenses.

Additional Attachments

Document Name

There are no additional attachments.

PRIVATELY SPONSORED TRAVEL

SPONSOR SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby certify that the information submitted in connection with the trip listed below is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Trip Name: CSIS Congressional Foresight Initiative Delegation

Travel Date(s): September 20 - 27, 2025

Travel Destination(s): Oslo, Norway; Tromsø, Norway; Helsinki, Finland

Sponsor: Center for Strategic and International Studies

Chloe Himmel — *(printed name of sponsor representative)*

Director, Congressional Affairs — *(title)*

Chloe J. Himmel — *(signature of sponsor representative)*

08/13/2025 — *(date)*

Grantmaking Organization Certification Form

Instructions: If a sponsor receives funds from a grantmaking organization, the sponsor must disclose this on the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form*, and the grantmaking organization must complete the *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form.* The completed *Grantmaking Organization Certification Form* must be submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics by the trip sponsor at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date.

Grantmaking Organization: Carnegie Corporation of New York

Private Sponsor: Center for Strategic and International Studies

Trip Name: CSIS Congressional Foresight Initiative Delegation

Travel Date(s): September 20 - 27, 2025

Destination(s): Oslo, Norway; Tromsø, Norway; Helsinki, Finland

In compliance with the *Regulations Governing Privately Sponsored Travel*, I certify the following:

- ☑ The grantmaking organization is a § 501(c)(3) organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not a lobbyist, lobbying firm, or foreign agent, nor an entity that retains or employs a lobbyist or foreign agent.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization provides funds under an established grant program, or in a manner that is otherwise consistent with the mission and practices of the organization.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization is not involved, directly or indirectly, in organizing and conducting the trip. This includes selecting participants for a trip.
- ☑ The grantmaking organization does not directly pay or reimburse travel expenses for any Senate Member, officer, or employee.

Nicole Howe Buggs
(Printed name of grantmaking organization representative)

CAO & Corporate Secretary
(Title)

(Signature of grantmaking organization representative)

8/18/2025
(Date)

CSIS CONGRESSIONAL
Foresight Initiative

Congressional Staff Delegation



Bowen Peard serves as the Defense Policy Advisor for Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT), managing his work on defense and homeland security appropriations and advising him on issues including national security, veterans' affairs, homeland security, intelligence, and manufacturing. Before joining Senator Murphy's team in November 2023, Bo was Congresswoman Susie Lee's Legislative Director, overseeing her legislative team and driving forward her policy agenda. Bo was previously Rep. Lee's Military Legislative Assistant and before that a Nuclear Security Working Group Fellow in Rep. Derek Kilmer's office (D-WA). Bo came to Capitol Hill after supporting a number of 2020 political campaigns in New England and working as a Special Assistant for Political Affairs at the Japanese Consulate General in Boston. Bo's first job was teaching high school history at a small school in Hollywood, California, before he moved on to pursue a career in the policy space. Bo earned an M.A. in Security Studies and International Law from the Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 2019, and he graduated from Princeton University in 2015 with a B.A. in Near Eastern History.



Camilla Vogt is the National Security Advisor for Senator John Hickenlooper (D-CO), where she leads the defense, foreign affairs, intelligence, veterans, and homeland security policy portfolios. She previously served as policy manager on the senator's 2020 campaign. Camilla began her career on Capitol Hill working in the offices of then-Congressman Jared Polis (D-CO) and Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO). She has also worked with social entrepreneurs at business accelerators in Colorado, Guatemala, and the United Kingdom. Camilla holds a master's degree in public policy with distinction from the University of Oxford, where she was a Rotary Scholar, a master's in defense and strategic studies with distinction from the Naval War College, and a bachelor's degree in political science with honors from Colorado College. Camilla is a 2025 CNAS Shawn Brimley Next Generation National Security Fellow and a 2023 Aspen Strategy Group Rising Leader. A dual citizen of the United States and Mexico, she speaks Spanish and French.



Jill Ricotta is the National Security Legislative Assistant for Senator Jon Ossoff (D-GA), where she advises the senator on all issues related to defense, foreign policy, and homeland security. Previously, she was a National Security Legislative Aide for Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and a Regional Security Advisor at the International Monetary Fund, focused on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia. She has also worked at the National Endowment for Democracy and the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars. She holds a master's degree from the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and a bachelors from the University at Buffalo. A native of Buffalo, New York, she a die-hard fan of the Buffalo Bills and Sabres. She also enjoys following Formula One and roots for Ferrari.

CSIS Congressional Foresight Initiative
Congressional Staff Delegation to Finland and Norway
September 20 – 27, 2025
Revised August 13

Cities Visited:
- Oslo, Norway
- Tromsø, Norway
- Helsinki, Finland

Saturday, September 20
Location: Washington, DC

3:25 PM (EST)	**Depart Washington Dulles to Frankfurt, Germany (LH 417)**

Sunday, September 21
Location: Oslo, Norway

5:30 AM (CEST)	Land in Frankfurt, Germany
7:00 AM (CEST)	Depart Frankfurt Oslo, Norway (LH 858)
9:00 AM (CEST)	**Land in Oslo, Norway**
9:30 AM	Depart Oslo Airport for Hotel after clearing customs
10:15 AM	Arrive at Hotel and Check In
12:55-1:00PM	Transit
1:00 – 2:15 PM	**Welcome Lunch**
2:15 – 5:30 PM	Personal Time
5:30 – 6:00 PM	Walk to Dinner
6:00 – 7:30 PM	**Dinner with U.S. Embassy Norway** Description: To hear about our diplomatic goals in the country and region. Meeting with: Scott Kennedy, Pol/Econ Section

Monday, September 22
Location: Oslo, Norway

8:30 AM	Depart Hotel
9:00 – 10:00 AM	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs** Description: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the most senior government ministry in Norway and leads diplomatic, international trade, security, and intelligence operations Meeting with: Hakon Smedsvig, Deputy Director of Arctic and Antarctic Affairs
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Transit
10:30 – 11:30 AM	**Ministry of Defense** Description: The Ministry of Defense controls all defense-related agencies in Norway, including the armed forces. It both develops and executes long-term defense and strategic policy as well as crisis management. The Section for International Security Policy and Defense Cooperation covers U.S. cooperation, NATO, and planning for the High North. Meeting with: Ingeborg Løkling, Senior Adviser in the International Security Policy and Defense Cooperation Section
11:30 – 12:00 PM	Transit
12:00 – 1:30 PM	**Lunch with Parliament** Description: The Storting, the Norwegian unicameral legislature, is made up of 169 members directly elected every 4 years. Meeting with: Bent Bakken, Foreign Policy Advisor in the Conservative Party
1:30 – 1:45 PM	Transit
1:45 – 2:45 PM	**Norwegian Shipowners Association** Description: The Norwegian Shipowners Association is a maritime interest group that internationally advocates for Norway's shipping, shipbuilding, and offshore resource industries. Its different maritime actors in Oslo include insurance, legal, manufacturing, logistics, and shipping groups. Meeting with: Line Ollestad, Adviser for International Cooperation and Climate
2:45 – 3:00 PM	Transit
3:00 – 4:00 PM	**Ministry of Finance** Description: The Ministry of Finance oversees Norway's fiscal policy, including budgetary, economic, and tax topics, and the management of the Government Pension Fund (Sovereign Wealth Fund). The Asset

Management Department is responsible for the investment decisions of the GPF, while the Economic Policy Department regulates the Fund.
Meeting with: Agnes Simensen, Head of International Economics Section

4:00 – 4:30 PM Transit

4:30 – 5:30 PM **Equinor**
Description: Equinor is the largest energy producer on the Norwegian continental shelf and a major net seller of crude oil and condensate, with significant refining and processing operations. They are a leader in renewable energy technologies and a global partner for U.S. energy companies in offshore drilling capabilities. The Norwegian Government owns 67% of the company, with the interest managed by the Norwegian Ministry of Petroleum and Energy.
Meeting with: Trude Måseide, Vice President Global Politics and Public Affairs

5:30 – 6:00 PM Transit

6:00 – 7:30 PM **Dinner with Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI)**
Description: The Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) is a leading international research institute focused on Norwegian foreign policy. Their four research groups are on Global Order and Diplomacy, Peace, Conflict and Development, Russia, Asia and International Trade, and Security and Defense. They are mainly funded by Norwegian government entities, including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, but also receive private and international financial support. FNI is an independent research foundation specializing in research on international environmental, energy and resource management issues, including political and legal aspects.
Meeting with: Dr. Elana Wilson Rowe, Research Professor at the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs; Arild Moe, Senior Research Fellow at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute

Tuesday, September 23
Location: Oslo, Norway & Tromsø, Norway

7:00 – 7:45 AM Transit to Airport

9:45 AM **Flight from Oslo to Tromsø (SK 4412)**

11:35 AM Land in Tromsø

12:00 –12:15 PM Transit from Airport to Hotel

12:15 – 12:45 PM Check-in to Hotel/Drop Bags

12:45 – 1:00 PM Transit

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM **Lunch with U.S. American Presence Post in Tromsø**
Description: The American Presence Post in Tromsø is the northernmost U.S. diplomatic office in the world. It was opened in October 2023 to further contribute to the close cooperation between the United States and Norway on our shared stewardship of the vitally important Arctic region.
Meeting with: Kristen Gruizenga, Foreign Service Officer

2:15 – 3:15 PM **Meeting with Arctic Council Secretariat**
Description: The Arctic Council is the international group for all transnational Arctic topics. It is made of the eight Arctic States with a rotating chair. While non-binding, it's policy work and forum for discussion play key roles in Arctic governance and collaboration.
Meeting with: Joel Plouffe, Senior Advisor to the Chair

3:30 – 4:30 PM **Norwegian Polar Institute**
Description: The Norwegian Polar Institute is a directorate under the Norwegian Ministry of Climate who focuses on climate, natural resource, and management. It is a forum for multilateral academic and research collaboration.
Meeting with: Nalan Koc, Special Adviser External Relations

4:30 – 5:00 PM Transit

5:00 – 7:30 PM **Briefing and Dinner on Local Governance in the Arctic with Arctic Mayor's Forum and Arctic Economic Council**
Description: The Arctic Economic Council is a member-driven policy group that works across different Artic governments, organizations, and businesses. It promotes the economic interests of its members, and has recently been focusing on economic interests in the shipping and defense industries. The Arctic Mayors' Forum is a pan-Arctic forum representing the voices of Arctic Peoples through elected leaders at the municipal and community level. Established in 2019, their mission is to ensure the participation of mayors and elected community leaders at Arctic governance tables to ensure the values, goals and interests of Arctic peoples are voiced and considered.
Meeting with: Irina Zhilina (AEC); Patti Bruns (AMF); Bodø and Harstad Mayors (TBD); Tromsø Mayor (TBD)

Wednesday, September 24
Location: Tromsø, Norway & Helsinki, Finland

8:30 – 9:00 AM Transit to Olavsvern (20-30 minutes outside Tromsø)

9:00 – 11:30 AM	**Site Visit at Olavsvern Navy Base** Description: Olavsvern is a decommissioned Royal Norwegian Navy base just outside Tromsø. Built during the Cold War as a secret naval base within the Arctic Circle for NATO, the base was essentially carved into a mountain just outside the city of Tromsø. The base is now privately owned by a subsidiary of the Wilhelmsen multinational maritime organization, and also has external docks capable of accommodating larger ships, among other US Navy SSN's and SSBN's. Meeting with: Thomas Garlid, WilNor Governmental Services; Captain Todd Santala, Defense and Naval Attaché, U.S. Embassy Oslo
11:30 AM – 12 PM	Transit back to Tromsø
12:00 – 1:30PM	**Lunch with ProTromsø** Description: ProTromsø is a business-promotion group for Tromsø and the far north of Norway. It has connections to local institutions like the mayor and county council as well as academic and business interests. Meeting with: Goril Johansen, CEO of ProTromsø
1:30 – 2:00 PM	Transit
2:00 – 3:30 PM	**Site Visit at Kongsberg Satellite Services** Description: Kongsberg Satellite Services is a Norwegian-based aerospace company controlled by broader defense technology manufacturer Kongsberg Gruppen. KSAT has the most extensive ground station network globally, and the world's largest ground station for support of polar orbiting satellites located in Svalbard. Meeting with: Amber Gell, Director of Strategy
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Transit
4:00 – 5:15 PM	**Arctic University of Norway (UiT)** Description: The Arctic University of Norway, located in Tromsø, is a medium sized research and educational institution, which leads as an international center for Arctic studies and research. Meeting with: Marc Lanteigne, political science researcher on Arctic issues
5:15 – 5:30 PM	Transit to Airport and Dinner at Airport
6:50 PM (CEST)	**Flight from Tromsø to Helsinki (AY 946)**
10:40 PM (EEST)	Land in Helsinki, Finland
11:10 – 11:30 PM	Transit to Hotel **Scandic Grand Central** Vilhonkatu 13 00100 Helsinki

Thursday, September 25
Location: Helsinki, Finland

8:30 – 9:00 AM	Transit
9:00 – 10:00 AM	**National Emergency Supply Agency (NESA)** Description: NESA is a central government organization under the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, with a central mission of maintaining security of supplies and societal resilience. It coordinates with businesses and third parties to minimize the effect of any crises. Meeting with: Johanna Raty, Specialist in International Affairs
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Transit
10:30 – 11:30 AM	**Ministry of Defense** Description: The Finnish Ministry of Defense is the leader on national defense and security policy in Finland. They act as the interface between the Government and all Defense Forces. It is led by the Minister of Defense and his direct subordinate the Permanent Secretary. The current Minister, Antii Håkkånen, is of the same political party as the Prime Minister (National Coalition). Meeting with: Erkki Aalto, Team Leader bilateral and regional defence cooperation and Ministerial Adviser in the Defence Cooperation Unit
11:30 – 12:00 PM	Transit (10 min drive)
12:00 – 1:30 PM	**Lunch with Parliament** Description: The Parliament of Finland is a unicameral legislature made up of 200 elected members. The most recent election was in April 2023, with elected officials serving for 4 years. Coalition governments are typical in Finland, with the current body having a majority group of 109 members from the National Coalition Party, Finns Party, Swedish People's Party, and Chistian Democrats. Meeting with: American-Finnish Friendship Group Members of Parliament
1:30 – 2:00 PM	Transit
2:00 – 4:00 PM	**Briefing and Tabletop Exercise with European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats** Description: The European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (Hybrid CoE) works with international partners to research, train, and conduct exercises on hybrid threat capabilities. It focuses its work in three areas of interest: Hybrid Influence, Vulnerabilities and resilience, and Strategy and Defense.

Meeting with: Sissi Miettinen, Coordinator for International Relations; Tapio Pyysalo, Head of International Relations; Shiho Rybski, Director, Training and Exercise

4:00 – 4:30 PM Transit

4:30 – 5:30 PM **Briefing and Tour of Merihaka Bedrock Civil Defense Shelter**
Description: The Merihaka Bedrock Civil Defense Shelter in Helsinki, Finland, is a large underground complex designed to protect thousands of people during emergencies. It's a key part of Finland's civil defense strategy, which has become a model for other European nations due to its comprehensive approach and integration into daily life. The shelter, blasted into the bedrock, features tunnels, recreational spaces like a gym and ball courts, and even a swimming pool. It can be quickly converted from its current use as a parking and sports facility to a fully functional bomb shelter when needed.
Meeting with: Tomi Rask, Emergency Planning Officer

5:30 – 6:00 PM Transit

6:00 – 7:30 PM **Dinner Discussion on Icebreakers (Design, Supply Chain, and International Collaboration)**
Description: The Finnish defense industry is very developed due to their need for security on the Russian border and surrounding ice-filled seas. Different private companies all fill out different roles in the design, supply, and manufacturing of security-related products. Aker Arctic is a specialized icebreaker design company; Rauma Marine Constructions is a domestic shipbuilder with dual-purpose builds. ABB Finland supplies integrated power and propulsion systems for various types of ships, including ice breakers, patrol vessels, ferries, and cruise ships.
Meeting with: Sami Sohlberg, Rauma Marine Constructions; Mika Hovilainen, Aker Arctic; Marcus Hogblom, ABB; Finland ICE Pact Rep TBD; Brian Harpruder, Naval attaché at US Embassy

Friday, September 26
Location: Helsinki, Finland

7:30 – 8:00 AM Transit

8:00 – 9:00 AM **Meeting with Finnish Border Guard**
Description: The Finnish Border Guard is a law enforcement agency who polices the 800-miles long land border and Gulf of Finland maritime border with Russia. They are under the Finnish Ministry of Interior, but could be called to militarization in a crisis.
Meeting with: Victor Johansson, Adviser in the Ministry of the Interior, Finnish Border Guard HQ

9:00 - 9:30 AM	Transit
9:30 – 10:30 AM	**Ministry of Foreign Affairs** Description: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland is established in the Constitution of Finland to have responsibility for foreign policy communication and involvement in international organizations. Its leadership includes the main role of Minister of Foreign Affairs, the more specific Minister for Foreign Trade and Development, and the senior civil servant position of Secretary of State. The current Minister is Elina Valtonen of the National Coalition Party. Meeting with: Petteri Vuorimaki, Ambassador for Arctic Affairs; Mikael Antell, Deputy Director General, Political Department
10:30 – 11:30 AM	**Site Visit to Ice Breakers (Arctia)** Description: Arctia is the owner and operator of the national icebreaker fleet of Finland. They are a state-owned company who provides transportation and icebreaking services for Finnish government purpose and to the private sector, usually for offshore oil and gas extraction. Its corporate governance is under the Finnish Ministry of Transportation and Communication. Meeting with: Jukka Viitanen (Arctia, Sustainability and Communications Director)
11:30 – 12:30 PM	**Lunch on Icebreaker**
12:30 – 1:00 PM	Transit
1:00 – 2:00 PM	**Meeting with U.S. Embassy Finland** Description: The U.S. Embassy Finland serves as the central relationship between U.S. and Finnish governments. It is currently led by Charge d'Affaires Chris Karber, who arrived in July of 2025 as Deputy Chief of Mission. Meeting with: Nicholas Klinger, Political and Economic Section Chief; Evan Elliott, Senior Political Officer
2:00 – 2:30 PM	Transit
2:30 – 5:00 PM	**Site Visit at Helsinki Shipyard (Davie)** Description: The Helsinki Shipyard is the main manufacturer of Finnish icebreakers and has decades of Arctic shipbuilding experience. They built the most recent Arctia icebreakers now operated by the Ministry of Defense and are starting work on the largest icebreaker from Finland in collaboration with Canada. Meeting with: Paul Barrett, Chief Communications Officer

5:00 – 5:30 PM	Transit
5:30 – 7:00 PM	**Dinner with Finnish Institute of International Affairs** Description: The Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA) is an independent research institute established by the Parliament of Finland. Its board is appointed by Parliament and decides the group's finances and research topics. Its current programs are Finnish Foreign Policy, Northern European Security and NATO, Global Security and Governance, Russia, EU's Eastern Neighborhood and Eurasia, and the EU and Strategic Competition. Its research centers are the Center on Climate Politics and Strategy, the Center on Global Orders and China, and the Center on U.S. Politics and Power. Meeting with: Pesu Matti, Senior Research Fellow in the Finnish foreign policy, Northern European security, and NATO research program

Saturday, September 27
Location: Helsinki, Finland

10:00 AM (EEST)	Depart for HEL Airport (30 min drive)
10:30 AM (EEST)	Arrive HEL Airport
12:35PM (EEST)	Flight from Helsinki to Munich, Germany (LH 2461)
2:10PM (CEST)	Land in Munich, Germany
4:25PM (CEST)	Depart Munich for Washington Dulles (LH 414)
7:25PM (EST)	**Land in Washington Dulles (IAD)**