

**CPG on USA - networking session with representatives
of the Council of American States in Europe (CASE)
Meeting Minutes**

26.11.2019 at 5.30pm
Scottish Parliament

Attendees:

Dean Lockhart MSP
Liam Kerr MSP
Alexander Burnett MSP

Sergio Domingues, CASE President and CASE Representative - Georgia
Yassin Nahi, CASE Representative - Florida
Evelyn Simmler, CASE Representative - Kentucky
Kristina Stauff, CASE Representative - South Carolina
Richard Kilner, CASE Representative - Pennsylvania
John Wood, CASE Representative - Virginia
Steve Bridges, CASE Representative - Indiana
Ian Fuller, CASE Representative - Ohio
Rosemary Gallant, Senior Commercial Officer, U.S. Embassy London
Gus Franklyn Bute, Senior Regional Investment Advisor SelectUSA US Commercial
Service
Ellen Wong Principal Officer, US Consulate Edinburgh
Andrew Liddle, Programs & Engagement Manager, US Consulate Edinburgh
Allan Hogarth, Executive Director, SNABC
David Carrick, Chairman, SNABC
Alistair Dickson, Restructuring Advisory Partner, RSM UK
Kenneth Shand, Partner, Dentons
Ben Weinberger, Legal Operations Director, Dentons
Daisy Clark Fundraising and Digital Campaigns Manager, John Muir Trust
Kevin Laing, Associate Director, AECOM
Karri Tough, Political and External Affairs Advisor, BP
Alexia Haramis, Head of International, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce
Lola Nicolas, Corporate & International Executive, Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce
Cat Hay, Policy and Industry Liaison Manager, Food and Drink Federation Scotland
David Ross, Project Director, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
Robin Thomson, VP Commercial, Leonardo
Nicole Lombardo, Policy Officer, Napier University

Olivia McLaren, Principal, Attorney and Board member, Olivia McLaren, Ltd. And American-Scottish Foundation, Inc.
Kevin Havelock, Regional Director, Commercial Banking, RBS
Max Scharbert, Managing Partner, Rooney Nimmo
Alan Salonika, International Relations Manager, Royal Society of Edinburgh
Adam Bowie, Head of Trade Americas, Scotch Whisky Association
Russell Dalglish, Founder and Managing Partner, Scottish Business Network
Stuart Hamilton, Business Development Specialist, Scottish Chambers of Commerce
Marc Strathie, Policy Analyst, Scottish Council for Development & Industry
Luke Skipper, Associate Director, Public affairs team, Weber Shandwick
Jo Graham, Managing Director, Whisky Ambassador
Kay Daisley, Business Development Manager, Entrepreneurial Scotland
Frank Cogliano, Professor of American History, University of Edinburgh
Richard Pike, Managing Associate, Womble Bond Dickinson (UK) LLP
Abby Thatcher
Lesley-Anne Campbell
Thomas Heald
Julia McIntyre

I. Welcome note by Dean Lockhart, MSP

Dean Lockhart thanked the audience and opened the networking session and mentioned the origin of the Cross Party Group on the United States. The CPG on USA was created in 2019 and the second session held in October. The CPG on USA aims to promote and enhance the economic, educational and cultural relationships between the United States and the United Kingdom, and particularly with Scotland. DL reiterated the importance of the trade links between the two countries: the United States are the 2nd largest provider of foreign direct investments in Scotland and Scotland is the 2nd trade partner of the United States.

II. Thank you remarks by Ellen Wong, U.S. Consulate in Edinburgh

Ellen Wong, US Consulate in Edinburgh, said thank you and welcome. EW reiterated the importance of the trading links between the two nations and emphasized the importance of a strong partnership between different organizations and universities to keep the relationships vibrant.

III. Sérgio Domingues, CASE President's speech

Sérgio Domingues, C.A.S.E. President and Representative of the State of Georgia introduced the Council of American States in Europe, which was founded in 1971. The aim of the CASE is to promote the United States as a destination for foreign companies

to expand their business and to boost the economic development of local communities. Today it has an active membership of 16 U.S. states with full-time offices in different European countries and 8 states have been represented: Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Indiana and Ohio. SD thanked DL for hosting the event and EW and the rest of the audience for attending the networking reception.

IV. Networking

V. Adjournment

Dean Lockhart thanked the audience and opened the networking session.

Minutes submitted by: Alexia Haramis and Lola Nicolas

Minutes approved by: Dean Lockhart MSP