



U.S. State Department Says Goodbye To UNESCO, Withdraws Membership

It is unclear if this will have any impact on current UN's policies being implemented in the US by a myriad of heavily-funded NGOs such as ICLEI and the US Conference of Mayors. The United Nations has already penetrated the US down to the smallest community. □ TN Editor

The United States plans to withdraw from UNESCO, citing financial reasons, as well as what it said was an anti-Israel bias at the U.N.'s educational, cultural and science organization.

The decision to withdraw from UNESCO, which the United States helped found, was announced Thursday morning by the State Department, which said the United States would remain involved as a nonmember observer. It will take effect at the end of 2018.

It marks yet another decision by the United States to distance itself from some parts of the international community.

Some of the United States's closest allies are among UNESCO's 195 members. France's U.N. ambassador, Francois Delattre, had [urged the](#)

[United States](#) to remain in UNESCO this week, saying the United States “must stay committed to world affairs.”

UNESCO was established after World War II to help promote the free flow of information. It is perhaps best known for the World Heritage program, which helps preserve cultural sites of import around the globe.

But the United States has at times had an ambivalent relationship with the Paris-based organization. The government stopped paying its dues in 2011 after UNESCO voted to include the Palestinian Authority as a member.

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