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Division Director's Message



U. Desmond Alufohai
Director

Protocol & International Affairs Division
Miami-Dade Aviation Department

MICRONATION, MICROSTATE AND CITY-STATE

A [micronation](#) is an entity that claims to be an independent state but whose sovereignty is not recognized by the international community. Micronations vary significantly in form, motivation, purpose, and seriousness. The loosely defined concept of a micronation appeared in the late 20th century to describe a growing phenomenon of small-scale pretention of sovereignty. Some micronations claim a territory, usually a piece of personal property or an uninhabitable tract of land. Regardless of their purpose, many micronations issue [citizenship](#) along with [currency](#), [passports](#), flags, postage stamps, medals, or other official documents—though these documents bear no legal or diplomatic recognition.

The word micronation translates to a small nation and has its origins in the 1970s. It is used to describe several small unrecognized entities, which have emerged since that time. The term is now used in retrospect to describe some earlier unrecognized entities which could date back to the 19th century.

Micronations have certain common features, and some may vary so widely. They could have a structure that looks like a sovereign state which includes a territorial claim, official symbols, government institutions, and citizens although this could be on a much smaller scale. With the advent of the Internet in modern times, several micronations have come up whose membership are found around the world, where they interact only on the Internet and often identify as nomadic countries. [Click here](#) to view some of the world's most fascinating micronations. Also, you can view these unrecognized micronations that exist within the [United States](#) and [Europe](#).

A [microstate](#), also known as ministate, refers to a [sovereign nation](#), which is recognized by other countries and international bodies. Therefore, a microstate is a small country with a small population and a small land area. The underlying difference between microstate and micronation is recognition and legitimacy.

Microstates are recognized as sovereign states by other states and international organizations. Special territories that do not have full sovereignty such as the overseas territories of the Netherlands, France, Denmark, Australia, the United States, Norway, and the United Kingdom are not microstates. Similarly, other special territories such as the Chinese special administrative areas and the British crown dependencies are not microstates as well. Some of the microstates in the modern world include Monaco, Liechtenstein, Andorra, San Marino, the Federated States of Micronesia, Niue, and the Cook Islands.

A [city-state](#) is simply an independent country that exists completely within the borders of a single city. The city-state government exercises full sovereignty or control over itself and all territories within its borders.

Unlike in more traditional multi-jurisdictional countries, where political powers are shared between the national government and various regional governments, the single city of city-state functions as the center of political, economic, and cultural life. Originating in late 19th century England, the term has also been applied to the early world superpower cities such as ancient Rome, Carthage, Athens, and Sparta. Today, [Monaco](#), [Singapore](#), and [Vatican City](#) are considered the only true city-states.

The unique characteristic of a city-state that sets it aside from other types of government is its sovereignty or independence. This means that a city-state has the full right and power to govern itself and its citizens, without any interference from outside governments. For example, the government of the city-state of Monaco, though located totally within France, is not subject to French laws or policies.

Perhaps you may have seen a passport from a country you didn't know exist or heard someone proclaiming citizenship of a nation you never heard about. We hope you'll gain valuable insights about the front-page article focusing on Micronation, Microstate and City-state.

The pink masthead for this month's newsletter is our way of expression our support for breast cancer and increase awareness about the disease. We honor survivors and remember those lost to the disease. According to the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc., on average, every 2 minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer in the United States.

We salute Mr. Ricardo A. Gaitán Arrocha the Consul General of Panama in Miami, and we take this opportunity to welcome Ms. Sarah Kavanaugh, the new Irish Consul General to Miami. We also welcome Lieutenant Commander Meron Tsige, CDC's new Miami Quarantine Station Officer.

We join our Filipino Americans, Italian Americans, and Polish Americans to celebrate their heritage month and contributions to the American History.

We also salute the countries celebrating their Independence Day in October. As always, please be safe.

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DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

Meet the Consul General of Panama in Miami



Ricardo Alfredo Gaitán Arrocha, is the Consul General of Panama in Miami, Florida. He was born in Panama City on September 30, 1971. He attended primary and secondary schools at Colegio Javier. He also attended Santa Maria La Antigua University, Panama City, Panama, where he obtained a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in 1994.

From 1990 to 1999 he worked with his family's company Stereo 5000 Sonido y Luces SA and from 1999 to 2014 he worked with Estefan Enterprises and Crescent Moon Studios, as a producer, composer, and singer, under the direction of Emilio Estefan.

He performed for audiences in the White House in 2001 and 2009. In 2004, he was invited by the United States Senate. In 2007, together with his brother Alberto Gaitán, he founded the company Gaitan Bros Productions.

In 2008, together with his brother, he received two Latin Grammy Awards for the album 90 Millas by Gloria Estefan, as musical producers, and composers. The Gaitán brothers have been nominated

six (6) times for the Grammy Awards and 17 times for the Latin Grammy Awards.

The Gaitán brothers were decorated with the key to the city of Panama, in 2008, by Mayor Juan Carlos Navarro. Consul General Gaitán Arrocha has been an ambassador of Panamanian music for more than twenty years, along with his brother Alberto Gaitán.

We Welcome the New Irish Consul General to Miami



Ms. Sarah Kavanagh took up her post as **Consul General of Ireland in Miami** on October 7, 2022 and is leading the establishment of Ireland's first Consulate General in Florida. She comes to Miami from the Human Rights Unit of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin where she served as Deputy Director.

Prior to joining the Department in 2020, Ms. Kavanagh served as Special Adviser to the Minister for Justice and Equality (2017-2020) and Special Adviser to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade (2014-2017). From 2005-2014, she worked for in the Houses of the Oireachtas (Parliament of Ireland) in a range of policy, strategy development and political communication roles.

Ms. Kavanagh is originally from Galmoy, Co. Kilkenny. She holds a Barrister-at-Law Degree (2012) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Studies (2010) from the Honorable Society of King's Inns, Dublin. She also holds master's degrees in political communication (Dublin City University, 2017) and Politics (University College Dublin, 2021) and a BA Degree in History and Politics (University College Dublin 2020).

Lieutenant Commander Meron Tsige - CDC's New Miami Quarantine Station Officer



Lieutenant Commander Meron Tsige is a pharmacist officer relocating from Washington, D.C. In 2009, she graduated from the University of Maryland with a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) and Master in Public Health (MPH).

Upon commissioning into the U.S. Public Health Service in 2017, she served in multiple leadership roles including her recent position as Sr. Public Health Advisor with HRSA's Health Center Program. Prior to commissioning, she served as the Regional Manager at Walmart Health & Wellness Division where she spearheaded pharmacy operations and talent acquisition for the Mid-Atlantic region.

During her free time she enjoys spending time traveling, discovering new restaurants/cozy bookstores/coffee shops and spending quality time with friends and family. Lieutenant Commander Tsige is a proud mom of 2 girls, Lea and Leila, whom she adores.

BRIEFS & NOTES



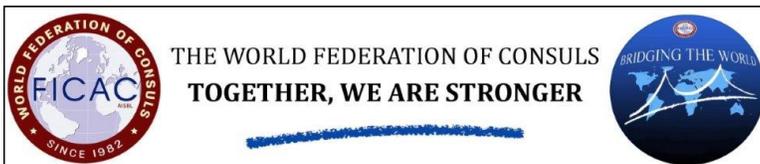
[Breast cancer](#) is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the tissues of the breast. Women with certain [risk factors](#) are more likely than others to develop breast cancer. A risk factor is something that may increase the chance of getting a disease. Some risk factors (such as drinking alcohol) can be avoided. But most risk factors (such as having a family history of breast cancer) can't be avoided.

Having a risk factor does not mean that a woman will get breast cancer. Many women who have risk factors never develop breast cancer.

- * In 2022, an estimated 287,500 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women in the U.S. as well as 51,400 new cases of non-invasive (in situ) breast cancer.
- * 65% of breast cancer cases are diagnosed at a localized stage (there is no sign that the cancer has spread outside of the breast), for which the 5-year relative survival rate is 99%.
- * This year, an estimated 43,550 women will die from breast cancer in the U.S.
- * Although rare, [men get breast cancer too](#). In 2022, an estimated 2,710 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer in the U.S. and approximately 530 men will die from breast cancer.
- * 1 in 8 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime
- * Breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women, except for skin cancers. It is estimated that in 2022, approximately 30% of all new women cancer diagnoses will be breast cancer.
- * There are over 3.8 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.
- * On average, every 2 minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer in the United States.

[Click here](#) to view the breast cancer resources provided by the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Inc.

13th World Congress of the World Federations of Consuls



[FICAC](#), also called World Federation of Consuls, was founded in Copenhagen on October 2, 1982 by a small group of visionaries led by Consul General Vagn Jespersen of Denmark. Countries present at the meeting and first signatories were Finland, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. This body gave consuls of the world a much-needed forum to share experiences and co-ordinate efforts to enhance their status and effectiveness and to bring together Consular Associations and Corps from all around the globe.

The World Federation of Consuls has United Nations recognition as an NGO with ECOSOC Status. It is recognized as an NGO by the Organization of American States. It is also recognized as an NGO at the European Union. On the 17th of September 2010, the World Federation of Consuls signed a partnership agreement with the Prince Albert II Foundation of Monaco, a Foundation created by His Serene Highness Prince Albert II to work in the fields of environment and climate change.

FICAC has spread wide and fast. Today it has over 87 member – associations and affiliated members. It has been holding periodical conferences to strengthen bonding among Consuls and to channelize their experience in professional fields. After the first meeting of founding fathers in Copenhagen in 1982, the Federation held two more meetings in Copenhagen on the 26th October, 1984 and from 9-10 October, 1986 to draw up a working Constitution, called Copenhagen Statutes, and give shape to the world body. Since then, World Congresses and General Meetings have been held every three years. The First General Meeting, later called World Congress of Consuls, was held in Vienna from April 22-24, 1988. [Click here](#) to learn more about the 13th World Congress of Consuls in Limassol, Cyprus from November 6 – 9, 2022.



OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

Filipino American History Month

Filipino Americans are the second-largest Asian American group in the nation and the third-largest ethnic group in California, after Latinas/os and African Americans. The celebration of Filipino American History Month in October commemorates the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the continental United States, which occurred on October 18, 1587, when “Luzones Indios” came ashore from the Spanish galleon Nuestra Senora de Esperanza and landed at what is now Morro Bay, California.

In 2009, U.S. Congress recognized October as Filipino American History Month in the United States. Various states, counties, and cities in the U.S. have established proclamations and resolutions declaring observance of Filipino American History Month. The late Dr. Fred Cordova, along with his wife, FANHS Founder Dr. Dorothy Laigo Cordova, first introduced October as Filipino American History Month in 1992 with a resolution from the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) National Board of Trustees. Across the nation, FANHS Chapters, colleges and universities, museums, and community groups commemorate Filipino American History Month with various activities and events to bring awareness of the significant role Filipinos have played in American history.

Italian American Heritage Month

President Biden’s Proclamation on Columbus Day, 2022. In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed from the Spanish port of Palos de la Frontera on behalf of Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II, but his roots trace back to Genoa, Italy. The story of his journey remains a source of pride for many Italian Americans whose families also crossed the Atlantic. His voyage inspired many others to follow and ultimately contributed to the founding of America, which has been a beacon for immigrants across the world.

Many of these immigrants were Italian, and for generations, Italian immigrants have harnessed the courage to leave so much behind, driven by their faith in the American dream — to build a new life of hope and possibility in the United States. Today, Italian Americans are leaders in all fields, including government, health, business, innovation, and culture.

Polish American Heritage Month

Polish American Heritage Month is an annual event celebrated in October by Polish American communities. It was first celebrated in 1981 after organization by Michael Blichasz, President of the Polish American Cultural Center in Philadelphia. In October, we celebrate Polish American Heritage Month in the United States. Our Nation owes an immeasurable debt of gratitude to the millions of freedom-loving Poles who have come to our shores to build a new land. Polish Americans can be justly proud of the vital contributions people of Polish descent have made to our Nation in the arts, the sciences, religion, scholarship, and every area of endeavor.

As Polish Americans celebrate their cultural and spiritual values across the country during Polish American Heritage Month, all Americans can express gratitude for Poland's heroic example of faith and sacrifice through the centuries and for Polish Americans' manifest contributions to our Nation. [Click here](#) for a brief outline of Polish and Polish American History.

Diwali



[Diwali is India's biggest and most important holiday of the year.](#) Also known as the festival of lights, the holiday celebrates light prevailing over darkness, or good prevailing over evil. The festival starts on October 24th and celebrated over five days, and it is associated with the Hindu goddess of wealth. The festival is a [Hindu religious holiday](#), but has also developed to be a part of several other religions in India who now take part in the holiday like [Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists](#).

Traditional celebrations of Diwali include the lighting of lamps in streets and within homes to signify that good has triumphed over evil. Fireworks are also a part of many Diwali celebrations. Many homes are also decorated with [rangoli](#), which are traditional works of Indian art. Celebratory events will also include gatherings with traditional Indian dancers, foods and more.

Oktoberfest



You can't have October without Oktoberfest! The largest folk festival in the world takes place in Munich, located in the State of Bavaria in Germany. The festival traditionally runs for two weeks, ending on the first Sunday of October. If the first Sunday of October falls on the 1st or 2nd, the festival is extended for one day to include German Unity Day. The first Oktoberfest was held on October 12, 1810, to celebrate the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig to Princess Teresa of Sassonia-Hildburghausen. The citizens of Munich were invited to take part in the festivities, which were held in the fields in front of the city gate. The festivities lasted for one week, concluding with a horse race. The location became known as “Theresienwiese” in honor of the Princess, and it is the home of Oktoberfest today.

INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAYS (OCTOBER)

October 1, 1949 – China: The People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949.

October 1, 1960 – Cyprus: Based on the London-Zürich Agreements, Cyprus was proclaimed an independent state and gained independence from the U.K. on August 16, 1960.

October 1, 1960 – Nigeria: On this date, Nigeria gained independence from the United Kingdom.

October 1, 1978 – Tuvalu: In 1819, Tuvalu was renamed the Ellice Islands. In 1892, the United Kingdom declared a protectorate over the Ellice, as well as the Micronesian Gilbert Islands, and this Protectorate became a colony in 1916. In 1974, Tuvaluans voted to secede from the colony, and on October 1, 1978, Tuvalu regained their independence from the UK.

October 2, 1958 – Guinea: After being a French colony since 1893, Guinea declared its independence on October 2, 1958. It was the only French West African colony to opt for complete independence, rather than membership in the French Community.

October 3, 1990 – Germany: Day of German Unity. This date commemorates the reunification of the two Germanys on Oct. 3, 1990.

October 3, 1932 – Iraq: During World War I, Iraq was occupied by the United Kingdom and, in 1920, was declared a League of Nations mandate under U.K. administration.

October 4, 1966 – Lesotho: In 1868 Basutoland became a British protectorate, and after 1884, a crown colony. On October 4, 1966, the country achieved independence and was renamed the Kingdom of Lesotho.

October 8, 1991 – Croatia: On this date, the Croatian parliament severed constitutional relations with Yugoslavia. Since 2002, October 8 is celebrated as Croatia's Independence Day, while June 25, the day parliament voted for independence, is recognized as Statehood Day.

October 9, 1962 – Uganda: Uganda was a British Protectorate from 1894 until it achieved independence on October 9, 1962.

October 10, 1970 – Fiji: After being a British Crown Colony since October 10, 1874, Fiji gained its independence on Oct. 10, 1970.

October 10, 1911 – Taiwan: Republic Day, Taiwan's National Day, also known as "Double Ten Day," commemorates the 1911 Wuchang Uprising, which led to the collapse of the Qing Dynasty and the birth of the Republic of China.

October 12, 1968 – Equatorial Guinea: On this day, Equatorial Guinea achieved independence after 190 years of Spanish rule.

October 12, 1987 – Spain: Spain's National Day, also known as Día de la Hispanidad, commemorates Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas on October 12, 1492. The 1987 law which decreed October 12 as the Fiesta Nacional stated that the day commemorates "the linguistic and cultural projection of Spain outside of its European limits."

October 22, 1953 – Laos: Even though Laos gained independence from France on July 19, 1949, full independence was not recognized until the Franco-Lao Treaty of Amity and Association was signed on October 22, 1953.

October 23, 1956 – Hungary: The day commemorates the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, a nationwide revolt against the Stalinist government of the People's Republic of Hungary and its Soviet-imposed policies.

October 26, 1955 – Austria: On this day in 1955, the law of permanent neutrality was adopted by the National Council. In 1965, October 26 was declared Austria's National Holiday.

October 27, 1979 – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: On October 27, 1979, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines gained independence from Great Britain.

October 27, 1991 – Turkmenistan: On this date, Turkmenistan gained independence from the Soviet Union.

October 28, 1918 – Czech Republic: Although the Czech Republic came into being on January 1, 1993, Czechs commemorate October 28 as their Independence Day.

October 29, 1923 – Turkey: Republic Day commemorates the proclamation of the Turkish Republic on October 29, 1923. Mustafa Kemal Atatürk became Turkey's first president on the same day.

ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is -

To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.

Contact:

Tel: + 1 (305) 876-7457

Email: Protocol@FlyMIA.com

URL: https://www.iFlyMIA.com/protocol_international_affairs.asp

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