

A challenging contest in a time when the United States of America celebrated its significant legacy

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Abstract

The Flag Day and the National Flag Week are significant events of the United States history and culture. On these special occasions America is celebrating this heritage in public gatherings and activities. In today's global economy a high-quality education is a prerequisite to success, because economic progress and educational achievement are inextricably linked. Participating in a very interesting contest which celebrated the U.S. Flag Day is a real challenge. A space for conversations, information and engagement, to learn new skills or improve existing ones, this represents a veritable opportunity.

Key words: Flag Day, National Flag Week, high-quality education, conversation space, better understanding

JEL Classification: A13, A21, A22, D83

A time to honor America, celebrating its significant legacy

As we all know, on June 7, 2013, Mr. BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, proclaimed *June 14, 2013, as Flag Day and the week beginning June 9, 2013, as National Flag Week*,¹ calling upon the people of the United States to observe with pride and all due ceremony those days from Flag Day through Independence Day, also set aside by the Congress (89 Stat. 211), as a time to honor America, to celebrate this heritage in public gatherings and activities, and to publicly recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The President of the United States of America, Mr. BARACK OBAMA, highlighted that during this *National Flag Week* all Americans celebrate the significant legacy, honoring the brave men and women who have secured it through centuries of service at home and abroad.

I remembered with pleasure the quoted words of the President of the United States of America, Mr. BARACK OBAMA: "*If we want America to lead in the 21st century, nothing is more important than giving everyone the best education possible — from the day they start preschool to the day they start their career.*"² I also had the opportunity to note that *in today's global economy a high-quality education is a prerequisite to success, because economic progress and educational achievement are inextricably linked.*³

¹ Presidential Proclamation -- Flag Day and National Flag Week, 2013, June 07, 2013, The White House, Office of the Press Secretary, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/07/presidential-proclamation-flag-day-and-national-flag-week-2013>

² <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/education>

³ <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/education/k-12>

A challenging contest: “America’s Strength: The Diversity of Its People”

This year, on June 13, “Ion Neculce High School”, Bucharest, designated me to lead a team in order to participate in a very interesting contest which celebrated the U.S. Flag Day. Its theme was very appealing: “America’s Strength: The Diversity of Its People”. We presented Kansas (it is known that the earliest reference to the suggestion of a “Flag Day” is cited in Kansas), a state with many remarkable figures such as Dwight Eisenhower, the 34th President of the United States, Amelia Earhart, the first female pilot to fly solo across the Atlantic, and many others. The contest was held at the Residence of His Excellency Mr. Duane C. Butcher, Chargé d’Affaires of the Diplomatic Mission of the United States in Romania, where we were very warmly treated.

I was very delighted to approach His Excellency Mr. Duane C. Butcher and show my sincere appreciation towards his affirmation stated on Women’s Day 2013: “Romania’s women have played an indisputable role in the transformation of this country, economically speaking”. I specified that I fully agree with it and that I truly hope I’ll become one of these women as I am eager to study economics at University. When discussing particular things about Kansas with His Excellency, I also emphasized the fact that Kansas was the 8th state in the U.S. to allow for full suffrage for women. Afterwards, we socialized, debating various subjects, even TV series or movies.



His Excellency Mr. Duane C. Butcher, Chargé d’Affaires
of the Diplomatic Mission of the United States in Romania,
and Mihaela-Silvia Marinescu

A few days later I found out with pleasure about the statement made by His Excellency Mr. Duane C. Butcher on June 20, 2013, on the occasion of the inauguration of American Corner Bucharest. It was an impressive pledge for *a space for conversations, information and*

*engagement, to learn new skills or improve existing ones, with innovative, interactive, and interesting programs that will connect the Romanian public to contemporary American society and will contribute to a better understanding of United States history and culture.*⁴

⁴ Charge d’Affaires Duane Butcher’s Remarks on the Occasion of the Inauguration of the American Corner Bucharest, June 20, 2013, <http://romania.usembassy.gov/policy/media/pr-06202013.html>