

The Postal Regulatory Commission's Role in International Postal Regulation

The Commission plays an active role in international postal regulation. 39 U.S.C. § 407(c)(1) requires the Secretary of State, before concluding any treaty, convention, or amendment that establishes a rate or classification for a product, to request the Commission to submit its view on the consistency of such rate or classification with standards and criteria that the Commission established under section 3622.¹

Section 407(c)(2) further provides that the Secretary of State shall ensure that each treaty, convention or amendment is consistent with the [views](#) of the Commission, unless the Secretary of State provides written determination that it is not in the foreign policy or the national security interest of the United States to ensure consistency with the Commission's views.

The Commission works closely with the [U.S. Department of State](#). The U.S. Department of State has lead responsibility for international postal policy, which includes the United States' policy in the [Universal Postal Union \(UPU\)](#). The UPU is a United Nations specialized agency that facilitates the seamless flow of international mail among its 192 member countries.

The Commission also participates on the [U.S. Federal Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services](#). Pursuant to section 407(b)(3), the U.S. Federal Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services was established to allow a range of postal stakeholders to advise the U.S. Department of State on international postal policy.

¹ Section 3622 governs rate regulation for market dominant products and services.