

PREFACE

AILA's *The Consular Practice Handbook*, now in its fourth edition, continues to be a valuable resource guide for immigration attorneys of all experience levels when confronting this increasingly complex topic of consular practice. Since publication of the *Handbook*'s prior edition, this particular and important area of immigration law has become even more complicated in the new age of "extreme vetting," travel bans, public charge determinations, and other immigration restrictions, including dramatic changes in long-established agency policy with little or no advance warning. Given these realities, today's immigration practitioner must be well prepared to effectively counsel and represent clients by having the latest information on agency procedure on specific legal issues, post-specific requirements, and other visa-related matters.

The authors of the *Handbook*'s articles have vast experience dealing with complex legal and procedural issues that frequently arise at specific consular posts. They offer readers focused and highly practical insights as to how the key issues of the day are viewed by the Department of State and its various consulates worldwide, how to effectively and ethically prepare clients for consular interviews, and how to best resolve problems that may arise with visa adjudications.

AILA wishes to thank the authors and updaters of the individual articles that comprise *The Consular Practice Handbook* for their generous time, contributions, and insights. Their expertise in the complex and often-intimidating world of visa processing is invaluable and make this *Handbook* required reading for all immigration practitioners.