**Citizenship in the World**

**Pre-Requisites**

To the scouts who are signed up for the Citizenship in the World merit badge class,

I am writing this note to help you be prepared. There are three pre-requisites (requirements 4b, 7a, and 7b). It is best if you complete these ahead of time, but it is acceptable to do them afterwards if necessary.

Here is the text of the requirements for your reference:

4b. Using resources such as major daily newspapers, the Internet (with your parent’s permission), and news magazines, observe a current issue that involves international trade, foreign exchange, balance of payments, tariffs, and free trade. Explain what you have learned. Include in your discussion an explanation of why countries must cooperate in order for world trade and global competition to thrive.

7a. Visit the website of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed on this website.

7b. Visit the website of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.

Notes:

* Each of these requirements involve using resources. Be prepared to site your reference. Bringing a printed copy is acceptable, but not required.
* Be prepared to explain what you have learned to the group.
* For 4b, the focus is on world trade. Make sure that your source addresses one or more of the listed topics.
* For 4b, note the portion of the requirement starting with “Include in your discussion…”
* For 7a, you are to use the website of the U.S. State Department [ <https://www.state.gov>]. This is a website of the federal government, not one of the 50 states.
* For 7b, you are to research human rights using a website of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper. Domestic news organizations [ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN, NPR, FOX, NY Times, Wall Street Journal, etc.] may discuss foreign news topics, but do not satisfy this requirement. Here are some acceptable choices:
  + Aljazeera America: <https://www.aljazeera.com/>
  + BBC news: <https://www.bbc.com/news/>
  + Radio Free Europe: <https://www.rferl.org/>
  + Reuters: <https://www.reuters.com/>
  + The Telegraph: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/us/>
  + [El País (Madrid, Spain)](https://search.library.nyu.edu/permalink/01NYU_INST/1d6v258/alma9998639778107871)
  + [Le Monde (Paris, France)](https://search.library.nyu.edu/permalink/01NYU_INST/1697t4d/alma990021656490107876)
  + [Der Spiegel (Hamburg, Germany)](https://search.library.nyu.edu/permalink/01NYU_INST/1697t4d/alma9998674867807871)
  + [The Times of India (New Delhi, India)](https://search.library.nyu.edu/permalink/01NYU_INST/1697t4d/alma9998691262107871)

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