
Ambassador Polyankiy about Russian Policy Priorities.



Ambassador Dmitriy Polyanskiy speaks at UVU

On Friday, April 5th, 2019, The Utah Valley University (UVU) Global Engagement office hosted the First Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations, Ambassador Dmitry Polyanskiy. Russian diplomat made the trip to educate students and faculty of UVU on Russia's recent actions in different parts of the world. He is the first Deputy Permanent Representative to visit UVU campus for the first time. In his presentation Ambassador Polyanskiy talked about his role in the

UN Security Council UN. He went in depth about diplomacy and foreign relations of the Russian Federation. It is the policy of government of Russia by which it guides the interactions with other nations, their citizens and foreign organizations. Ambassador Polyanskiy presentation was short and Russian diplomat was able to get the point across. Afterwards the Ambassador was able to turn the rest of the time over to students who were curious about Russia's current military and government involvement especially in the regards to Venezuela.

Ambassador Dmitry Polyanskiy was able to answer all of the questions that the students had and also set the record straight regarding Venezuela. He explained that: "Russia does not support Maduro, Russia supports Venezuela." The dilemma behind that is that the United States recognizes Juan Guaido as its president, Russia refuses to support that statement explaining that Mr. Guaido is someone who came into power from the street and announced himself as a leader, because he didn't like the way the old president was doing his job. Another key and major issue that was addressed was Russia's official position on the unrest of the Donbass/ Donetsk area Of Ukraine. His response was that every action that was taken in the Ukraine was only with the intent to protect Russian culture and people that live within Ukraine. This topic was extremely dear to me because the country I grew up in is falling apart from all the conflict that continue to happen between Russia and Ukraine. However, I was glad to hear Ambassador Polyanskiy perspective on that international issue.

Overall the event was extremely successful and there were key issues- questions that were asked and were answered. The Ambassador did a great job and was open and honest about what international issues Russian is facing currently and their next steps. His advice for the students was to be cautious in regard to what is shown or said on TV. Take it into a research and make sure the issues are legitimate and consult your sources and do your research.

Victoria Bindrup, UVU student