University Travel Restriction on Student Travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Restriction implemented: February 8, 2018

The University is restricting student travel for University related purposes to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) according to its authority to issue a “University Travel Restriction” in the Policy on Student International Travel.

Rationale
The US State Department has issued a Level 2 Threat Advisory “Exercise Increased Precautions” for the Democratic Republic of Congo, with Level 4 Advisories “Do Not Travel” for the eastern Congo and three Kasai provinces due to armed conflict. However, news reports and other security reports indicate that civil violence is prevalent across the country, is fluid, and can occur unpredictably, and that the state security services are rated poor in trustworthiness, capacity, and responsiveness. In addition the threat of violent crime in cities and on roads is rated high across the country.

Exemptions
Exemptions to the restriction may be requested by undergraduate or graduate students. See “Petitioning for Exemptions” in Policy on Student International Travel.

University Risk Management Committee for Education Abroad
Members include the vice provost for global affairs and representatives from the Office of University Counsel, Office of Property & Liability Risk Management, Office of the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, International Studies Office, Elson Student Health Center, Office of the Dean of Students, Office of the Vice President for Research, and at least three members of the faculty from schools with a particularly high level of student travel abroad programs, who each serve three-year terms.

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Resources
U.S. Department of State International Travel Resources
U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
World Health Organization