

MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS
New IRS Form for Overseas Taxpayers

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released a new Form 8938 that requires taxpayers to report on certain foreign financial assets for tax year 2011. The Form 8938 (Statement of Specified Foreign Financial Assets) should be filed by taxpayers with specific types and amounts of foreign financial assets or foreign accounts. It is important for taxpayers to determine whether they are subject to this new requirement because the law imposes significant penalties for failing to comply.

You can use Form 8938 to report the ownership of specified foreign financial assets if the total value of those assets is more than the applicable reporting threshold.

For instructions and more information on this form please visit the following web page:
<http://www.irs.gov/businesses/corporations/article/0,,id=236667,00.html>

Unfortunately, we are not tax professionals here in the Consular Section. However, if you have questions you can contact the IRS office in the U.S. Consulate in Frankfurt. They can be reached by e-mail at IRS.Frankfurt@irs.gov, by fax at (49) (69) 7535-3803 or by telephone at (49) (69) 7535-3834 or 3823. Their Web site is <http://germany.usembassy.gov/acs/irs> Taxpayers can also contact the service center in Philadelphia at +1 267 941 1000, Monday – Friday, from 6:00AM – 11PM (EST), or via post at the following address:

Internal Revenue Service
International Section
Philadelphia, PA 19255-0525

U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Consulate General's website -- <http://stpetersburg.usconsulate.gov> -- and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website -- www.travel.state.gov -- where current Worldwide Cautions, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information can be found. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada, or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except for U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Consulate General in St. Petersburg is located at 15 Furshatskaya Street. You may contact our American Citizen Services Unit by e-mail at StPetersburgACS@state.gov, by fax at 7-812-331-2646 or by telephone at 7- 812- 331-2600. If you have an emergency after normal business hours, please call our telephone number and you will be given instruction on how to contact the Consulate Duty Officer.