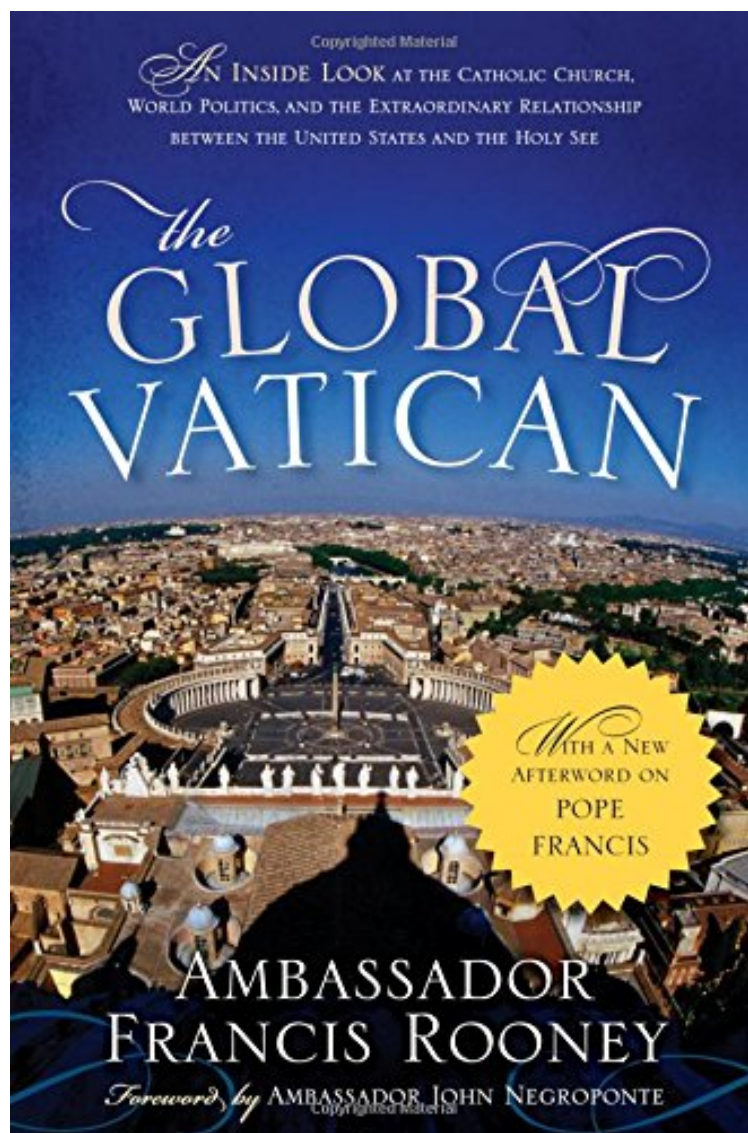


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Francis Rooney

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Francis Rooney : The Global Vatican: An Inside Look at the Catholic Church, World Politics, and the Extraordinary Relationship between the United States and the Holy See, with a New Afterword on Pope Francis

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Global Vatican: An Inside Look at the Catholic Church, World Politics, and the Extraordinary Relationship between the United States and the Holy See, with a New Afterword on Pope Francis*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An excellent, inside look at one of the most intriguing ...By Ed Morrissey
An excellent, inside look at one of the most intriguing and distinct diplomatic environments in the world, from a man who served as America's envoy for three years. Former Ambassador to the Holy See Francis Rooney (now a Congressman) offers readers a concise history of the diplomatic relationship between the Catholic Church and the United States, as well as a number of personal stories used to emphasize the import of the connection between the US and the Vatican. As we transition to a new administration and a new political paradigm in the US, this insight into the opportunities and leverage afforded the US by careful maintenance and cultivation of this diplomatic relationship becomes even more crucial. Francis Rooney's writing style is engaging, informative, and effective. For those interested in diplomacy, the Vatican, or just an overview of the mostly overlooked history of American engagement with the Holy See, *Global Vatican* is well worth the time it takes to read it. Rooney also offered his thoughts on the openings provided by the pontificate of Pope Francis in a 2015 addendum included in this edition.

From the centuries-long prejudices against Catholics in America, to the efforts of Fascism, Communism, and modern terrorist organizations to break the cross and spill the wine, this book brings to life the Catholic Church's role in world history, particularly in the realm of diplomacy. Former U.S. ambassador to the Holy See Francis Rooney provides a comprehensive guide to the remarkable path the Vatican has navigated to the present day, and a first-person account of what that path looks and feels like from an American diplomat whose experience lent him the ultimate insiders perspective. Part memoir, part historical lesson, *The Global Vatican* captures the braided nature of religious and political power and the complexities, battles, and future prospects for the relationship between the Holy See and the United States as both face challenges old and new. Updated now to include a view towards Pope Francis' first trip to the United States, *The Global Vatican* looks forward to the revitalization of the Church in this newest global papacy.

The Internet is chock full of websites spouting conspiracy theories about the Vatican's influence on world affairs. Rooney, former U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, offers a true insiders view into the complex world of the Vatican and the history of its relationship with America. President Ronald Reagan established diplomatic relations with the Vatican in 1984, more than 200 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Rooney's brilliant historical analysis illustrates how long-held biases on both sides prevented any movement toward official ties between these two great powers prior to the late 20th century. The author also provides an exceptional historical account of the life of John Carroll, the first Catholic bishop of the United States. Most fascinating are the personal glimpses that Rooney offers into his interactions with Vatican officials and even the pope himself—always humble and respectful, but also with an eye toward the ever-present politics involved. This is a fascinating study of how political and religious powers relate, clash and, when healthy, work to help change the world for the better. (Publishers Weekly) Rooney, U.S. ambassador to the Holy See from 2005 to 2008, has written a history of U.S.-Vatican diplomacy from the founding of this country to the present day. Given that both the U.S. and the Catholic Church have at their foundations the idea that human beings are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, it may seem odd that full diplomatic relations were first established by President Reagan in 1984. Rooney explains this by recounting the history of both anti-Catholic sentiment in this country and the church's suspicions about a democracy born of the Enlightenment. More than a mere history, his book includes personal observations. Rooney contends that the U.S. has much to gain from a close diplomatic relationship with the Holy See. As a Catholic, he is clearly sympathetic to the church, but he argues convincingly of its importance on the world stage. Replete with espionage and historical anecdotes, Rooney's eminently readable work warrants attention. (Booklist) Rooney's history of Vatican diplomacy is both colorful and factual...*The Global Vatican* is a useful and informative volume, and the extensive bibliography shows the author has read widely and deeply. (Voice of Reason) Francis Rooney deftly blends history with current events, erudite analysis with warm anecdotes in *The Global Vatican*. His fascinating book details the incredible history of U.S.-Vatican diplomacy since America's inception. This book serves as a reminder to the far-reaching influence of two superpowers, the United States and the Vatican. All governments are advised to take into calculation the extraordinary influence of the Vatican at a time when people power compared to state power has achieved new preeminence. (David M. Abshire, former US Ambassador to NATO and Special Counselor to President Reagan) In this book Ambassador Rooney has provided a comprehensive historical context to the Holy See's contemporary foreign policy. As the United States Ambassador at the Holy See, Francis was uniquely placed to publish this book and to capture the essence of the Holy See in international diplomacy. In an increasingly networked world the Holy See with its global spread (which touches 18% of the world's population) warrants serious analysis. Ambassador Rooney has done that in this text and has shown how the Holy See's interests were transformed in the 20th century from a somewhat limited European dimension to fully global perspectives. Diplomatic relations with the Holy See do not simply exist on the international legal,

diplomatic or political spheres. Because of the size of the Catholic population in many countries the relationship is part domestic and this perhaps is nowhere more evident than in the United States which is now home to the worlds third largest Catholic population. For anyone interested in faith and diplomacy, religion and foreign policy or the practice of diplomacy, Ambassador Rooneys work provides an insight into quite a unique diplomatic relationship between the US and the Holy See and also between a hard and soft power, and is well worth the read. (Francis Campbell, Her Majestys ambassador to the Holy See, 2005-2011; Deputy High Commissioner, Pakistan, 2011-2013; Head of the Policy Unit in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office)Ambassador Rooney's study of the United States' diplomatic relationship to the Vatican has given us a thoughtful and well researched analysis of a significant element in Papal Diplomacy. His style makes it easy to read, yet it contains important insights bringing new light to a fascinating part of history. Students of the Church and of American history will find this book both interesting and useful. (Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick)About the AuthorFrancis Rooney was the United States ambassador to the Holy See from 2005 to 2008. He is the CEO of Rooney Holdings.