

## **U.S. delegation to visit Russia next week**

August 2, 2018

A U.S. delegation led by Republican Senator Rand Paul is scheduled to meet members of the Federation Council, the upper house of Russia's parliament on August 6, a Russian lawmaker said Thursday.

"Russian-U.S. relations and the prospects of parliamentary ties will be discussed," said Konstantin Kosachev, chairman of the Federation Council's Foreign Affairs Committee.

According to Kosachev, the U.S. delegation will group member of the Texas State Senate Don Huffines and Peter Goettler, president of the Cato Institute, a public policy research organization.

The delegation is also scheduled to have meetings in the State Duma, the lower house of Russia's parliament, and the Foreign Ministry and visit Russia's second largest city of St. Petersburg.

In July, Paul wrote in Politico magazine that he would travel to Russia "in an attempt to discuss common ground with their leaders and help prevent further, unnecessary escalation of tensions."

He said he planned to discuss trade, cultural exchanges and how to better work for peace and prosperity in the world.

A group of U.S. lawmakers led by Republican Senator Richard Shelby visited Russia in early July to discuss prospects of restoring parliamentary relations.