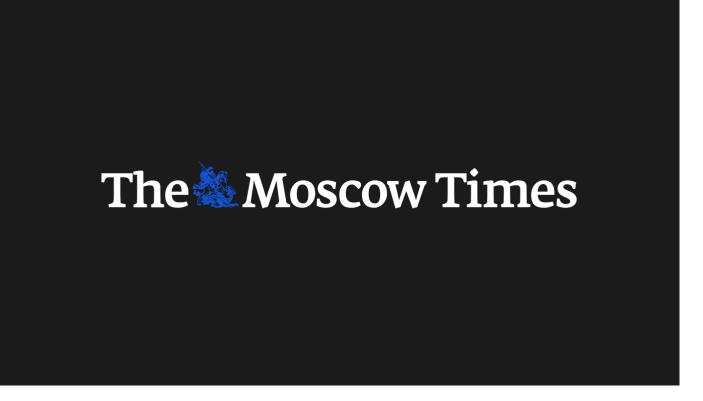


New U.S. Envoy in Ashgabat

May 16, 2011



ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan — The new U.S. ambassador in Turkmenistan, Robert Patterson, has presented his credentials to the president, taking up a post left vacant for five years.

Ties have been strained over Turkmenistan's interference in U.S. student exchange programs and embarrassing revelations made in cables leaked by the WikiLeaks web site.

(AP)

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