

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 7, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare your Fiscal Year 2011 budget, we are writing to express our strong support for a robust International Affairs Budget. The critical programs funded in the International Affairs Budget invest in the tools of development and diplomacy, foster economic and political stability on a global scale, strengthen our allies, and fight the spread of poverty, disease, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. These investments are essential to strengthening our national security, building economic prosperity, and protecting the health and safety of all Americans, while demonstrating our moral values and humanitarian principles.

National Security: National security and foreign policy experts across the political spectrum support an increase in the International Affairs Budget as an essential component of our national security. As Defense Secretary Robert Gates has stated, "It has become clear that America's civilian institutions of diplomacy and development have been chronically undermanned and underfunded for far too long – relative to what we traditionally spend on the military, and more important, relative to the responsibilities and challenges our nation has around the world."

Secretary Gates and other military leaders argue that our national security is dependent not only on a strong military force but also on increased investments in the full range of diplomatic, development and humanitarian tools funded through the International Affairs Budget. These investments improve our ability to track down terrorists and weapons, help reduce poverty and hunger, promote the security of key allies, and assist in the stabilization of fragile states that often provide quarter and safe haven to terrorists and others who seek to do us harm. A strengthened International Affairs Budget will also improve the capacity of the Department of State and associated agencies to partner with the military in pursuit of our national security objectives.

Economic Security: By helping to create new and stable global markets for American goods and services, international affairs programs create jobs at home and opportunities for economic expansion abroad for American companies. Our export promotion agencies and overseas missions advocate for U.S. commercial interests overseas and promote U.S. exports, which account for one out of every seven U.S. jobs. Additionally, programs funded in the international affairs budget foster the development of sound economic policies in poor countries, protect intellectual property rights, build vibrant trade relationships and encourage public-private partnerships.

Human Security and Humanitarian Values: Programs funded within the International Affairs Budget demonstrate America's moral values and our compassion for those in need around the world. They also protect the health and safety of our own citizens by preventing the spread of infectious disease, conserving the natural environment, and reducing the flow of refugees and contraband. Americans, both through our government and through private organizations, have a proud history of bringing hope to millions of people who live under oppressive poverty, face starvation, battle HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases and suffer the consequences of conflict and insecurity. Strong support for these life-saving interventions helps leverage significant private contributions that together promote a healthier, more peaceful and stable world.

Even with small increases in recent years supported by both Democratic and Republican Administrations and Congresses, the International Affairs Budget still needs to be made adequate to respond to the challenges of the 21st century. That is why we urge you – in addition to modernizing and enhancing the effectiveness of our foreign assistance programs – to request a robust FY 2011 International Affairs Budget that will reflect the importance of diplomacy and development – alongside defense – as key pillars of our national security.

Sincerely,

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 9, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare your Fiscal Year 2011 budget, we are writing to express our strong support for a robust International Affairs Budget. The critical programs funded in the International Affairs Budget invest in the tools of development and diplomacy, foster economic and political stability on a global scale, strengthen our allies, and fight the spread of poverty, disease, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. These investments are essential to strengthening our national security, building economic prosperity, and protecting the health and safety of all Americans, while demonstrating our moral values and humanitarian principles.

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Secretary Gates and other military leaders argue that our national security is dependent not only on a strong military force but also on increased investments in the full range of diplomatic, development and humanitarian tools funded through the International Affairs Budget. These investments improve our ability to track down terrorists and weapons, help reduce poverty and hunger, promote the security of key allies, and assist in the stabilization of fragile states that often provide quarter and safe haven to terrorists and others who seek to do us harm. A strengthened International Affairs Budget will also improve the capacity of the Department of State and associated agencies to partner with the military in pursuit of our national security objectives.

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Even with small increases in recent years supported by both Democratic and Republican Administrations and Congresses, the International Affairs Budget totals less than 1.5% of the federal budget – a level that is inadequate to respond to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. That is why we urge you – in addition to modernizing and enhancing the effectiveness of our foreign assistance programs – to request a robust FY 2011 International Affairs Budget that will reflect the importance of diplomacy and development – alongside defense – as key pillars of our national security.

Sincerely,

**Co-signers of the Kerry-Feinstein-Lugar and Berman-Kirk Letters  
to the President for a robust FY11 International Affairs Budget**

**SENATE LETTER**

1. John Kerry (D-MA)
2. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)
3. Richard Lugar (R-IN)
4. Johnny Isakson (R-GA)
5. Richard Durbin (D-IL)
6. Christopher Bond (R-MO)
7. Christopher Dodd (D-CT)
8. Bob Corker (R-TN)
9. Robert Menendez (D-NJ)
10. George Voinovich (R-OH)
  
11. Daniel Akaka (D-HI)
12. Mark Begich (D-AK)
13. Michael Bennet (D-CO)
14. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM)
15. Barbara Boxer (D-CA)
16. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
17. Roland Burris (D-IL)
18. Maria Cantwell (D-WA)
19. Benjamin Cardin (D-MD)
20. Robert Casey (D-PA)
21. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
22. Susan Collins (R-ME)
23. Russ Feingold (D-WI)
24. Al Franken (D-MN)
25. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
26. Tom Harkin (D-IA)
27. Daniel Inouye (D-HI)
28. Mike Johanns (R-NE)
29. Tim Johnson (D-SD)
30. Ted Kaufman (D-DE)
31. Paul Kirk, Jr. (D-MA)
32. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)
33. Herbert Kohl (D-WI)
34. Mary Landrieu (D-LA)
35. Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)
36. Patrick Leahy (D-VT)
37. George LeMieux (R-FL)
38. Carl Levin (D-MI)
39. Joseph Lieberman (D-CT)
40. Claire McCaskill (D-MO)
41. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
42. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)
43. Patty Murray (D-WA)
44. Mark Pryor (D-AR)
45. Jack Reed (D-RI)
46. Jim Risch (R-ID)
47. Pat Roberts (R-KS)
48. John Rockefeller (D-WV)
49. Bernard Sanders (I-VT)
50. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
51. Olympia Snowe (R-ME)
52. Arlen Specter (D-PA)
53. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)
54. Mark Udall (D-CO)
55. Tom Udall (D-NM)
56. Mark Warner (D-VA)
57. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
58. Ron Wyden (D-OR)

**HOUSE LETTER**

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2. Mark Kirk (R-IL)
3. Ike Skelton (D-MO)
4. Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO)
5. Allyson Schwartz (D-PA)
6. Dave Reichert (R-WA)
7. Jim Cooper (D-TN)
8. Aaron Schock (R-IL)
9. Vic Snyder (D-AR)
10. Leonard Lance (R-NJ)
11. Gerry Connolly (D-VA)
12. Jim Gerlach (R-PA)
  
13. Gary Ackerman (D-NY)
14. John Adler (D-NJ)
15. Robert Andrews (D-NJ)
16. Steve Austria (R-OH)
17. Joe Baca (D-CA)
18. Brian Baird (D-WA)
19. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
20. Melissa Bean (D-IL)
21. Shelley Berkley (D-NV)
22. Judy Biggert (R-IL)
23. Sanford Bishop (D-GA)
24. Tim Bishop (D-NY)
25. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)
26. Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU)
27. Dan Boren (D-OK)
28. Leonard Boswell (D-IA)
29. Robert Brady (D-PA)
30. Bruce Braley (D-IA)
31. Corrine Brown (D-FL)
32. G.K. Butterfield (D-NC)
33. Anh Cao (R-LA)
34. Lois Capps (D-CA)
35. Michael Capuano (D-MA)
36. Dennis Cardoza (D-CA)
37. Russ Carnahan (D-MO)
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39. Andre Carson (D-IN)
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44. Yvette Clarke (D-NY)
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47. Stephen Cohen (D-TN)
48. John Conyers (D-MI)
49. Jim Costa (D-CA)
50. Joseph Courtney (D-CT)
51. Joseph Crowley (D-NY)
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53. Danny Davis (D-IL)
54. Susan Davis (D-CA)
55. William Delahunt (D-MA)
56. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
57. Lincoln Diaz-Balart (R-FL)
58. Eliot Engel (D-NY)
59. Keith Ellison (D-MN)
60. Anna Eshoo (D-CA)
61. Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS)
62. Sam Farr (D-CA)
63. Chaka Fattah (D-PA)

64. Bob Filner (D-CA)
65. Bill Foster (D-IL)
66. Barney Frank (D-MA)
67. Marcia Fudge (D-OH)
68. Gabrielle Giffords (D-AZ)
69. Charles Gonzalez (D-TX)
70. Al Green (D-TX)
71. Gene Green (D-TX)
72. John Hall (D-NY)
73. Debbie Halvorson (D-IL)
74. Phil Hare (D-IL)
75. Jane Harman (D-CA)
76. Alcee Hastings (D-FL)
77. Martin Heinrich (D-NM)
78. Brian Higgins (D-NY)
79. Jim Himes (D-CT)
80. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY)
81. Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX)
82. Mazie Hirono (D-HI)
83. Paul Hodes (D-NH)
84. Rush Holt (D-NJ)
85. Michael Honda (D-CA)
86. Steny Hoyer (D-MD)
87. Jay Inslee (D-WA)
88. Steve Israel (D-NY)
89. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)
90. Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D-IL)
91. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
92. Hank Johnson (D-GA)
93. Timothy Johnson (R-IL)
94. Steve Kagen (D-WI)
95. Patrick Kennedy (D-RI)
96. Mary Jo Kilroy (D-OH)
97. Ron Kind (D-WI)
98. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ)
99. Ron Klein (D-FL)
100. James Langevin (D-RI)
101. Rick Larsen (D-WA)
102. John Larson (D-CT)
103. Steven LaTourette (R-OH)
104. Barbara Lee (D-CA)
105. Sander Levin (D-MI)
106. John Lewis (D-GA)
107. Dan Lipinski (D-IL)
108. Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ)
109. Dave Loebsack (D-IA)
110. Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)
111. Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)
112. Stephen Lynch (D-MA)
113. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)
114. Edward Markey (D-MA)
115. Doris Matsui (D-CA)
116. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)
117. Jim McDermott (D-WA)
118. James McGovern (D-MA)
119. Michael McMahon (D-NY)
120. Gerald McNeerney (D-CA)
121. Gregory Meeks (D-NY)
122. Michael Michaud (D-ME)
123. Brad Miller (D-NC)
124. Henry Mitchell (D-AZ)
125. Dennis Moore (D-KS)
126. Gwen Moore (D-WI)
  
127. James Moran (D-VA)
128. Christopher Murphy (D-CT)
129. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
130. Grace Napolitano (D-CA)
131. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
132. Glenn Nye (D-VA)
133. James Oberstar (D-MN)
134. Pete Olson (R-TX)
135. John Olver (D-MA)
136. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)
137. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ)
138. Ed Pastor (D-AZ)
139. Donald Payne (D-NJ)
140. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO)
141. Tom Perriello (D-VA)
142. Gary Peters (D-MI)
143. Chellie Pingree (D-ME)
144. Todd Platts (R-PA)
145. Earl Pomeroy (D-ND)
146. David Price (D-NC)
147. Mike Quigley (D-IL)
148. Charles Rangel (D-NY)
149. Laura Richardson (D-CA)
150. Peter Roskam (R-IL)
151. Steven Rothman (D-NJ)
152. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)
153. C.A. Ruppertsberger (D-MD)
154. Bobby Rush (D-IL)
155. Tim Ryan (D-OH)
156. John T. Salazar (D-CO)
157. Loretta Sanchez (D-CA)
158. John Sarbanes (D-MD)
159. Janice Schakowsky (D-IL)
160. Adam Schiff (D-CA)
161. David Scott (D-GA)
162. Joe Sestak (D-PA)
163. Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH)
164. Brad Sherman (D-CA)
165. Heath Shuler (D-NC)
166. Albio Sires (D-NJ)
167. Adam Smith (D-WA)
168. Lamar Smith (R-TX)
169. Zach Space (D-OH)
170. Betty Sutton (D-OH)
171. John Tanner (D-TN)
172. Patrick Tiberi (R-OH)
173. John Tierney (D-MA)
174. Dina Titus (D-NV)
175. Edolphus Towns (D-NY)
176. Niki Tsongas (D-MA)
177. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)
178. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY)
179. Tim Walz (D-MN)
180. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)
181. Maxine Waters (D-CA)
182. Diane Watson (D-CA)
183. Henry Waxman (D-CA)
184. Peter Welch (D-VT)
185. Robert Wexler (D-FL)
186. Frank Wolf (R-VA)
187. Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)
188. David Wu (D-OR)
189. John Yarmuth (D-KY)