



June 5, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, and Minority Leader Pelosi:

Today, America faces unprecedented threats abroad including terrorism and armed conflict, severe famine in some of the most unstable countries, and a historic number of refugees and displaced people—all of which directly impact the safety and prosperity of Americans here at home. As you know, at just 1% of the federal budget, America's development and diplomacy programs are cost effective and provide a strong return on investment for taxpayers by advancing America's national security and economic interests.

As you know, the Administration recently proposed a rescissions package that includes cuts to certain international affairs programs including the Millennium Challenge Corporation and Complex Crises Fund—each of which play a critical role in protecting our national security and advancing our interests overseas.

There are far too many threats confronting our nation to not fully deploy the resources appropriated by Congress and we must be aware of the national security implications of leaving resources on the table. We urge you to work with your colleagues to reject any proposal that adversely impacts these important programs and to work with the Administration to ensure these funds are used effectively to advance America's interests and keep our nation safe.

Thank you for your leadership on behalf of U.S. development and diplomacy programs which save lives, help create markets for U.S. businesses, and demonstrate the best of our values. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure strong funding for the International Affairs Budget in order to keep pace with the growing global threats facing America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Schraye".

Liz Schraye
President & CEO
USGLC

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lindsay Lee Plack".

Lindsay Lee Plack
Government Relations Director
USGLC

cc: Chairman Richard C. Shelby, Senate Appropriations Committee
Ranking Member Patrick J. Leahy, Senate Appropriations Committee
Chairman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, House Appropriations Committee
Ranking Member Nita M. Lowey, House Appropriations Committee