



After Tumultuous Midterm Cycle, Strong Signals for Internationalist Congress

November 7, 2018

As Washington scrambles to interpret the 2018 midterm election results – a season dominated by hyper-partisanship, spending that blew past \$5 billion, and an unusually energized electorate that produced the first midterm in history to exceed 100 million votes – one thing is certain: there are two narratives about who won, a likely precursor to more gridlock in our soon-to-be divided government.

For the USGLC, this election was never about a blue or red wave, but rather a critical question: Would the midterms bring an isolationist or internationalist wave? We set out 18 months ago to shape the answer and – spoiler alert – we are pleased that the 116th Congress to be sworn in on January 3rd looks like a Congress primed to once again reject isolationism.

As part of our nationwide foreign policy education initiative, *SmartVote 2018*, we aimed to talk with as many candidates as possible. With local business, veteran, faith, and community leaders from across the country, **we met with more than 300 candidates and campaigns for the House and Senate** – an unprecedented volume of engagement – to discuss the importance of global development and diplomacy for America’s economic and security interests.

Based on hundreds of face-to-face conversations, candidates embraced the importance of America’s role in the world, rejected isolationism, and most are heading to Washington with an appreciation for diplomacy and foreign assistance – ready to build upon the bipartisan legacy on global development of the last decade.

Read on for our top election takeaways, profiles of the new faces in Congress, and what to expect next year. Highlights include:

1. Top Election Takeaways
2. The 116th Senate
3. The 116th House
4. What’s Ahead for the International Affairs Budget
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Our Top Takeaways

As Washington prepares for a divided Congress, here are our top election takeaways when it comes to America's global leadership:

1. FOREIGN POLICY NOT A DRIVER, BUT STILL MATTERS

BY THE NUMBERS. Foreign policy rarely drives voter priorities in midterm elections, and this cycle was no different with less than 1 in 5 voters citing “foreign policy” or “terrorism” as one of their most important issues. This contrasts with the 2016 presidential cycle, when exit polls found that foreign policy was either “extremely” or “very” important to 4 out of 5 voters.

CAMPAIGN ADS. While hot button international issues – including increasing competition with China, trade, and tensions with North Korea, Iran, and Russia – certainly made headlines over the past year, these issues rarely took center stage on the campaign trail.

- An analysis by the USGLC of television campaign ads through the end of October 2018 found that only 2% of more than 2.3 million ad runs had an “international affairs” theme.

FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS. Voters rated health care and the economy as their top issues. An exception in the closing weeks of the race on foreign policy was the heightened attention to the migrant caravan from Central America along with calls for nationalism.

- Yet despite the prioritization of the domestic agenda, voter sentiment about America's global engagement remained extremely high. In a recent survey by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, 70% of Americans want the U.S. to play an “active role” in the world, the highest level since 1974, with the exception of immediately after the 9/11 attacks.

2. CANDIDATES EMBRACE U.S. GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

STRONG INSTINCTS. In the more than 300 face-to-face meetings that USGLC leaders held with House and Senate candidates and their senior campaign advisors in some of the most competitive races across the country, candidates showed no signs of isolationism – even in an “America First” era and an election defined by domestic issues.

- Instead, candidates displayed strong instincts that America must be engaged on the global stage. One Senate candidate from a traditional red state opened our meeting stating, “I am not an isolationist!” Another Senate candidate said, “I haven't traveled very much, only to 48 countries.”

BLANK SLATE. While several incoming members of the House have strong foreign policy experience – as veterans or from former government service – most candidates showed up to our meetings with limited foreign policy experience and expertise. However, they consistently arrived highly eager to learn and engage – taking time from the campaign trail to discuss foreign policy.

- In meeting after meeting with local business, veteran, faith and community leaders, the return on investment for global engagement for their state and district resonated with candidates – and they were keen to learn more specifics.
- Indicative of the meetings, one Senate candidate in a tight race said, “I couldn’t agree more with your positions. It is better to spend resources upfront and save lives than spend more money later and lose lives. You will not have to worry about my vote.”

3. FOREIGN AID NOT AN ISSUE, CANDIDATES RECEPTIVE

NON-ISSUE. Following the trend of most election cycles, foreign assistance largely remained out of the spotlight and was rarely mentioned during the vast majority of the 2018 campaign. In reviewing thousands of campaign ads, only one candidate – who lost in the primary – specifically mentioned cutting foreign assistance.

CARAVAN FOCUS. As the migration debate surged in October on the campaign trail, the president called for cutting foreign assistance to Central America. While this was quickly countered by leading Members of Congress – like **Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)** – congressional candidates were surprised to learn that only 0.00035% of our federal budget addresses the Northern Triangle.

CANDIDATES RECEPTIVE. Despite some candidates’ limited knowledge of global development, we encountered a broad openness to how effective U.S. foreign assistance can be an important tool in advancing America’s interests, especially given the global competition from China and their growing investments in the developing world.

- **As one Republican Senate candidate** said in a meeting, “These are issues which align with my core beliefs...both a strong military and engagement on humanitarian needs are critical parts of an American global leadership strategy.”

POLICY PLATFORMS. The USGLC also analyzed the web sites of candidates in the open and most competitive races this cycle and found that just about half of major party candidates featured a formal foreign policy or national security platform as an issue section. None advocated for foreign assistance cuts and close to a dozen House candidates mentioned America’s civilian toolkit including diplomacy and global development programs.

- **Senator-elect Mitt Romney (R-UT)**, who has said he wants to join the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and speak out on the importance of America’s role abroad, stated in his campaign platform: “We must promote our values of freedom and free enterprise through our diplomacy, economic ties, alliances and other soft power tools.” **Representative-elect Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)**, a former Navy helicopter pilot, stated “cuts to the State Department prevent us from dealing with developing international crises.”

4. COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP SHIFTS WITH KEY RETIREMENTS, RETURNING FRIENDS

DEPARTING CHAMPIONS. As the 115th Congress comes to a close, key foreign policy luminaries – including **Chairmen Bob Corker (R-TN)** and **Ed Royce (R-CA)** – are retiring and leaving big shoes to fill. Other champions leaving Congress include **Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ)**, House Appropriations **Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)**, **Reps. Peter Roskam (R-IL)** and **Tim Walz (D-MN)**, and many others.

MUSICAL CHAIRS. With leadership and committee contests now on the horizon, there will be plenty of drama in the House. Long-time champion State-Foreign Operations Appropriations leader **Nita Lowey (D-NY)** is expected to take the gavel of the full Committee, and **Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-NY)** will lead the way on Foreign Affairs.

- Familiar faces are also in the mix vying for the ranking member seats on the House Appropriations and Foreign Affairs Committees, and the biggest upper chamber move – at the moment – is **Senator Jim Risch (R-ID)**, who is expected to take the helm of the Foreign Relations Committee.

For more on retirements, losses, returning friends, and committee shifts, see the House and Senate analyses.

5. NEW FACES INCLUDE FRESHMEN VETERANS SET TO RESHAPE HILL

VETERAN VOICES. With more than 400 veterans having run this cycle – twice as many as past elections – engagement with these candidates underscored how veterans are consistently some of the most powerful champions for resources for America’s civilian overseas toolkit. The election now ushers into the House at least 17 new freshman veterans along with several former national security officials.

NATIONAL SECURITY STANDOUTS. A number of winning House candidates will bring impressive backgrounds that can help drive support for international engagement:

- **Dan Crenshaw (R-TX)** – Former Navy SEAL and has expressed support for civilian diplomatic and development agencies in partnership with Department of Defense
- **Tom Malinowski (D-NJ)** – Former diplomat who served as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor
- **Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)** – Former Navy helicopter pilot, has called for “fully-staffed State Department to carry out the hard, necessary work of strategic diplomacy”
- **Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)** – Former CIA officer, who worked in the intelligence community during Bush and Obama Administrations
- **Abigail Spanberger (D-VA)** – Former CIA officer, has called for supporting diplomats as part of U.S. national security strategy
- **Mike Waltz (R-FL)** – Former Army Green Beret veteran, who authored the book *Warrior Diplomat*

CHAMBER JUMP. Also of note, soon-to-be former House members headed to the Senate have shown real leadership, including Senators-elect **Kevin Cramer (R-ND)** and **Jacky Rosen (D-NV)** – along with both Arizona candidates, **Reps. Martha McSally (R-AZ)** and **Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ)** currently in a race that is too close to call. See Senate section below for more details.

6. OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIPARTISANSHIP DESPITE EXPECTED GRIDLOCK

NEXT MOVES. With a divided government, tension is expected to run high as House Democrats increase their oversight authority over the executive branch – with most pundits predicting that not a lot will get done on Capitol Hill. Yet, in addition to infrastructure, perhaps global development could once again be a unifying agenda for Republicans and Democrats.

BIPARTISANSHIP? In recent years, lawmakers built a strong legacy, having passed close to a dozen pieces of bipartisan legislation to strengthen America’s global development investments around the world – from food security to energy to development finance to women and girls. This could be a bright spot to watch.

BUDGET DEAL? Another area where policymakers could look to find the art of the deal is the ticking clock on next year’s spending levels. In the last Congress, Democrats and Republicans worked together to pass a two-year budget deal that lifted the 2011 spending caps, which will expire at the end of Fiscal Year 2019. Without a new deal to replace it, defense and non-defense programs will see deep cuts from sequestration.

7. LONG-TERM IMPACT OF NATIONALISM DEBATE IN CLOSING DAYS: UNCLEAR

RHETORICAL WINDS. Themes from the “America First” 2016 campaign trail returned in the final weeks of the midterm, with the president focusing his closing arguments on nationalism, citing fears of the caravan and immigration issues. Pundits are still sorting through the data to decipher the impact of how these themes motivated voters in deep red states while turning off voters in swing suburban districts.

- The fresh campaign rhetoric will continue to generate debate and impact our fabric as a nation – but how much this division will ultimately translate into policy or legislation remains to be seen.

8. COUNTDOWN TO 2020: 730 DAYS

WHEELS UP. Campaign 2020 began in earnest this morning, as President Trump prepares to head overseas to mark the centennial anniversary of the end of World War I – followed by the G20 at the end of the month. This pace of international travel and continued engagements with leaders from Russia and North Korea, means foreign policy and national security will be thrust into the spotlight. As Democrats prepare their legislative agenda for the next Congress, nearly two dozen Democratic candidates are already testing the waters for their party’s presidential nomination.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF. Inevitably, no presidential election can avoid a robust discussion on national security. While the diplomacy and development agenda in Congress has remained fiercely bipartisan, the highly polarized nature of the current political environment will put that tradition to the test. Against the backdrop of immense challenges and opportunities on the global stage, the 2020 campaign will showcase how it is more important than ever for America's interests and values that we remain actively engaged and a leader in the world.

The 116th Senate: Republicans Increase their Majority

Even with a few races yet to be called, Republicans increased their numbers in the Senate – with at least a 51-46 majority heading into the 116th Congress. It was widely considered an unfavorable map for Democrats as they defended 26 of the 35 seats up for election, many of them in states won by President Trump in 2016. At least three Democratic incumbents have lost their seats, including **Senators Joe Donnelly (D-IN), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), and Claire McCaskill (D-MO)**, while **Senator Dean Heller (R-NV)** was the only sitting Republican to lose his re-election bid. In Mississippi, Republican **Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith** faces Democrat Mike Espy in a November 27 runoff, and races are still too close to call in Arizona and Florida, where the race between **Governor Rick Scott (R-FL)** and **Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL)** could be headed for an automatic recount.

The good news is that the make-up of the 116th Senate will once again showcase strong supporters of America’s global leadership and strategic investments in development and diplomacy.

Here are our top takeaways:

- **RETURNING FRIENDS.** We are pleased to welcome back several long-time members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee: **Senators John Barrasso (R-WY), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), and Chris Murphy (D-CT)**. Other important allies who were re-elected to their Senate seats include **Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Bob Casey (D-PA), Deb Fischer (R-NE), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), and Roger Wicker (R-MS)**.
- **HOUSE CALL.** The new class of freshman Senators will include a number of strong internationalist voices moving over from the House of Representatives, including Senators-elect **Kevin Cramer (R-ND)** and **Jacky Rosen (D-NV)**, who both have strong voting records in support of America’s development and diplomacy programs. While the Arizona Senate race is still too close to call, both **Martha McSally (R-AZ)** and **Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ)** have been strong and consistent supporters of the International Affairs Budget.
- **NEW FACES TO WATCH.** In addition to the former House members, the freshman Senator from Utah, former Massachusetts Governor and GOP presidential nominee **Mitt Romney (R-UT)** has already indicated his desire to join the Senate Foreign Relations or Armed Services Committee. During the campaign, Senator-elect Romney called for advancing America’s interests and values around the world through strong diplomacy, alliances, and “soft power tools.” Should his lead hold throughout an upcoming recount in Florida’s Senate race, two-term Florida Governor **Rick Scott (R-FL)**, a U.S. Navy veteran, has been vocal about strengthening democracy and freedom in Latin America and has been active with World Vision in Kenya.

Changes in Leadership and Committees

With Senators returning to Washington next week, Senate Republicans and Democrats are expected to make decisions on key leadership and committee posts for the 116th Senate in the coming days.

- **SOME GOP CHANGES.** **Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)** – who is exempt from term limits – will continue to serve as Republican Leader. **Senator John Thune (R-SD)** is expected to replace **Senator John Cornyn (R-TX)** as the Majority Whip, although Cornyn could remain in leadership in a ceremonial position. **Senators John Barrasso (R-WY)** and **Roy Blunt (R-MO)** are expected to each move up in the leadership ranks. For the first time since 2010, a woman may enter the ranks of GOP leadership with **Senators Joni Ernst (R-IA)** and **Deb Fischer (R-NE)** both running to be Vice Chair of the Senate Republican Conference.
- **NO DEMOCRATIC CHANGES.** **Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY)** is expected to remain the Democratic Leader with **Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)** serving as the Democratic Whip.
- **APPROPRIATIONS.** **Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL)** replaced **Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS)** as full committee chair following Senator Cochran's resignation from the Senate in April, and is expected to continue in this position. **Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT)** is expected to remain the top Democrat on the committee. **Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC)** and Senator Leahy are expected to remain the Chair and Ranking Member of the State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee.
- **FOREIGN RELATIONS.** Upon the retirement of current chair **Senator Bob Corker (R-TN)**, chairmanship of the committee is expected to pass to **Senator Jim Risch (R-ID)**. **Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ)** will likely continue to serve as Ranking Member.
- **BUDGET.** **Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY)** is expected to continue serving as Chairman, and **Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT)** is expected to continue to serve as Ranking Member.
- **ARMED SERVICES.** **Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK)** became chairman of the Armed Services Committee following the passing of **Senator John McCain (R-AZ)**, and is expected to continue to serve as the Chairman. **Senator Jack Reed (D-RI)** is expected to remain as Ranking Member.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

USGLC would like to thank the long-time supporters of America's global leadership who will not be returning to Congress next year, including **Senators Jeff Flake (R-AZ)**, **Thad Cochran (R-MS)**, and **Orrin Hatch (R-UT)**.

A special shout-out to **Senator Bob Corker (R-TN)** and his team, whose outspoken leadership in support of America's development and diplomacy programs as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has been unmatched. He has championed these programs, worked to make them more effective and accountable, and played a critical role in a long list of legislative accomplishments that have truly made our world a better place.

Freshman Facebook

For a detailed profile of each of the new Senator-elects, see page 16.

- **Indiana:** Mike Braun (R)
Defeated Senator Joe Donnelly (D)
- **Missouri:** Josh Hawley (R)
Defeated Senator Claire McCaskill (D)
- **North Dakota:** Kevin Cramer (R)
Defeated Senator Heidi Heitkamp (D)
- **Nevada:** Jacky Rosen (D)
Defeated Senator Dean Heller (R)
- **Tennessee:** Marsha Blackburn (R)
Replacing retiring Senator Bob Corker (R)
- **Utah:** Mitt Romney (R)
Replacing retiring Senator Orrin Hatch (R)

Potential Freshmen – Too Close to Call

For a detailed profile of candidates in races that are too close to call, see page 25.

- **Arizona:** Martha McSally (R) or Kyrsten Sinema (D)
Replacing retiring Senator Jeff Flake (R)
- **Florida:** Rick Scott (R)
Defeated Senator Bill Nelson (D)

The 116th House: Democrats Gain Majority

While we await the final results of close to a dozen House races, the Democrats have clinched a majority in the House – gaining at least 28 seats and a majority of at least 223-200. Of note, more than 72 incumbents did not seek re-election this year – 69% of them Republicans – instead choosing to retire, seek other positions, or resign from Congress.

With friends and allies re-elected to their seats and an incoming freshman class that understands the value of American engagement, the 116th Congress will be strongly supportive of a robust American leadership role in the world.

Here are our key takeaways:

- **RETURNING CHAMPIONS.** We are happy to welcome back literally hundreds of friends who were re-elected, including top leaders of the key foreign policy spending and authorizing committees – **Reps. Nita Lowey (D-NY)** and **Hal Rogers (R-KY)** of the State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and **Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY)** of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Details below.
- **VETERAN VOICE GROWS.** The incoming freshman class includes at least 17 military veterans, whose experience has equipped them with an inherent understanding and appreciation for the importance of America’s civilian national security tools. Among them are Army Ranger **Jason Crow (D-CO)**, former Navy Commander **Elaine Luria (D-VA)**, Army officer and Bronze Star recipient **Max Rose (D-NY)**, and former Navy helicopter pilot **Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)**. These new faces will join an already strong contingent of veteran voices in the House including Reps. **Mike Gallagher (R-WI)**, **Adam Kinzinger (R-IL)**, **Seth Moulton (D-MA)**, and **Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)** who have championed America’s civilian tools of development and diplomacy.
- **PUBLIC SERVICE A PLUS.** Many of the new freshmen have impressive backgrounds in public service – including in high-level foreign policy and national security positions – that will likely shape their views on American engagement. These include **Donna Shalala (D-FL)**, a former Health and Human Services Secretary who played a leadership role in advancing PEPFAR; **Tom Malinowski (D-NJ)**, a former diplomat and State Department appointee; **Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)**, who held various national security roles; and **Abigail Spanberger (D-VA)**, a former CIA operations officer.

See below for the new House Members who will be joining the 116th Congress.

Changes in Leadership and Committees

With a change in majority control and the retirement of influential Members, House Democrats and Republicans will see a reshuffling in leadership and committee ranks in the 116th Congress, the highlights of which are included below. America's development and diplomacy programs will benefit as bipartisan champions are expected to top key committees and serve in influential positions.

- **DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP RACES.** Current **Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)** is favored to reclaim her previous role of Speaker – although she recently said this could be a “transitional” position. Current **Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD)** and **Assistant Democratic Leader James Clyburn (D-SC)** are expected to move up the leadership ranks, to Majority Leader and Majority Whip, respectively. However, **Chief Deputy Whip Diana DeGette (D-CO)** has also thrown her hat into the race for the Majority Whip post. **Reps. Cheri Bustos (D-IL), David Cicilline (D-RI), and Ben Ray Luján (D-NM)** have announced their bids to be Assistant Leader, the No. 4 position. Additionally, a number of names have been thrown into the ring to replace **Rep. Joe Crowley (D-NY)** as Caucus Chair, including **Reps. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Linda Sánchez (D-CA), and Barbara Lee (D-CA)**. With some Democrats calling for new faces in leadership positions, elections for these top spots could bring unexpected results.
- **REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP RACES.** With the retirement of current **Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI)**, Republican leadership is expected to see some changes. Current **House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)** will likely take the top Republican leadership spot as Minority Leader, although House Freedom Caucus leader **Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH)** is mounting a challenge. **Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA)** will likely continue in his current role as Republican Whip. Rising Republican star **Rep. Liz Cheney (R-WY)** has announced a run against current **Conference Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)**.
- **APPROPRIATIONS.** Current **Ranking Member Nita Lowey (D-NY)** is expected to take the reins of the full committee and remain the top Democrat on the State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee. With the retirement of current **Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)**, a number of members are vying for the coveted top Ranking spot including **Reps. Kay Granger (R-TX), Tom Graves (R-GA), and Robert Aderholt (R-AL)**. Current **State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee Chairman Hal Rogers (R-KY)** could remain in his post, albeit as Ranking Member, but the race for full Committee Ranking Member will undoubtedly impact Subcommittee positions.
- **FOREIGN AFFAIRS.** Current **Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-NY)** is expected to become the new Chairman and with the retirement of current **Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA)**, **Reps. Michael McCaul (R-TX), Joe Wilson (R-SC), and Ted Yoho (R-FL)** are competing for the Ranking Member slot.
- **BUDGET.** Current **Ranking Member John Yarmuth (D-KY)** is likely to take over as Chairman, while current **Chairman Steve Womack (R-AR)** is expected to become the Ranking Member.

- **ARMED SERVICES.** Current **Ranking Member Adam Smith (D-WA)** is expected to assume the Chairmanship, with current **Chairman Mac Thornberry (R-TX)** likely to retain the top Republican spot.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MANY CHAMPIONS

USGLC wants to thank long-time supporters of America’s global leadership who will not be returning to Congress next year:

- First and foremost, a special thank you to **Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA)** – a steadfast champion for strong and effective foreign assistance – who will retire at the end of the year. Throughout his career, including his distinguished tenure as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Royce has been unwavering in his support for our nation’s development and diplomacy programs. Under his leadership, Congress enacted game changing legislation – including numerous bills to reform and strengthen foreign assistance and enhance America’s response to today’s most complex global challenges – that will have far-reaching impacts for years to come. He will be deeply missed.
- We are also greatly appreciative of **Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI)** and **Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)** for their support for America’s role in the world and the International Affairs Budget over the years.
- Our sincere thanks to the many House Members who have stood up for America’s civilian tools and will not be returning in January. A special thank you to the members who served on the House Appropriations and Foreign Affairs Committees, including: **Reps. Tom Rooney (R-FL), Scott Taylor (R-VA), David Young (R-IA), Dan Donovan (R-NY), Ted Poe (R-TX),** and **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL).**
- We also want to recognize those allies who are going on to serve as Governor, including **Reps. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM), Jared Polis (D-CO), Kristi Noem (R-SD),** and **Tim Walz (D-MN).** Additionally, we appreciate the support of **Reps. Ryan Costello (R-PA), Carlos Curbelo (R-FL), Luis Gutiérrez (D-IL), Lynn Jenkins (R-KS), Beto O’Rourke (D-TX), Steve Russell (R-OK), Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH), Dave Reichert (R-WA), Peter Roskam (R-IL), Dave Trott (R-MI), Kevin Yoder (R-KS),** and many others throughout the years. We look forward to continuing to work with these leaders around the country.

What's Next for the International Affairs Budget?

Lame Duck Session

Building on the impressive productivity on spending bills over the past several months, Congress will return to Washington next week for a lame duck session charged with making several important decisions – including on pending nominations to key administration posts at the State Department, USAID, and other agencies, and finalizing FY19 spending. These decisions may not come quickly as House Democrats, newly emboldened from the elections, could work to negotiate concessions from the Administration and their colleagues across the aisle or defer action until January. A sharply divided and partisan lame duck session could result.

Finalizing FY19

Before the elections, lawmakers made significant progress by completing five of their twelve FY19 appropriations bills. A top priority during the lame duck will be finalizing the remaining seven appropriations bills before December 7th when the current Continuing Resolution (CR) expires.

The State-Foreign Operations (SFOPS) spending bill is one of three remaining bills – along with Homeland Security and Commerce-Justice-Science – that is not yet close to being finalized. However, with both the House and Senate setting out similarly strong funding levels in their respective SFOPS bills, the International Affairs Budget enters final spending negotiations with momentum. As a reminder, the SFOPS bill funds the lion's share of the International Affairs Budget.

State-Foreign Operations (SFOPS) Snapshot

	FY18 Enacted	FY19 Request*	FY19 House	FY19 Senate
Base	\$42.0 billion	\$42.2 billion	\$46.0 billion	\$46.4 billion
OCO	\$12.0 billion	\$0	\$8.0 billion	\$8.0 billion
Total	\$54.0 billion	\$42.2 billion	\$54.0 billion	\$54.4 billion

* Based on the CBO's re-estimate of the Administration's request.

As the lame duck starts in earnest next week, there are a few scenarios that could play out for finalizing FY19 spending bills, including the SFOPS bill:

- **MINIBUSES.** With President Trump's stated opposition to signing another large omnibus spending bill, Congress could pass the remaining appropriations bills in smaller packages before the end of the year. To do so, lawmakers may need to approve an extension of the Continuing Resolution (CR) past the current December 7th deadline to negotiate minibus packages.
- **CR-MINIBUS.** If lawmakers are able to pass some but not all of the spending bills in minibus packages, they could fund the remaining bill(s) through a CR at FY18 levels for the remainder of the fiscal year.

If these efforts fail, Congress may need to pass a short-term Continuing Resolution (CR) – extending current funding levels for the remaining bills for several months and kicking final decisions on FY19 spending into the 116th Congress. A partial government shutdown could also result if lawmakers are unable to agree on one or more FY19 spending bills, particularly around the Homeland Security bill and border wall funding.

Given the many challenges that America faces around the world, the USGLC urges Congress to fund the final FY19 SFOPS bill at the Senate level, at a minimum, and to not disproportionately cut these programs to pay for other priorities, including a border wall.

Other Legislation

In addition to the spending decisions outlined above, below are several bipartisan bills to watch that Congress may move during the lame duck session that strengthen America's foreign assistance programs.

- **ASIA REASSURANCE INITIATIVE ACT.** Authorizes over \$1.5 billion in appropriations for the Department of Defense, State Department, and USAID to implement a comprehensive U.S. strategy in the Indo-Pacific.
- **PEPFAR EXTENSION ACT.** Reauthorizes the successful PEPFAR program for five years, which combats HIV/AIDs around the world and is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year.
- **PROTECTING GIRLS' ACCESS TO EDUCATION IN VULNERABLE SETTINGS ACT.** Aims to improve coordination of and access to education assistance for displaced people, particularly women and girls.
- **WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ACT.** Seeks to address barriers to women's economic participation in developing countries.

State Department and USAID Nominees

Congress could take action on pending nominations for the State Department, USAID and other development agencies during the lame duck. There are currently 62 such nominees pending in the Senate and more than two dozen ambassador posts remain open without nominees, leaving critical leadership gaps in places like Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and South Africa. Ensuring personnel in key positions and embassies is critical to advancing America's interests around the world.

116th Congress and the International Affairs Budget

The swearing-in of the 116th Congress on January 3 will usher in a new era and several important measures to grapple with, including FY2020 spending. The Administration is expected to release its FY2020 budget request in February. Should the request again include deep and disproportionate cuts to the International Affairs Budget, it will be incumbent on lawmakers to once again serve as a bipartisan firewall to protect America's development and diplomacy programs once more.

The lack of a budget deal to lift the draconian discretionary spending caps in FY2020 is expected to permeate spending negotiations for the next fiscal year. While Congress is expected to debate the terms around such a budget deal for much of 2019, a deal will need to be in place by October 1, 2019 in order to avoid the devastating impact of sequestration for all discretionary programs.

Key Dates

- **November 13:** Lame Duck Session Begins
- **November 14:** House & Senate Republican Leadership Elections
- **Week of November 12:** Senate Democratic Leadership Elections
- **Weeks of November 12 & 26:** New Member Orientation
- **November 19-23:** Congressional Recess
- **November 28:** House Democratic Leadership Elections
- **December 7:** FY19 Continuing Resolution Expires
- **January 3, 2019:** 116th Congress Swearing-In

| New Faces in Washington

Indiana

Mike Braun (R)



A business leader and two-term Indiana State Representative, Senator-elect Mike Braun has articulated a foreign policy rooted in a strong military as best to keep America safe and lead on the world stage. He has said “From North Korea to Russia, despots and dictators are increasing instability and danger throughout the world. To combat the rising tide of uncertainty, a strong American military is needed more than ever before.” He “supports making sure our troops have the tools and equipment they need to protect America’s interests abroad and defeat ISIS terrorists where they live.”

Throughout his senatorial campaign, Senator-elect Braun focused largely on domestic issues such as immigration, border security, the economy, and health care. He has not explicitly addressed the role of strategic investments in international development and diplomacy to advance America’s national security and economic interests. He has expressed support for the President’s foreign policy approach saying, “President Trump’s foreign policy of maximum pressure toward our enemies is getting results where career politicians have failed for decades.” In a recent debate, Senator-elect Braun said America’s success as a global leader is based upon “strength” and “if you draw a red line, you stick with it.”

As a businessman, Senator-elect Braun is keenly aware of the intricacies of the global market and benefits to opening foreign markets. On trade issues, he has said, “I take tariffs and their effects very seriously and would only employ such negotiation tools when absolutely necessary.”

Senator-elect Braun is the founder and CEO of Meyer Distributing, a truck parts and equipment distributor with global reach that has employed thousands of Americans across the United States. He began his business career after graduating from Harvard Business School in 1978, co-founding Crystal Farms, Inc., which subsequently became a large turkey producing farm in the Midwest. Prior to being elected to the U.S. Senate, he served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 2014 to 2017. The USGLC engaged with the Braun campaign to discuss the Senator-elect’s business background and global economic engagement.

Missouri

Josh Hawley (R)



Senator-elect Hawley comes to the U.S. Senate after having served as Attorney General of Missouri since 2017. During his campaign, Senator-elect Hawley described his view of America's role in the world saying: "For too long we've had a policy of weakness and appeasement abroad. I don't think we should go back to that...if you lead from behind you get left behind."

While Hawley supports American leadership and global engagement, he is critical of politicians he sees as putting global progress ahead of American interests. In addressing immigration policy, he criticized establishment politicians saying, "They've become globalists first and Americans second." Senator-elect Hawley was endorsed by now-National Security Advisor John Bolton, who said of Hawley "I know he will vote and advocate for a stronger national security and an America-first foreign policy," to which Hawley responded saying, "American greatness begins with security and stability."

Describing himself as a Constitutional and social conservative, Hawley spent much of his campaign focused on domestic issues, and has not publicly addressed many foreign policy and national security related issues, including his position on the use of America's foreign assistance tools to advance our interests and values. While serving as Attorney General, however, Senator-elect Hawley focused resources on combating human trafficking. He established the Human Trafficking Task Force in Missouri, which created new tools for not only prosecuting human traffickers, but also identifying victims. He has said "Chances are you've been witness to a crime, it's the epidemic of human trafficking...I'm determined to abolish this modern day slavery." Recognizing that it is not only a domestic issue, Hawley said "The epidemic is also a global issue that trickles into Missouri territory through businesses."

Prior to his election as Attorney General, Hawley taught constitutional law at the University of Missouri Law School and served as senior counsel to the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty. He litigated and won two cases at the Supreme Court of the United States. He was the co-counsel on *Burwell v. Hobby Lobby*. Before beginning law school, Senator-elect Hawley spent a year overseas teaching at a secondary school.

Nevada

Jacky Rosen (D)



Senator-elect Rosen has been a steadfast supporter of American global leadership, saying a “smart and tough foreign policy is key to our national security.” Currently a member of the House Armed Services Committee, she has touted the importance of elevating all the tools of American power: a strong national defense alongside civilian-led development and diplomacy. Speaking on the importance of ensuring a robust State Department, Senator-elect Rosen has said, “If we’re going to be effective, then we must have capable policy experts and a diplomatic corps who can...execute our foreign policies.” She has also criticized efforts to cut or eliminate diplomatic posts calling them critical to protecting Americans.

During her term representing Nevada’s 3rd congressional district, Senator-elect Rosen amassed a strong record of support for the International Affairs Budget. During consideration of an FY18 omnibus spending bill, she voted against two amendments that would have cut America’s strategic investments in development and diplomacy. She also signed onto a letter with the House Armenian Caucus urging the rejection of harmful cuts to U.S. foreign assistance earlier this year. The letter stated, “At a time of tremendous global uncertainty, the U.S. should continue to foster the progress of its allies, not retreat from its responsibilities as the world’s leading democracy.” Responding to the Administration’s proposal to cut the FY19 International Affairs Budget by 30%, Senator-elect Rosen said, “I’m really concerned about this new budget and its significant cuts to the State Department. Combating the threat of North Korea, it’s going to require a lot of strong cooperation ... just like we are heading off China’s attempts to become the world’s leading military and economic power. It’s going to necessitate us strengthening our alliances.” The USGLC has engaged with her and her staff in D.C. and in Nevada.

Before being elected to Congress, Senator-elect Rosen worked as a computer programmer, software developer, and designer for some of the biggest companies in Nevada including Summa Corporation, Citibank, and Southwest Gas Company.

North Dakota

Kevin Cramer (R)



A three-term Congressman, Senator-elect Cramer has been supportive of American global leadership saying, “I believe America leads best when it leads from a position of strength. Our enemies must know our resolve is ironclad and we will not back down in the face of aggression or terror.”

During his congressional tenure, Senator-elect Cramer has demonstrated a strong record of support for the International Affairs Budget. During consideration of an FY18 spending package, he voted against two amendments that would have cut spending for international development and diplomacy. He has also supported legislation to strengthen these programs, voting for the 2016 Global Food Security Act, the 2015 reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank, the 2014 Electrify Africa Act, and the FY14 State Department Authorization.

Senator-elect Cramer co-chairs the Northern Border Caucus, which fosters continued growth in the relationship between the United States and Canada. While in Congress, he has traveled to Kazakhstan and Ukraine. In 2013, he participated in a joint ceremony between the Taiwanese Agricultural Trade Goodwill Mission and U.S. grain exporters, where he said, “Food has long been a tool of peace, and this day and this mission serve as testimony to the world that agricultural trade between partners and friends is better than missiles.”

Senator-elect Cramer has worked with Unseen Ministries, a North Dakota-based nonprofit fighting human trafficking and its root causes around the world, and has advocated for an end to the practice. The USGLC has engaged with Senator-elect Cramer and his staff on several occasions. He has expressed his opposition to proposed cuts to America’s development and diplomacy programs.

Before being elected to Congress, Senator-elect Cramer served as the Economic Development Director for North Dakota, a member of the North Dakota Public Service Commission and as Chairman, and as the Executive Director of the North Dakota Republican Party.

Tennessee

Marsha Blackburn (R)



An eight-term Congresswoman, Senator-elect Blackburn has focused her vision for America's global leadership on the need for a robust military and strong national defense. She has said she believes that "our intelligence community and our Armed Forces must have the tools they need to keep us safe."

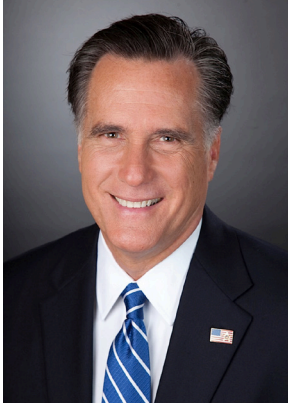
She has been a vocal supporter of elevating the rights of women around the world. Noting that she has worked with female candidates in Iraq, Afghanistan, and across the Middle East to elevate the role of women in society and governance, Senator-elect Blackburn has said "countries that politically enfranchise women are more likely to be moderate, democratic, and American allies." Senator-elect Blackburn has been active in Congress on the issue of human trafficking calling it a "horrific crime" and pledging to continue to work to stop human trafficking at home and abroad saying it is "a crime that is taking place right around us that also has an international component."

When it comes to America's international development and diplomacy programs, Senator-elect Blackburn has a mixed voting record. She voted against final passage of the Global Food Security Act, but voted for an earlier version of the bill. She voted for the 2014 Electrify Africa Act and the FY14 State Department Authorization, but in 2011 voted in favor of several amendments to cut food aid and multilateral assistance. Senator-elect Blackburn also voted against the 2012 and 2015 reauthorizations of the Export-Import Bank. Senator-elect Blackburn has traveled extensively overseas, visiting more than 30 countries including Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Greece, Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq, Vietnam, Jordan, Kuwait, Pakistan, Colombia, Honduras, and Israel. She serves on the Congressional Taiwan and China Caucuses, the International Conservation Caucus, and the Congressional Caucus on Turkey and Turkish Americans. The USGLC has met with Senator-elect Blackburn and her staff on a number of occasions, with a focus on global women's empowerment and human trafficking issues.

Prior to being elected to Congress, Senator-elect Blackburn chaired the Williamson County Republican Party from 1989 to 1991 and served as a Tennessee State Senator from 1999 to 2002.

Utah

Mitt Romney (R)



A two-time presidential candidate, former Governor of Massachusetts, and business leader, Senator-elect Romney has been a vocal champion for America's leadership role on the world stage. Speaking on the indispensable role and value of America's global engagement, Romney has said "Without American leadership, without clarity of American purpose and resolve, the world becomes a far more dangerous place, and liberty and prosperity would surely be among the first casualties."

Senator-elect Romney has long espoused the need for utilizing all the tools of national power and influence, development and diplomacy alongside defense, to advance our interests and values around the world, saying "We must promote our values of freedom and free enterprise through our diplomacy, economic ties, alliances and other soft power tools." In his book, *No Apology*, Senator-elect Romney wrote of the importance of civilian tools as a preventative measure against ultimately using military force highlighting "the full spectrum of hard and soft power to influence events before they erupt into conflict. Resort to force is always the least desirable and costliest option. We must therefore employ all the tools of statecraft to shape the outcome of threatening situations before they demand military action."

Reinforcing a commitment to America's fight against global HIV/AIDS as a reflection of American generosity, Senator-elect Romney said at the opening of the 19th Annual International AIDS Day Conference, "America is a compassionate nation. It has been – and must continue to be – a beacon of hope for innovative research and support as we seek to overcome the global challenge of AIDS." Speaking at the Clinton Global Initiative in 2012, he lauded public-private partnerships to address pressing development and humanitarian challenges, saying "If foreign aid can leverage this massive investment by private enterprise, it may exponentially expand the ability to not only care for those who suffer, but also to change lives." He called for the strategic use of foreign aid that not only addresses humanitarian crises, such as the PEPFAR initiative, but also "aid that elevates people and brings about lasting change in communities and in nations." The USGLC met with his senior campaign leadership who were well versed on the importance of global development and diplomacy.

Senator-elect Romney ran for president in 2008 and was the 2012 Republican nominee for President of the United States. Previously, he served as Governor of Massachusetts and managed the 2002 Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the Winter Olympics. Along with his wife Ann, he has worked with the humanitarian organization Charity Vision, participating in humanitarian trips to Peru, Indonesia and India.

Runoff – Mississippi

The race to fill former Sen. Thad Cochran's (R-MS) U.S. Senate seat for the remainder of his term now enters a late-November runoff. In last night's election, appointed incumbent Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) earned just over 41% of the vote, short of the 50% required to avoid a runoff. Senator Hyde-Smith will face former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy (D-MS), who earned 40% of the vote, on November 27th.

Cindy Hyde-Smith (R)



Appointed in April following the retirement of longtime Mississippi Senator Thad Cochran, Senator Hyde-Smith has said her vision for America's role in the world is rooted in the constitutional obligation to "provide for the common defense," largely through the lens of a robust military. From her seat on the influential Appropriations Committee and its State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee, which funds the lion's share of the International Affairs Budget, she has had opportunity to weigh in on the importance of America's civilian tools.

Formerly Mississippi's Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, Senator Hyde-Smith has been vocal about the importance of eradicating hunger worldwide. She recently participated in an event co-hosted by the University of California, Davis and Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Horticulture to highlight the "critical impacts of U.S. universities and global partners in advancing agricultural innovations to end hunger." She was also a leader in helping Mississippi State University secure a grant through USAID to "continue efforts to reduce poverty and improve health outcomes for global populations..." In an April State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee hearing, Senator Hyde-Smith lauded the partnership between Mississippi State University and USAID, with Mississippi State President Mark Keenum leading USAID's Board for International Food and Agriculture Development. She shared she was confident the work of the Board in addressing global food insecurity and agricultural development would "serve our nation." The USGLC has engaged with Senator Hyde-Smith directly, who reiterated her interest in global food security issues.

Recognizing the value in global economic engagement, Senator Hyde-Smith is also focused on opening up foreign markets, saying one of her top priorities is "helping to open foreign markets for Mississippi agricultural products."

She recognizes the value of maintaining strong ties with our allies in order to advance American values and diplomacy, and has said that strengthening America's alliance with Israel is "in U.S. security interests and the absolute right thing to do for our closest friend in a very dangerous part of the world."

Prior to being appointed to the Senate, Senator Hyde-Smith was a member of the Mississippi Senate, where she was Vice Chair of the National Agriculture Committee of State Legislators. In 2016 she participated in a trade mission to Hong Kong and China with the goal of opening up foreign markets to trade with Mississippi. At the time, she said "It was part of my job to go and do everything I can do to expand the market."

Mike Espy (D)



A former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary Espy has worked for decades to promote America's economic and security interests, and humanitarian values, on the world stage. Though focused during the campaign on national security issues pertaining to the military, Secretary Espy has a track record of promoting strategic investments in America's civilian-led foreign assistance tools, especially pertaining to combating food insecurity around the world. Speaking in 2013 at Kansas State University alongside former Secretaries of Agriculture Block, Glickman, Veneman, Johanns, and Schafer, he said "What [John and I] are trying to do is not just do humanitarian missions to feed African nations, but what we try to do is build a competence and capacity of small scale African farmers. Why are we doing that? We know that in America we are so proficient technologically, that our production will continue to outstretch our demand, so we have to find new markets and emerging markets to sell our farm products to." He went on to note that as African farmers increase their competence level and incomes, their purchasing ability grows and allows them to look to America for goods and services.

Serving in the U.S. House of Representative from 1987-1993, he strongly supported America's development and diplomacy programs. He focused on programs related to the African continent, including those addressing famine and empowering women, including through bolstering USAID's support for microenterprise as well as through strengthening maternal and child health. In 1987, then-Rep. Espy co-sponsored the Urgent Supplemental Appropriations for Southern Africa Act, to provide additional assistance to that region of Africa. That same year, he co-sponsored the Africa Famine Recovery and Development Act, to help low-income Africans – particularly women – take ownership of their own development and co-sponsored the same bill when it was reintroduced in 1989. In 1988, he co-sponsored the Women in Development Act and the Global Poverty Reduction Act. In 1992, he co-sponsored the International Women and Child Health Act.

While serving in the House, he was a member of the House Budget and Agriculture Committees and he participated in a joint initiative by the African-American community and the Jewish community called the Committee of Blacks and Jews to Aid Ethiopia, a group whose mission it was to end hunger and alleviate the destruction from a famine in the early 1990s. He said, "It's a start, a small seed of concern for what we hope will be a grass-roots campaign of compassion by Americans of all colors and faiths for the victims of potentially the worst famine of this century."

The USGLC engaged with Secretary Espy's senior campaign leadership to discuss his priorities around food security and humanitarian assistance. Born and raised in Mississippi, Espy served as the 25th U.S. Secretary of Agriculture from 1993-1994. Most recently, Secretary Espy served on the Board of Directors of Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA), an international agricultural development non-profit.

TOO CLOSE TO CALL – Arizona

Martha McSally (R)



An Air Force veteran who was the first female fighter pilot to fly in combat, Rep. McSally has served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. From her seat on the House Armed Services Committee, she has been a strong voice on defense and national security issues and a vocal proponent for global engagement: “I know first-hand the importance of providing U.S. leadership on the world stage.” One of Rep. McSally’s last assignments in the U.S. Air Force was as Chief of Current Operations of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) where she helped stand up AFRICOM and handled counter-terrorism operations in Africa. She has said she has a “personal interest” in seeing that mission succeed.

During her tenure representing Arizona’s 2nd congressional district, Rep. McSally strongly supported the International Affairs Budget, voting for several pieces of legislation to strengthen America’s investments in development and diplomacy. Of note, during consideration of an FY18 omnibus spending bill, she voted for an amendment that would have cut the topline, but also opposed a similar amendment. She voted for the 2016 Global Food Security Act, the 2016 Zika Response Appropriations Act, and the 2015 reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank. Following a chemical weapons attack in Syria, she called on the U.S. to develop not only a military strategy, but to also address the humanitarian needs on the ground. She also urged the U.S. to “remove Assad from power, address the humanitarian crisis, and defeat ISIS.” The USGLC has engaged with Rep. McSally numerous times on the importance of America’s global leadership role, including leveraging our development and diplomacy tools to keep our nation safe.

A Bronze Star recipient, Rep. McSally graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy and served in the Air Force for 26 years before retiring in 2010 as a Colonel. She flew for 225 combat hours as a Squadron Commander and led her A-10 team during Operation Enduring Freedom. During her tenure in the House, McSally traveled to Israel, Mexico, Japan, France, Poland, Ukraine, Estonia, and led a delegation to the Korean Demilitarized Zone.

Kyrsten Sinema (D)



Rep. Sinema is strongly supportive of U.S. global leadership. Stating that her first priority is to keep Arizona families safe, she has called for a strategic approach to foreign policy that leverages aggressive diplomacy with sending our men and women in uniform into harm's way only when other options have failed. She has written, "We need a smart, strong and coordinated strategy to defeat the terrorist threat and keep America safe," and favors "aggressive diplomacy, crippling sanctions to combat proliferation, and swift, multilateral intervention as a last resort."

During her three-term tenure representing Arizona's 9th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Sinema demonstrated strong support for the International Affairs Budget. She voted in favor of the 2016 Global Food Security Act, the 2016 Zika Response Appropriations Act, the 2014 Electrify Africa Act, and the FY14 State Department Authorization. Of note, during consideration of an FY18 omnibus spending bill, she voted for an amendment that would have cut the topline, but also opposed a similar amendment. Rep. Sinema voted for the 2015 reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank, authoring a September 2014 op-ed on why extending the Bank's authorization mattered for Arizona businesses. As a member of the House Financial Services Committee, she also focused on international development programs and contributions to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Additionally, in the 114th Congress, Rep. Sinema co-sponsored legislation laying out a comprehensive plan to defeat ISIS, which included provisions to "provide humanitarian assistance and relief, governance, and rule of law to regions previously impacted by ISIL and its affiliates."

Sinema has made several official foreign visits during her time in Congress - to Afghanistan in 2013, Rwanda in 2015, and Canada in 2017. She also visited the West Bank and Jerusalem, and toured Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo with CARE in 2016 to visit development projects. The USGLC has engaged with Representative Sinema on several occasions, including hosting her at Arizona State University in 2014 at an event featuring Senator John McCain. Prior to being elected to Congress, Rep. Sinema served as a social worker and later practiced law. She also served as an Arizona State Representative and State Senator. She spent time as a relief worker in Kenya in the 1990s.

TOO CLOSE TO CALL – Florida

Rick Scott (R)



A U.S. Navy veteran and two-term Governor of the Sunshine State, Governor Rick Scott has lauded American values on the world stage and called for a strong U.S. role in promoting liberty and democracy around the world. Scott has said “I think it’s very important that America stands for freedom...every chance we have the opportunity to help another group of individuals fight for freedom, we’ve got to do it.”

On international development and diplomacy issues, Governor Scott has been a supporter of global democracy and individual freedom, with a strong interest in Latin America. Recognizing both the humanitarian and economic importance of the region to the U.S., he has said democracy in Latin America “will yield greater stability and more freedom and opportunity for all those in the Western Hemisphere.” If elected to the Senate, Governor Scott has committed to “continue to aggressively find ways that Florida and the U.S. can stand strong against brutal regimes and fight for human rights and democracy across the globe.”

Governor Scott, and his wife Ann, have supported a variety of charities including World Vision, where they worked in partnership to establish a primary health care system in Bunyala, Kenya. In a meeting with the then-Prime Minister of Kenya, Raila Amolo Odinga, in 2011, Governor Scott said “I’ve been all over Kenya, driven clear across the country. My wife and I did a project in the Bengali area for four years in Kenya. It’s a great country. Our goal together is for Florida to build up trade with Kenya.”

Scott has stated it is in America’s economic interest to be globally engaged. During his tenure as governor, he embarked on 15 trade missions, notably to Canada, Chile, Colombia, Argentina, and Israel. Following a mission to Chile he said “During last month’s trade mission to Chile, we focused on connecting Florida businesses and organizations with opportunities to work with Chilean companies. Because of these new opportunities, Florida’s economy and the families of our state will benefit.”

The USGLC spoke with Scott’s senior campaign leadership who were well versed on the importance of global development and diplomacy.

A business leader, Governor Scott was a founding partner of the Columbia Healthcare Corporation, which later merged with the Hospital Corporation of America (now HCA). Scott served in the U.S. Navy for more than two years, with much of that time spent aboard the U.S.S. Glover as a radar technician.

Newly Elected Members of Congress

Changes in the House of Representatives				
State	District	Departing Member	New Member	Reason
AZ	2	Martha McSally (R)	Ann Kirkpatrick (D)	Running for Other Office
AZ	8	Trent Franks (R)	Debbie Lesko (R)	Resigned
AZ	9	Kyrsten Sinema (D)	Greg Stanton (D)	Running for Other Office
CA	25	Steve Knight (R)	Katie Hill (D)	Defeated
CA	34	Xavier Becerra (D)	Jimmy Gomez (D)	Resigned
CA	39	Ed Royce (R)	TBD- Too Close to Call	Retired
CA	49	Darrell Issa (R)	Mike Levin (D)	Retired
CO	2	Jared Polis (D)	Joe Neguse (D)	Running for Other Office
CO	6	Mike Coffman (R)	Jason Crow (D)	Defeated
CT	5	Elizabeth Esty (D)	Jahana Hayes (D)	Retired
FL	6	Ron DeSantis (R)	Michael Waltz (R)	Resigned
FL	15	Dennis Ross (R)	Ross Spano (R)	Retired
FL	17	Tom Rooney (R)	Greg Steube (R)	Retired
FL	26	Carlos Curbelo (R)	Debbie Mucarsel-Powell (D)	Defeated
FL	27	Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R)	Donna Shalala (D)	Retired
GA	6	Tom Price (R)	TBD- Too Close to Call	Appointed to Trump Administration
HI	1	Colleen Hanabusa (D)	Ed Case (D)	Defeated for Other Office
IA	1	Rod Blum (R)	Abby Finkenauer (D)	Defeated
IA	3	Dave Young (R)	Cindy Axne (D)	Defeated
ID	1	Raúl Labrador (R)	Russ Fulcher (R)	Defeated for Other Office
IL	4	Luis Gutiérrez (D)	Jesús García (D)	Retired
IL	6	Peter Roskam (R)	Sean Casten (D)	Defeated
IL	14	Rodney Davis (R)	Lauren Underwood (D)	Defeated
IN	4	Todd Rokita (R)	Jim Baird (R)	Defeated for Other Office
IN	6	Luke Messer (R)	Greg Pence (R)	Defeated for Other Office
KS	2	Lynn Jenkins (R)	Steve Watkins (R)	Retired
KS	3	Kevin Yoder (R)	Sharice Davids (D)	Defeated
KS	4	Mike Pompeo (R)	Ron Estes (R)	Appointed to Trump Administration
MA	3	Niki Tsongas (D)	Lori Trahan (D)	Retired
MA	7	Michael Capuano (D)	Ayanna Pressley (D)	Defeated in Primary

Changes in the House of Representatives				
State	District	Departing Member	New Member	Reason
MD	6	John Delaney (D)	David Trone (D)	Running for Other Office
MI	8	Mike Bishop (R)	Elissa Slotkin (D)	Defeated
MI	9	Sander Levin (D)	Andy Levin (D)	Retired
MI	11	Dave Trott (R)	Haley Stevens (D)	Retired
MI	13	John Conyers (D)	Rashida Tlaib (D)	Resigned
MN	1	Tim Walz (D)	Jim Hagedorn (R)	Running for Other Office
MN	2	Jason Lewis (R)	Angie Craig (D)	Defeated
MN	3	Erik Paulsen (R)	Dean Phillips (D)	Defeated
MN	5	Keith Ellison (D)	Ilhan Omar (D)	Running for Other Office
MN	8	Rick Nolan (D)	Pete Stauber (R)	Retired
MS	3	Gregg Harper (R)	Michael Guest (R)	Retired
MT	AL	Ryan Zinke (R)	Greg Gianforte (R)	Appointed to Trump Administration
NC	9	Robert Pittenger (R)	Mark Harris (R)	Defeated in Primary
ND	AL	Kevin Cramer (R)	Kelly Armstrong (R)	Running for Other Office
NH	1	Carol Shea-Porter (D)	Chris Pappas (D)	Retired
NJ	2	Frank LoBiondo (R)	Jeff Van Drew (D)	Retired
NJ	7	Leonard Lance (R)	Tom Malinowski (D)	Defeated
NJ	11	Rodney Freylinghuysen (R)	Mikie Sherrill (D)	Retired
NM	1	Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)	Debra Haaland (D)	Running for Other Office
NM	2	Steve Pearce (R)	Xochitl Torres Small (D)	Running for Other Office
NV	3	Jacky Rosen (D)	Susie Lee (D)	Running for Other Office
NV	4	Rubén Kihuen (D)	Steven Horsford (D)	Retired
NY	11	Dan Donovan (R)	Max Rose (D)	Defeated
NY	14	Joe Crowley (D)	Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D)	Defeated in Primary
NY	19	John Faso (R)	Antonio Delgado (D)	Defeated
NY	25	Louise Slaughter (D)	Joseph Morelle (D)	Deceased
OH	12	Pat Tiberi (R)	Troy Balderson (R)	Resigned
OH	16	Jim Renacci (R)	Anthony Gonzalez (R)	Running for Other Office
OK	1	Jim Bridenstine (R)	Kevin Hern (R)	Resigned
OK	5	Steve Russell (R)	Kendra Horn (D)	Defeated
PA	1	Bob Brady (D)	Brian Fitzpatrick (R)	Retired
PA	6	Ryan Costello (R)	Chrissy Houlahan (D)	Retired
PA	5	Pat Meehan (R)	Mary Gay Scanlon (D)	Resigned

Changes in the House of Representatives				
State	District	Departing Member	New Member	Reason
PA	9	Lou Barletta (R)	Dan Meuser (R)	Running for Other Office
PA	13	Bill Shuster (R)	John Joyce (R)	Retired
PA	15	Charlie Dent (R)	Glenn Thompson (R)	Resigned
PA	14	Tim Murphy (R)	Guy Reschenthaler (R)	Resigned
SC	1	Mark Sanford (R)	Joe Cunningham (D)	Defeated in Primary
SC	4	Trey Gowdy (R)	William Timmons (R)	Retired
SC	5	Mick Mulvaney (R)	Ralph Norman (R)	Appointed to Trump Administration
SD	AL	Kristi Noem (R)	Dusty Johnson (R)	Running for Other Office
TN	2	John Duncan (R)	Tim Burchett (R)	Retired
TN	6	Diane Black (R)	John Rose (R)	Defeated for Other Office
TN	7	Marsha Blackburn (R)	Mark Green (R)	Running for Other Office
TX	2	Ted Poe (R)	Daniel Crenshaw (R)	Retired
TX	3	Sam Johnson (R)	Van Taylor (R)	Retired
TX	5	Jeb Hensarling (R)	Lance Gooden (R)	Retired
TX	6	Joe Barton (R)	Ron Wright (R)	Retired
TX	7	John Culberson (R)	Lizze Fletcher (D)	Defeated
TX	16	Beto O'Rourke (D)	Veronica Escobar (D)	Running for Other Office
TX	21	Lamar Smith (R)	Chip Roy (R)	Retired
TX	27	Blake Farenthold (R)	Michael Cloud (R)	Resigned
TX	29	Gene Green (D)	Sylvia Garcia (D)	Retired
TX	32	Pete Sessions (R)	Colin Allred (D)	Defeated
UT	3	Jason Chaffetz (R)	Jason Curtis (R)	Resigned
VA	2	Scott Taylor (R)	Elaine Luria (D)	Defeated
VA	5	Tom Garrett (R)	Denver Riggleman (R)	Retired
VA	6	Bob Goodlatte (R)	Ben Cline (R)	Retired
VA	7	Dave Brat (R)	Abigail Spanberger (D)	Defeated
VA	10	Barbara Comstock (R)	Jennifer Wexton (D)	Defeated
WA	8	Dave Reichert (R)	TBD- Too Close to Call	Retired
WI	1	Paul Ryan (R)	Bryan Steil (R)	Retired
WV	3	Evan Jenkins (R)	Carol Miller (R)	Resigned

Too Close to Call – House

State	District	Republican	Democrat
CA	10	Jeff Denham (incumbent)	Josh Harder
CA	39	Young Kim	Gil Cisneros
CA	45	Mimi Walters (incumbent)	Katie Porter
CA	48	Dana Rohrbacher (incumbent)	Harley Rouda
CA	50	Duncan Hunter (incumbent)	Ammar Campa-Najjar
GA	6	Karen Handel (incumbent)	Lucy McBath
GA	7	Rob Woodall (incumbent)	Carolyn Bourdeaux
ME	2	Bruce Poliquin (incumbent)	Jared Goldin
NJ	3	Tom MacArthur (incumbent)	Andy Kim
TX	23	Will Hurd (incumbent)	Gina Ortiz Jones
UT	4	Mia Love (incumbent)	Ben McAdams
WA	8	Dino Rossi	Kim Schrier

Changes in the Senate			
State	Departing Member	New Member	Reason
AL	Jeff Sessions (R)	Doug Jones (D)	Appointed to Trump Administration
AZ	Jeff Flake (R)	TBD- Too Close to Call	Retiring
AZ	John McCain (R)	Jon Kyl (R)	Deceased
IN	Joe Donnelly (D)	Mike Braun (R)	Defeated
MN	Al Franken (D)	Tina Smith (D)	Resigned
MO	Claire McCaskill (D)	Josh Hawley (R)	Defeated
MS	Thad Cochran (R)	Cindy Hyde-Smith (R) - Appointed	Resigned
ND	Heidi Heitkamp (D)	Kevin Cramer (R)	Defeated
NV	Dean Heller (R)	Jacky Rosen (D)	Defeated
TN	Bob Corker (R)	Marsha Blackburn (R)	Retiring
UT	Orrin Hatch (R)	Mitt Romney (R)	Retiring

Special Election Runoff – Senate		
State	Incumbent	Challenger
MS	Cindy Hyde-Smith (R)	Mike Espy (D)

Too Close to Call – Senate		
State	Republican	Democrat
AZ	Martha McSally	Kyrsten Sinema
FL	Rick Scott	Bill Nelson (incumbent)