Why does Ukraine matter to America’s interests?

Russia’s invasion of a sovereign, democratic nation has not only exacted immeasurable costs on the Ukrainian people, but it also threatens global stability, directly impacting American stability and our security and economic interests here at home.

U.S. National Security:

■ America’s military leaders continue to warn how Russia’s war against Ukraine is creating significant “destabilizing impacts on global security” that stretch “far beyond the European frontlines.” America’s continued assistance to Ukraine helps advance global stability and U.S. national security – all without sending American troops into harm’s way.

■ Chinese President Xi Jinping’s recent visit to the Kremlin under the banner of their “no limits” partnership underscores the dangers of the increasing alignment of authoritarian regimes – from China to Russia to Iran – as these countries continue to provide resources, goods, and technologies to Russia that it cannot obtain from the West.

U.S. Economic Interests:

■ Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has created havoc for global energy markets and food supplies, directly impacting gas and grocery prices for American families at home, with U.S. food price inflation remaining stubbornly high at 8.5%.

■ With $1 trillion in annual U.S. trade with the continent, stable European markets are critical for the exports of American companies and workers with 1 in 5 U.S. jobs depending on international trade. Europe also remains America’s fifth largest market for agricultural exports from America’s heartland and beyond.

Are America’s allies and partners stepping up in support of Ukraine?

More than 50 NATO allies and other partner countries are sharing the burden and providing assistance to support the Ukrainian people and to enable the country to defend itself from Russia’s invasion.

■ While U.S. leadership has been indispensable, America ranks fifth globally in its support to Ukraine as a percentage of GDP, behind Estonia, Latvia, Poland, and Lithuania, and tied with Bulgaria and Norway.

■ The European Union and its member countries have committed more than $69 billion in assistance. With its recent €18 billion commitment, the European Union and its member states are now the largest contributors of economic and humanitarian aid to Ukraine. In total, U.S. allies and partners – from Germany to the UK to Australia – have provided or committed over $35 billion in security assistance to Ukraine.
How is U.S. assistance to Ukraine accountable? Is Ukraine pursuing anti-corruption reforms?

American security, economic, and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine is one of the most highly scrutinized and accountable aid programs that the United States has ever delivered to a partner country with dozens of Congressional delegations helping provide oversight.

- All U.S. assistance to Ukraine is overseen by three independent U.S. inspectors general from the State Department, USAID, and the Pentagon. Collectively, these three Offices of Inspector Generals have more than 250 personnel supporting oversight efforts of U.S. assistance to Ukraine. At the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, the State Department has 45 people on the ground, responsible for monitoring and inspecting America’s assistance to Ukraine.

- In recent testimony to Congress, all three inspector generals were clear that their offices’ ongoing investigations to date have not uncovered any fraud, misuse, or diversion of U.S. resources to Ukraine:
  
  » **Department of Defense Inspector General Robert Storch:** “Our completed work has not substantiated any allegations of diversion.”
  
  » **Department of State Deputy Inspector General Diana Shaw:** “We have not substantiated any instances of the diversion of U.S. security assistance to Ukraine.”
  
  » **USAID Acting Deputy Inspector General Nicole Angarella:** “We have not identified any instances of fraud or misuse with respect to the direct budget support.”

- Despite wartime pressures, Ukraine has introduced significant reforms to combat corruption.
  
  » **Ukraine is one of the few countries in the world that improved its corruption score** over the last year, according to Transparency International.
  
  » **In December 2022, the Ukrainian parliament** passed legislation to dissolve an Administrative court in Kyiv, long deemed to be corrupt by Ukraine’s National Anti-Corruption Bureau and civil society actors.
  
  » The Ukrainian government has held itself to rigorous standards with high profile dismissals of senior officials who have been suspected of any corruption or impropriety. And in March 2023, **the Council of Europe’s anti-corruption body** issued an interim report praising Ukraine’s reforms and progress to root out corruption as the country pursues EU membership.

- All U.S. funding for direct budgetary support to Ukraine is reimbursed only after the Ukrainian government has verified its expenses. This assistance, delivered through the World Bank, goes through rigorous verification processes with monthly reports to the U.S. government.

  » **USAID has engaged Deloitte Consulting to support the Ukrainian Ministry of Finance** and other Ukrainian government institutions to review and advise on the government’s processes and procedures to oversee and report on the use of direct budget support funds provided by the U.S. government through the World Bank, bilaterally, or other mechanisms. While Deloitte is not auditing or verifying the use of direct budget support funds, Deloitte is reviewing and reporting on the Ukrainian government’s monitoring, transparency, verification and reporting systems and safeguards, including on the use of direct budget support funds, results achieved, and metrics used to measure results.