

The Escalating Global Threats: Urgency for National Security Emergency Funding Package

With escalating threats to the United States on the global stage, **the USGLC urges Congress to take swift action to approve a National Security Emergency Funding Package with no less than \$34.5 billion in civilian, economic, and humanitarian resources** to help counter China and Russia, respond to the wars in the Middle East and Ukraine, meet global humanitarian needs, and address migration in the Western Hemisphere.

- **More than 30 retired three- and four-star generals and admirals were just on Capitol Hill** speaking to lawmakers on the imperative for additional economic and humanitarian resources to meet the growing global threats. See the [feature story in USA Today](#).
- **USGLC's National Security Advisory Council Co-Chairs, Admiral James Stavridis and General Anthony Zinni**, stated: "This is not a moment that America can shrink from the global stage. Bolstering America's diplomatic and development toolkit at this time of global peril is indispensable for U.S. national security."
- **USGLC President and CEO, Liz Schroyer**, has also [weighed in](#) on the urgent need for new global emergency resources: "Global stability directly impacts American security. It's at moments like this that our nation needs to get it right – or these spiraling global crises will land on our doorstep once again."

Growing Nexus of Authoritarian Threats

With democracy under threat around the world, Russia, Iran, and China are fueling war, conflict, and instability in every corner of the globe. **These threats from America's adversaries and competitors are increasingly interconnected and aligned** against American interests. As we learned after 9/11, we no longer live in a world where our oceans will protect us from threats arriving on our shores.

- In just the last several weeks, **Russia has hosted Hamas leaders** for meetings at the Kremlin. **China has welcomed President Putin** in Beijing praising their "no limits" partnership. **Iran is deploying weapons** to kill Israelis, Ukrainians, and even Americans. **The Russian military has opened up new fronts in Ukraine's east** as the U.S. diverts some resources from Ukraine to help Israel fight Hamas. Meanwhile in the Indo-Pacific, **Taiwan's future hangs in the balance**.
- **This perilous moment requires a comprehensive U.S. national security response** – a siloed or piecemeal approach will not only be inadequate in the face of increasingly integrated threats, but time is not on our side. Without additional **civilian national security resources to support our allies and confront these crises**, the risks to America's security and economic interests remain daunting.

Supporting Ukraine's Defense Against Russia's Brutal War

In addition to military and security assistance through the Pentagon, the emergency supplemental request includes **\$16.3 billion for the International Affairs Budget** to provide **essential economic and security assistance**. This support is vital to **Ukraine's self-defense against Russia for the next year without putting U.S. servicemembers in harm's way**, while achieving a significant return on investment for the U.S. and NATO allies in continuing to degrade Russia's military capabilities.

- **Putin has made Ukraine's economy a primary target** with devastating attacks on civilians, energy infrastructure, and Ukrainian exports with the aim to decimate the Ukrainian state to the point that it can no longer defend itself on the battlefield.

- **Current and retired U.S. military leaders continue to [speak out](#) on the importance of civilian assistance alongside military support through the Pentagon.** Without continued economic assistance and direct budget support from both the U.S. and European partners, **a Ukrainian economic collapse would also result in even greater economic shocks around the world and here in the U.S.** – not to mention the security ramifications.

Responding to the War in the Middle East

In addition to military and security assistance through the Pentagon, the national security emergency package includes **\$3.7 billion for the International Affairs Budget**, including **\$3.5 billion for Foreign Military Financing (FMF) support through the State Department along with another \$200 million to bolster U.S. diplomatic programs and emergency support.**

- **These critical resources will help the U.S. stand with its ally Israel** and enable its self-defense against Hamas following the horrific terrorist attacks by Hamas on October 7th that took the lives of more than 1,400 people, including more than 30 Americans. Currently, close to 240 hostages – including a number of U.S. citizens – remain in Gaza.
- In addition to the direct support to Israel, **the global humanitarian component of the request includes critical humanitarian resources for Palestinian civilians** in Gaza as the war against Hamas continues. The Administration and Members of Congress have continued to drive policy to ensure humanitarian resources are delivered through vetted and trusted partners to solely reach civilians in Gaza.

Bolstering America’s Global Humanitarian Response

As the world faces growing wars and conflict, the largest number of displaced people in history, and a global hunger crisis, the request includes **\$9.2 billion for the International Affairs Budget** to strengthen America’s ability to **meet life-saving humanitarian needs, promote global stability, and demonstrate U.S. leadership.**

- This includes **\$5.7 billion for the International Disaster Assistance account and \$3.5 billion for the Migration and Refugee Assistance account** to address humanitarian needs in Ukraine, in Gaza and the Middle East, and hot spots experiencing the “cascading regional and global impacts of those crises.”
- As the war in Ukraine continues to destabilize global food security, a new [report](#) from the World Food Program and the Food and Agriculture Organization has identified **“18 hunger hotspots” across 22 countries with more than 150 million people facing “acute food insecurity”** over the next six months. The world is also facing **the largest global refugee crisis in history with 108 million people forced to flee their homes**, according to the [UN Refugee Agency](#).

Countering China in the Indo-Pacific

Alongside resources for the U.S. defense industrial base, the request includes **\$4 billion for the International Affairs Budget**, including **\$2 billion for Foreign Military Financing for the Indo-Pacific region** and **\$2 billion in multilateral assistance** that would “mobilize tens of billions of dollars in additional funding from partner nations... to provide a credible alternative to PRC financing.”

- **More than 100 retired three- and four-star retired generals and admirals** recently [wrote](#) to Congress urging on why “U.S. civilian diplomacy and development tools are central to a comprehensive American strategy to compete with China and protect U.S. national security interests”.

- **As China's development spending and financing has increased by 430% over the last ten years** of available data, U.S. investments to unlock billions of dollars in new multilateral resources will be critical to help advance U.S. interests and promote alternatives to the PRC's often predatory practices in low- and middle-income countries. **The request would leverage up to \$25 billion in additional resources** through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and **\$21 billion** through the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Trust Funds.

Addressing Migration in the Western Hemisphere

Alongside additional emergency resources for the Departments of Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, and Justice, the request includes **\$1.3 billion for the International Affairs Budget** to bolster the U.S. response to irregular migration in the Western Hemisphere.

- This assistance includes resources for the Migration and Refugee Assistance account and Economic Support Fund to address humanitarian needs of forcibly displaced migrants, provide integration support in the region among other efforts.

Next Steps

As policymakers continue to move the Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations process forward, it is increasingly likely that another Continuing Resolution will be necessary to avoid a federal government shutdown ahead of the November 17th funding deadline.

The USGLC firmly supports a Continuing Resolution that maintains current level funding for the International Affairs Budget combined with urgent Congressional action to pass a comprehensive national security emergency package at no less than \$34.5 billion for the International Affairs Budget to protect the security and economic interests of American families here at home.