

2024 Election Analysis

November 9, 2024

After an unprecedented campaign cycle that cost nearly \$16 billion, 158 million Americans went to the polls to elect our next set of leaders up and down the ballot. While it may take time to sort out the remaining House and Senate races that will determine the full balance of power in Congress, one thing is certain, **President-elect Donald Trump and the new 119th Congress will be met in January with an enormous inbox of global threats and challenges**, with escalating threats from foreign rivals, wars raging in Ukraine and the Middle East, and cascading humanitarian crises.

USGLC'S 'IMPACT 2024' INITIATIVE

Since 2008, USGLC has led a nationwide initiative to meet with candidates across the political spectrum running for federal office, to educate and engage future policymakers on the imperative of America's global leadership in advancing our own security, prosperity, and values. USGLC's focus has never been about a "red wave" or a "blue wave" but ensuring an "engaged wave" of bipartisan policymakers when it comes to America's role in the world.

With the public feeling the impact of global instability wrought by our rivals – Russia, Iran, China, and North Korea – candidates were increasingly interested this election cycle to discuss the links between global conflict and our own kitchen table issues.

Against this backdrop, USGLC organized over 1,000 local leaders across the nation – business leaders, veterans, mayors, farmers, community and faith-based leaders to engage hundreds of candidates running for the House and Senate. Some candidates were already well-versed on foreign policy – from their own military service, missionary work, or international business experience – but for many, this was one of their few, if not their only, in-depth discussion about foreign policy and how global diplomacy and development impacts our communities here at home.

We also had deep engagement with the teams advising the top of the tickets – through our Democratic Plum Book Initiative and Conservative Foreign Policy Study Group – and hosted marquee foreign policy events at both the Republican National Convention and the Democratic National Convention.

USGLC looks forward to continuing its work with the next Congress and the new Administration to ensure America shows up on the global stage to build a better world and a stronger America.

Read on for USGLC's full analysis, including:

- [Top Election Takeaways](#)
- [Outlook on the 119th Congress](#)
- [Future of the International Affairs Budget](#)
- [The New Faces in Washington](#)

TOP ELECTION TAKEAWAYS

USGLC's top takeaways on the nexus between foreign policy and the 2024 elections, with particular focus on international diplomacy and development, and what it could mean for the future of America's global leadership:

1. Huge Inbox of Global Threats.

- **Threats from America's rivals:** Regardless of the election outcome, it was always clear that active wars in Ukraine and the Middle East, growing humanitarian crises, and converging threats from America's rivals in Russia, Iran, China, and North Korea would ultimately land on the desks of our newest tranche of policymakers come January.

» Check out [USGLC's own polling](#) showing vast majority of voters concerned about global threats

- **Economic concerns still *most* salient for voters:** While pre-election Pew data found more than 6 in 10 voters viewed "foreign policy" as "very important" to their vote, exit polling reinforced the truism that voters' primary focus was on the economy: when asked to prioritize the *most* important issue from a list of options – "foreign policy" was at the bottom at only 4% -- well behind domestic priorities like democracy (34%), economy (31%), abortion (14%), and immigration (11%).
- **Joining a global trend:** In this "year the world votes" where billions of people across the globe went to the polls in over 70 nations, the U.S. now joins a wave of similar races where incumbent candidates were rejected. Richard Haass, former President of the Council on Foreign Relations, summed it up this way, "Incumbents of every political stripe have lost nearly everywhere around the world in this year of elections, and Kamala Harris was the incumbent here."

2. President Trump's Return... On Foreign Policy, it's Complicated.

- **Welcome back:** With the re-election of President Trump in non-consecutive terms for the first time since President Grover Cleveland won in 1884 and 1892, we are faced with both new opportunities, and also old anxieties when it comes to complexities on foreign policy positions overall, and on funding levels for development and diplomacy in particular.
- **On the one hand:** At the beginning of President Trump's first term, his then-OMB Director proposed a 32% cut to the U.S. International Affairs Budget. A bipartisan majority in Congress quickly rejected it as "dangerous for American interests". But with a different political landscape today, it is less likely that the new 119th Congress would respond in the same way to a significant round of proposals to cut resources for development and diplomacy. Additional anxieties, including over America's commitment to alliances and multilateral engagement, have already resurfaced.
- **On the other hand:** President Trump's first term also included significant policy achievements in global development and diplomacy, which could be building blocks in a second Administration: creating the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) to amplify private sector investment in less-developed nations; the Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative led by Ivanka Trump to empower millions of women entrepreneurs around the world; the Abraham Accords to normalize relations between Israel and a series of Arab nations for the first time in decades; and promoting locally-sustainable development programs through USAID's innovative Journey to Self-Reliance.
- **His vision:** During his victory speech from the Palm Beach Convention Center at 2:30AM on Wednesday, President-elect Donald Trump didn't say much about foreign policy, but he did say, "I'm not going to start a war, I'm going to stop wars," and mentioned his plans to impose tariffs.

3. Bipartisan Pro-Engagement Congress Set to Return.

- **Senate Flipped Red, House Likely to Follow:** While Republicans have flipped control of the Senate, as was predicted, and they appear poised to secure control of the House with a razor-thin margin, compromise and bipartisanship will remain important – including when it comes to foreign policy. And with pro-engagement Members in both chambers and on both sides of the aisle, USGLC is optimistic on continued support for U.S. global leadership when the 119th Congress is sworn-in come January.
- **Friends in High Places:** From party leadership to the top posts on key committees to influential voices within each party, the 119th Congress will see the return of Members who share a deep commitment to America's role in the world, and the imperative of diplomacy and global development. Importantly, this includes the "big four" Appropriations Committee leaders – **Senate Chair Susan Collins (R-ME)** and **Vice Chair Patty Murray (D-WA)** and **House Chair Tom Cole (R-OK)** and **Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)** – who will be at the center of all-important spending decisions.
- **Bipartisan Champions Ascend:** This cycle saw several familiar faces from the House elected to the upper chamber, all of whom are longstanding champions of America's global engagement, and who have worked closely with USGLC during their tenure in Congress – including **Senators-Elect Andy Kim (D-NJ)**, **Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE)**, **Ruben Gallego (D-AZ)**, **John Curtis (R-UT)**, **Adam Schiff (D-CA)**, and **Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)**. Expect these experienced legislators, many with national security expertise, to hit the ground running and have outsized influence despite their Freshman status.
- **USGLC Leaders Head to Congress:** Our coalition will see two more former USGLC State Advisory Committee members sworn in as members of the House in January – **Yassamin Ansari (D-AZ-03)** and **Michael Baumgartner (R-WA-05)** – joining a growing list of 14 bipartisan former USGLC State Advisory Committee members who now serve in both chambers of the Congress.
- **Policy Snapshot:** As Congressional Republicans prepare to implement a conservative agenda and address what House leadership views as “out of control government spending,” non-defense budget cuts are expected. However, there is sure to be powerful pushback from bipartisan leaders who support cost-effective investments in America’s civilian development and diplomacy toolkits and want to focus on efforts to outcompete China, counter foreign malign information, grow export markets critical to our economy at home, enhance transparency of foreign assistance, and boost support to U.S. partners from Israel to Taiwan.

» See below for a detailed analysis of the 119th Congress

4. Foreign Policy Emerges on Campaign Trail.

- **Global instability pushed its way onto the campaign trail:** In hundreds of candidate meetings across the country, USGLC advocates noticed a tangible increase this cycle in candidate interest on foreign policy topics: especially Russia and Ukraine, as well as the Middle East in the aftermath of October 7. Unlike the 2022 election cycle where some candidates wouldn’t even meet, saying “I’m not a globalist,” we heard the contrary this cycle with some candidates going out of their way to say, “I’m not an isolationist.”
- **Senate debates highlighted foreign policy:** Across the more than 30 U.S. Senate debates in two-dozen states, foreign policy was a featured topic in the overwhelming majority, with more than 2.5 cumulative hours of discussion on global competition with China; threats from rivals, like Iran sowing disarray in the Middle East; support for partners like Israel, Ukraine, and Taiwan; concern for global humanitarian needs, including in Gaza; and even the international dimensions of the fentanyl crisis.

- **Candidates' platforms too:** More than two-thirds of all candidates running for U.S. Senate, profiled a national security or foreign policy platform on their campaign web sites. Senator-Elect Jim Justice (R-WV) opened his platform, stating “like President Reagan, Governor Justice believes in peace through strength.” Winning incumbent Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) titled his platform, “Keeping America Safe and Strengthening Diplomacy.”
 - Across Republican and Democratic candidate national security platforms for the House and Senate, many were pro-engagement and expressing how “America must lead on the world stage, or someone else will.” The top foreign policy topics to emerge on the Republican and Democratic candidate platforms were not dissimilar, but their emphases were slightly different:

Most Mentions	Republican	Democratic
#1	Israel	Israel
#2	China	Allies
#3	Allies	Ukraine
#4	Russia	Russia
#5	Iran	China

- **Broadcast ads:** While some in Congress vocally opposed support for Ukraine and other foreign assistance measures during debate on the National Security Supplemental earlier this year, a comprehensive review of general election political ads found that negative views on foreign assistance was not even remotely a focus of broadcast political advertising. In fact, out of close to 1.2 million general election ad runs on the airwaves in the 2024 race—in the most expensive race in history—USGLC’s research team, in partnership with MediaRadar CMA, identified just 5 general election ads (0.01% of ads run) that criticized support for Ukraine or other U.S. foreign assistance programs.
- **On the trail:** Elevating critical national security issues, former Trump Administration State Department Spokeswoman **Morgan Ortagus**, **Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC)**, and America First Policy Institute’s **Chad Wolf** traveled the country with Polaris National Security in the final days of the election hosting candidate forums in battleground states, including in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Nevada, and Wisconsin. And at one of these town halls with now **Senator-Elect David McCormick (R-PA)**, **Senator Graham** discussed how “Food Security is National Security” stating that “we need a strategy to help Africa – that’s literally starving – to come up with technology from the United States to... develop seeds that will be drought resistant.”

5. The GOP’s Reagan-Era Mantra Takes Root: Peace through Strength.

- **Channeling Reagan:** While there are clear differences and headwinds on foreign policy that will remain within the GOP, President Ronald Reagan’s “Peace Through Strength” foreign policy mantra was heard loud and clear as a rallying cry on the campaign trail. President Trump’s former national security advisor **Robert O’Brien** often points out that Reagan’s commitment to “peace through strength” was not only about military strength, but also about the integration of “smart diplomacy and hard power and soft power” to keep Americans safe.
- **The GOP Platform:** The chapter on foreign policy in the GOP platform was titled “Return to Peace through Strength” and included calls to “strengthen alliances” and “strengthen economic, military, and diplomatic capabilities to protect the American way of life from the malign influences of countries that stand against us around the world.”
- **The Republican Convention:** At the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, USGLC [hosted](#) a panel with more than a dozen top national security and foreign policy leaders making the conservative case for international engagement, including top officials from President Trump’s first term who said:
 - “We want that peace through strength... And this is where diplomacy is really important.”
 - Elbridge Colby, former DoD Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense and Strategy

- “If you want peace through strength, that’s a moment to celebrate the State Department... a whole bunch of people at the State Department who would die for their country.”
– Ric Grenell, former Acting Director of National Intelligence
- “What I see in the future is free men and free women and free markets being promoted... I see a country that’s confident and an economy that’s booming and working with our neighbors and our friends and our allies, and I see freedom back on the march.”
– Robert O’Brien, former National Security Advisor
- **America First, Not America Alone:** In the first Trump Administration, President Trump’s foreign policy leadership team were the first to often say “America First does not mean America alone.” The America First Policy Institute’s book on national security has an entire section that builds on “Peace through Strength” and “Bold Diplomacy” as a critical tool to advance America’s interests. When USGLC [hosted](#) AFPI’s Executive Director Chad Wolf at the annual Global Impact Forum, he stated clearly that “America First is not America alone, and certainly not isolationism.”
- **Project 2025:** Meanwhile, there are other GOP voices with more inward-looking views, including from the Project 2025 Playbook lamenting how “US foreign aid has been transformed into a massive and open-ended global entitlement program captured by – and enriching – the progressive left” and calling for “deep cuts to the international affairs 150 Account.”

6. Unfinished Agenda Looms Large in Lame Duck Session.

- **Lame Duck Decisions:** The 118th Congress returns next week with a pressing to-do list for the lame duck session. On the docket – approving emergency disaster aid and the defense authorization bill as well as avoiding a government shutdown when the current stopgap funding bill expires on December 20th. With just five short weeks before the Congress is set to adjourn, Members will be faced with tough choices on a tight timeline – ramping up the pressure at a time when post-election tensions will be running high.
- **Finding Consensus on the International Affairs Budget:** When it comes to spending decisions, policymakers have major differences to sort through -- including on funding for America's civilian development and diplomacy tools. While Senate Appropriators proposed a 6% (\$3.4 billion) increase for the FY25 International Affairs Budget, the House approved a steep 12% (-\$7.3 billion) cut. It remains to be seen if a bipartisan deal can be struck in the lame duck and how resources for diplomacy and development will ultimately fare.
- **Key Reauthorizations Hang in the Balance:** Action on a number of important foreign affairs authorizations remain uncertain – despite many having strong bipartisan support. From a clean five-year reauthorization of PEPFAR to combat HIV/AIDS, to important reauthorizations of global development tools like the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), which both expire next year, to the State Department's Global Engagement Center to counter foreign malign influence – the current Congress has several opportunities to take bipartisan action to strengthen our development and diplomacy toolkit.

The 119th Congress: Support for America's Global Engagement Remains Strong and Bipartisan

The 119th Senate

» See below for detailed profiles of the new Senators-Elect

While several races are still too close to call, Republicans secured a Senate majority of at least 53 seats – picking up seats in Montana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. With 23 of the 34 seats that were up for election in the Senate previously held by Democrats (or Independents that caucus with them), Republicans entered the 2024 election cycle with a favorable map.

Despite the significant turnover, support for America's global leadership will remain strong and bipartisan in the 119th Senate – with returning allies and new friends on both sides of the aisle.

- **Allies Reelected.** We are pleased to welcome back new and long-time champions serving on the Foreign Relations and Appropriations Committees – including **Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Chris Murphy (D-CT), and Pete Ricketts (R-NE)**. Other returning friends include **Senators Kevin Cramer (R-ND), Angus King (I-ME), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), and Roger Wicker (R-MS)**.
- **House Members Move to Senate.** The incoming Freshman class will include at least six Members currently serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, many of whom have been outspoken supporters of America's global leadership and good friends of USGLC. Several bring strong national security credentials and backgrounds that have informed their views on the imperative of U.S. engagement in the world, including former State Department and USAID official **Andy Kim (D-NJ)** and former CIA analyst **Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)**. Additionally, we are pleased to welcome several longtime friends to the upper chamber, including **John Curtis (R-UT), Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), and Adam Schiff (D-CA)**. With significant legislative experience and a deep understanding of foreign policy and national security, expect these Freshman power players to quickly make their mark in the Senate.

LEADERSHIP & COMMITTEES

Senate Republicans are headed for a major leadership shakeup, with internal party elections scheduled for November 13th. While the top two Democratic leadership posts are likely to remain unchanged, the number three slot is up for grabs. Additionally, retirements will lead to some changes atop key committees in the 119th Senate.

- **REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP.** With stalwart champion for American global leadership **Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)** stepping down as Republican Leader, at least three Senators are vying to succeed him: **John Cornyn (R-TX), Rick Scott (R-FL), and John Thune (R-SD)**. Of the three, Senators Cornyn and Thune have been most active on issues related to American global engagement, diplomacy and development. issues. **Senator John Barrasso (R-WY)** is running unopposed for Republican Whip, while **Senators Tom Cotton (R-AR) and Joni Ernst (R-IA)** are contesting the race for Conference Chair. **Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)** is the sole candidate for Policy Committee Chair.
- **DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP.** **Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY)** is expected to remain as Democratic Leader, with **Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)** continuing to serve as Democratic Whip. With the retirement of Policy and Communications Committee Chair **Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)**, the third highest-ranking leadership post is up for grabs – with **Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)** viewed as potential successors.

- **APPROPRIATIONS.** **Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)** will remain as the top Democrat on the committee. While **Senator Susan Collins (R-ME)** will likely retain her position as the top Republican on the full committee, **Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)** is expected to return to a leadership role, potentially taking the Defense Subcommittee gavel currently held by Senator Collins. Longtime allies **Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC)** and **Chris Coons (D-DE)** are expected to remain atop the State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee.
- **FOREIGN RELATIONS.** **Senator Jim Risch (R-ID)** will continue to serve as the top Republican, while longtime champion **Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)** is poised to become the top Democrat and make history as the first woman ever to serve as one of the committee's leaders. Importantly, the duo has already built a strong working relationship over the years – including as leaders of the Small Business Committee and through frequent international travel – that will allow them to hit the ground running on critical foreign policy issues in the New Year.
- **BUDGET.** **Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC)**, who is currently the lead Republican on the Judiciary Committee, is expected to swap roles with **Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)** and once again become the Budget Committee's Chair. On the Democratic side, we could see a leadership shakeup should current chair **Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)** decide to take the leadership post on the Environment and Public Works Committee. This would position **Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR)** as next in line atop the Budget Committee.
- **ARMED SERVICES.** **Senators Roger Wicker (R-MS)** and **Jack Reed (D-RI)**, respectively, are expected to remain as the top Republican and Democrat on the committee.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

As the 118th Congress winds down, USGLC would like to thank the longstanding supporters of America's global leadership who will not be returning to the Senate next year:

- First, a special thank you to **Foreign Relations Chairman Ben Cardin (D-MD)** who has been a true champion of America's role in the world throughout his career in Congress. Having served on the Foreign Relations Committee since his first term in 2007, Senator Cardin has been a steadfast voice on the importance of investing in our civilian development and diplomacy tools. From his enduring commitment to human rights to his leadership in combating global corruption and ensuring effective, accountable foreign assistance, Senator Cardin's work has helped millions across the globe and will endure well beyond his retirement.
- The USGLC would also like to recognize **Senator Mitt Romney (R-UT)**, who has been a stalwart for America's global leadership during his tenure in the Senate and as the Republican Party's presidential nominee in 2012. Romney, who served on the Foreign Relations Committee for six years, was a key player on the issues of the day – from bolstering America's presence in the Indo-Pacific to supporting Ukraine – and has left an indelible mark on American foreign policy.
- A heartfelt thanks to **Senator Bob Casey (D-PA)**, whose steadfast commitment strengthening America's development and diplomacy tools – and particularly his leadership in the fight against global hunger – has improved the lives of millions around the world. For nearly two decades, including as a senior member of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Casey consistently worked across the aisle to address complex global challenges, earning the respect of his colleagues. Among his many accomplishments, he co-authored the bipartisan Global Food Security Act – establishing Feed the Future as America's signature whole-of-government initiative on global food security. His leadership and passion will be sorely missed.
- Additionally, our sincere gratitude to **Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Tom Carper (D-DE), Joe Manchin (I-WV), Jon Tester (D-MT)** for their leadership and longstanding support of America's civilian tools of national security while serving in the Senate.

The 119th House of Representatives

While results are still being tallied for several House races, control of the chamber hangs in the balance, with Republicans slightly favored to retain a majority. With many friends and allies reelected – joined by dozens of incoming Freshmen who understand the value of America’s global engagement – there will continue to be a strong bipartisan majority of the House committed to strengthening our civilian national security tools.

- **RETURNING CHAMPIONS.** House leadership and key committee leaders are poised to once again include supporters of America’s global engagement: including **Mike Johnson (R-LA)**, **Tom Emmer (R-MN)**, and **Elise Stefanik (R-NY)** in Republican leadership and **Reps. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)**, **Pete Aguilar (D-CA)**, and **Katherine Clark (D-MA)**, in Democratic leadership.
- Many of the foreign policy and national security leaders who made their mark on international affairs issues in the 118th Congress will also return, including:
 - Key members of the Appropriations Committee, including lead Republican **Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)** and lead Democrat **Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)**, along with **Reps. Robert Aderholt (R-AL)**, **Stephanie Bice (R-OK)**, **Jake Ellzey (R-TX)**, **Ashley Hinson (R-IA)**, **Steny Hoyer (D-MD)**, **Dave Joyce (R-OH)**, **Betty McCollum (D-MN)**, **John Moolenaar (R-MI)**, and **Steve Womack (R-AR)**.
 - Friends on the crucial Appropriations Subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations, including Republican lead **Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)** and presumptive Democratic lead **Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY)**, alongside **Reps. Chuck Edwards (R-NC)**, **Lois Frankel (D-FL)**, **Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA)**, **Norma Torres (D-CA)**, and **Hal Rogers (R-KY)**.
 - Key members of the Foreign Affairs Committee, including current Republican and Democratic leads **Reps. Michael McCaul (R-TX)** and **Gregory Meeks (D-NY)**, along with **Jim Baird (R-IN)**, **Andy Barr (R-KY)**, **Ami Bera (D-CA)**, **Joaquin Castro (D-TX)**, **Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick (D-FL)**, **Gerry Connolly (D-VA)**, **Madeleine Dean (D-PA)**, **French Hill (R-AR)**, **Darrell Issa (R-CA)**, **Sara Jacobs (D-CA)**, **Jonathan Jackson (D-IL)**, **John James (R-MI)**, **Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-CA)**, **Tom Kean Jr. (R-NJ)**, **Young Kim (R-CA)**, **Mike Lawler (R-NY)**, **Nathaniel Moran (R-TX)**, **Brad Schneider (D-IL)**, **Dina Titus (D-NV)**, **Ann Wagner (R-MO)**, and **Joe Wilson (R-SC)**.
 - Military veterans and service corps leaders, including For Country Caucus Co-Chairs **Reps. Jason Crow (D-CO)**, **Tony Gonzales (R-TX)**, **Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA)**, and **Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)**, as well as **Don Bacon (R-NE)**, **Jack Bergman (R-MI)**, **Chrissy Houlahan (D-PA)**, **Zach Nunn (R-IA)**, **Ted Lieu (D-CA)**, **Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)**, **August Pfluger (R-TX)**, and **Mike Waltz (R-FL)**.
 - Other close friends of USGLC, including **Reps. Randy Feenstra (R-IA)**, **Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)**, **Darin LaHood (R-IL)**, **Frank Lucas (R-OK)**, **Tracey Mann (R-KS)**, **Max Miller (R-OH)**, **Blake Moore (R-UT)**, **Gwen Moore (D-WI)**, **Rep. Deborah Ross (D-NC)**, **Adam Smith (D-WA)**, and **Marc Veasey (D-TX)**.
- **FAMILIAR FRESHMAN FACES.** The incoming Freshman class includes two Members-elect who previously served on USGLC State Advisory Committees – **Michael Baumgartner (R-WA)** and **Yassamin Ansari (D-AZ)** – joining a growing list of 14 bipartisan former USGLC State Advisory Committee members who now serve in both chambers of the Congress.

LEADERSHIP & COMMITTEES

If Republicans hold their majority, much of their current leadership line-up is expected to remain in place. Likewise, Democrats are expected to retain their current leadership lineup whether they win or lose the majority. Democratic leadership on key committees will remain in place, while Republicans may see some movement on the Foreign Affairs Committee.

- **REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP.** If Republicans hold the majority, **Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA)** is favored to retain the gavel. Under this scenario, **Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA)**, **Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-MN)**, and **Conference Chair Elise Stefanik (R-NY)** will also be favored to remain in their respective roles.
- **DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP.** If Democrats win the majority, **Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)** is expected to become the Speaker, with **Reps. Katherine Clark (D-MA)** and **Pete Aguilar (D-CA)** holding onto the number two and number three roles, respectively.
- **APPROPRIATIONS.** **Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)** is expected to continue as the top Republican, with **Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)** remaining as the top Democrat. Current State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee Chair **Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)** is expected to remain as the subcommittee's top Republican, while **Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY)** is expected to become the top Democrat on the panel, replacing **Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)** who is retiring.
- **FOREIGN AFFAIRS.** While **Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX)** is term-limited as the committee's top Republican, he has stated that he will pursue a waiver to stay in his role. **Reps. Darrell Issa (R-CA)** and **Ann Wagner (R-MO)** are also running for the top post, with three additional candidates potentially in the mix: **Reps. Brian Mast (R-FL)**, **Chris Smith (R-NJ)**, and **Joe Wilson (R-SC)**. On the Democratic side, **Rep. Gregory Meeks (R-NY)** will remain in the top leadership post.
- **BUDGET.** **Reps. Brendan Boyle (R-PA)** and **Jodey Arrington (R-TX)** are both expected to retain their respective parties' top posts on the committee.
- **ARMED SERVICES.** **Reps. Mike Rogers (R-AL)** and **Adam Smith (D-WA)** are both expected to retain their respective parties' top posts on the committee.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

As the 118th Congress winds down, the USGLC would like to thank the many longstanding supporters of America's global leadership who will not be returning to the House next year:

- The USGLC extends a special thank you to **Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX)**, a longtime member of the House Appropriations Committee who chaired it for much of the 118th Congress, served as its ranking member from 2019 through 2022, and chaired its State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee from 2011 through 2017. Her tireless work on behalf of women and girls, promoting democratic values abroad, and passionate belief in America's global leadership will leave their mark for generations to come.
- Additionally, a heartfelt thank you to **Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA)**, who has been a leading foreign policy voice in Congress for decades and has built a well-deserved reputation as one of the fiercest champions of America's global leadership, culminating in her role as the top Democrat on the Appropriations State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee. Congresswoman Lee is affectionately known as the "mother" of PEPFAR, working with President George W. Bush and bipartisan Members of Congress to launch the transformative program to fight global HIV/AIDS. From empowering women and girls, to preventing violence and conflict, to promoting human rights, to fighting global poverty and hunger – she has been at the forefront of legislative efforts to address the most complex global challenges of our time, and her powerful voice will be sorely missed in Congress.

- We would also like to recognize **Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI)**, who served as the first chairman of the Select Committee on Strategic Competition with the Chinese Communist Party. His groundbreaking work atop the committee – and his commitment to bipartisanship – helped pave the way for innovative legislative ideas to address one of America’s central foreign policy challenges and will continue into the 119th Congress.
- Our sincere thanks to **Reps. Jerry Carl (R-AL), Matt Cartwright (D-PA), Jake LaTurner (R-KS), and Chris Stewart (R-UT)**, who consistently championed America’s international affairs programs and resources from their positions on the State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee. An additional thank you to **Reps. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD) and Jennifer Wexton (D-VA)**, who sit on the Appropriations Committee and previously served on the State-Foreign Operations Subcommittee.
- We are also grateful to **Reps. Kelly Armstrong (R-ND), Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Larry Bucshon (R-IN), Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Drew Ferguson (R-GA), Annie Kuster (D-NH), Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO), Kathy Manning (D-NC), Patrick McHenry (R-NC), Greg Pence (R-IN), Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), Abigail Spanberger (D-VA), Brad Wenstrup (R-OH), Susan Wild (D-PA)** and many others who have been strong supporters of America’s role in the world throughout their careers in Congress. We look forward to continuing to work closely with them in the future.

Future of the International Affairs Budget

FINALIZING the 18TH CONGRESS

The 118th Congress returns next week with a pressing to-do list for the lame duck session, including approving domestic disaster aid and addressing FY25 appropriations. Members will need to decide whether to pass a final spending package – which will require bipartisan, bicameral agreement – or extend the current Continuing Resolution (CR), which expires on December 20th.

The FY25 International Affairs Budget

Reaching a bipartisan, bicameral deal on full-year spending bills will be no easy task given significant differences between Republicans and Democrats on topline spending levels as well as specific funding priorities. When it comes to the FY25 International Affairs Budget, the Senate proposal includes a 6% (\$3.4 billion) increase, while the House makes a steep 12% (-\$7.3 billion) cut compared to the FY24 enacted level.

International Affairs Budget Snapshot

	FY24 Enacted*	FY25 Request**	FY25 House	FY25 Senate
Non-Emergency	\$57.5 billion	\$63.1 billion	\$52.7 billion	\$57.1 billion
Base Emergency	\$2.5 billion	\$2.8 billion	\$0	\$5.9 billion
Total	\$60.0 billion	\$65.9 billion	\$52.7 billion	\$63.4 billion

**Excludes \$26.8 billion in emergency funding primarily for Ukraine, Israel, Taiwan, and global humanitarian assistance*

***Reflects CBO's re-estimate of the Administration's request*

There are a few scenarios that could play out during the lame duck when it comes to action on FY25 spending bills:

- **Omnibus/Minibus.** If bipartisan congressional leaders can reach a deal on topline spending levels, Congress could approve an omnibus package containing all 12 FY25 appropriations bills before year's end, or several minibus packages containing multiple appropriations bills.
- **CRomnibus.** If bipartisan Congressional leaders reach a topline spending deal but are unable to agree on all 12 individual FY25 appropriations bills, they could approve a package that includes some FY25 bills alongside a CR that would fund the remaining bill(s) at FY24 enacted levels for the remainder of the fiscal year.

If these efforts are unsuccessful, the following scenarios could result:

- **Short-Term CR.** While many Democratic and Republican Members of Congress would prefer to complete action on FY25 spending bills in the lame duck, there could be a push from Republican lawmakers to pass another stopgap funding bill until early 2025.
- **Government Shutdown.** If lawmakers are unable to reach a topline spending deal or approve a short-term CR before the current CR expires on December 20th, a federal government shutdown could result.

» As the appropriations process moves forward, the USGLC urges Congress to provide no less than the Senate-proposed level of \$63.4 billion for the FY25 International Affairs Budget to ensure America has the necessary tools to meet the urgent needs affecting our economic and security interests.

Foreign Affairs Policy and Authorizing Legislation

In the final weeks of the 118th Congress, Members also have an opportunity to advance legislation to strengthen and enhance America's development and diplomacy tools on a bipartisan basis.

Potential legislative agenda items could include a reauthorization of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development (READ) Act, and a five-year reauthorization of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEFPAR), as well as several other bipartisan foreign affairs-related provisions included in the Senate version of the FY25 National Defense Authorization Act, – such as expanded country eligibility for Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) compacts, and reauthorizing the State Department's Global Engagement Center.

Action on these items in the lame duck will ultimately come down to prioritization and timing, with many likely to resurface in the 119th Congress.

A Look Ahead to the 119th Congress

The swearing-in of the 119th Congress on January 3rd will usher in a new era and a host of new opportunities and challenges when it comes to legislating. If Congress punts final decisions on FY25 spending to the New Year, the 119th Congress will be tasked with wrapping up FY25 and beginning work on FY26 spending bills in rapid succession.

Republicans and Democrats in Congress have long supported strong funding for the International Affairs Budget and have worked together to ensure America's development and diplomacy programs are effective, accountable, and data driven. With no shortage of global threats – whether it is authoritarian collaboration between Russia, China, and Iran; wars raging in Europe and the Middle East; or historic humanitarian emergencies – the 119th Congress will likely be faced with critical foreign affairs decisions that will impact the security and economic prosperity of Americans.

Key Dates

- **November 12:** Lame Duck Session Begins
- **November 13:** House and Senate Republican Leadership Elections
- **November 13-19; November 28-December 3:** New Member Orientations
- **November 22-December 2:** District Work Period & Thanksgiving
- **December 20:** FY24 Continuing Resolution Expires
- **January 3, 2025:** Opening and Swearing-In of 119th Congress

New Faces in Washington

The following profiles offer insights into all new incoming Senators' positions on USGLC's core issues: America's role in the world and the importance of international development and diplomacy.

- **Maryland:** Angela Alsobrooks (D)
Replacing retiring Senator Ben Cardin (D)
- **Indiana:** Jim Banks (R)
Replacing retiring Senator Mike Braun (R)
- **Delaware:** Lisa Blunt Rochester (D)
Replacing retiring Senator Tom Carper (D)
- **Utah:** John Curtis (R)
Replacing retiring Senator Mitt Romney (R)
- **Arizona:** Ruben Gallego (D) leading Kari Lake (R)
Replacing retiring Senator Kyrsten Sinema (I)
**as of Nov 8 race not yet officially called*
- **West Virginia:** Jim Justice (R)
Replacing retiring Senator Joe Manchin (I)
- **New Jersey:** Andy Kim (D)
Replacing retiring Senator George Helmy (D)
- **Pennsylvania:** Dave McCormick (R) leading Senator Bob Casey (D)
Replacing Senator Bob Casey (D)
**as of Nov 8 race not yet officially called*
- **Ohio:** Bernie Moreno (R)
Replacing Senator Sherrod Brown (D)
- **California:** Adam Schiff (D)
Replacing retiring Senator Laphonza Butler (D)
- **Montana:** Tim Sheehy (R)
Replacing Senator Jon Tester (D)
- **Michigan:** Elissa Slotkin (D)
Replacing retiring Senator Debbie Stabenow (D)



Senator-Elect
ANGELA ALSOBROOKS
Democrat from Maryland

A native Marylander who served as Prince George's County Executive and State's Attorney, Senator-Elect Angela Alsobrooks comes to the U.S. Senate with a belief in the critical role America must play on the world stage with an obligation to stand by its allies and support the cause of democracy, [saying](#) "if we do not do this, we are not only sending the wrong signal across the world that America cannot be trusted as an ally, we have to continue... making sure that we're standing with our allies and continue to promote the

cause of democracy, freedom, human rights, integrity, decency."

On foreign policy, she believes that the U.S. has a pivotal role to play in the "international economy and in promoting peace worldwide," [adding that](#) "we must ensure we keep the United States safe and strong while standing up to dictators and authoritarian governments around the world."

On diplomacy:

- During the campaign, Alsobrooks [said](#) that she "will support a diplomacy-first foreign policy to promote democracy and peace around the world."

On the war in Ukraine:

- Alsobrooks has spoken out in favor of continued assistance to Ukraine, [affirming](#) that "the aid to Ukraine has to come, and I think the aid has to be without limits. Ukraine is an important ally to the United States, and it's a democracy... They're asking for the tools that are necessary for them to win a fight that they have to fight and have to win against Vladimir Putin, who is not only a dangerous dictator, but he's a thug-like murderer."
- On the two-year anniversary of the war, she [stated](#) that "we are united in our mission to stand by our allies in their valiant fight against Putin. We all have a right to live lives free from tyranny." She [added](#) that "if the U.S. does not support Ukraine, it will embolden Russian President Vladimir Putin to invade other countries in Eastern Europe."

On the global competition with China:

- Discussing the threat China poses to Taiwan, Alsobrooks [stated](#) that "what I believe, with respect to China, is if we do not stand up to Vladimir Putin... that China will invade Taiwan, the smartest thing we do is to really shore up our alliances, through NATO and our multilateral relationships, to act as a deterrent to China, who is watching, and they will see what the United States does with respect to Ukraine, to decide whether to go into Taiwan."

On alliances:

- On the key role of NATO to Ukraine, Alsobrooks [emphasized](#) that "as U.S. leaders, it is our duty to uphold critical alliances like NATO, while working with our allies to continue supporting Ukraine in its fight for freedom. I look forward to working with my colleagues to strengthen America's partnership with its NATO allies."
- Speaking to the critical role of alliances in the Middle East, she [stated](#) "the need, on a long term basis, to make sure that we are building those multilateral relationships with [the] UAE and Jordan and Saudi Arabia that will allow us to isolate Iran and to thereby create the kind of peace and stability that's going to be needed on a long term basis in the Middle East. Those relationships are going to be critically important."

- She has called Israel an important ally, [saying](#) that “the United States and Israel not only share common values, but also share common interests, and that relationship between the United States and Israel is a longstanding one.”

Born and raised in Prince George’s County, Maryland, Senator-Elect Angela Alsobrooks becomes Maryland’s first Black Senator. She is a graduate of Duke University and the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law.



Senator-Elect **JIM BANKS** Republican from Indiana

A native Hoosier, five-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives, and Navy Reserve Veteran who served in Afghanistan during Operations Enduring Freedom and Freedom's Sentinel, Senator-Elect Jim Banks comes to the U.S. Senate with a [belief](#) that "our foreign policy should come from a place of strength, and there must be no question that America will always defend its standing."

During his tenure in the House, Banks engaged on issues of U.S. national security from his seat on the Armed Services Committee. In touting U.S. global leadership through an America First foreign policy lens, he has [stated](#) that "we have to be on the side of America first - in restoring and rebuilding America - [and] then we can be the leaders around the globe that America has traditionally been. America can't lead abroad when we're so weak at home."

On the International Affairs Budget, he most recently voted in favor of a July 2020 amendment that would have cut each spending amount in the FY21 SFOPS bill by 5%. He also voted in favor of four similar amendments in 2020, including introducing one of the cutting amendments himself.

On the war in Ukraine:

- Senator-Elect Banks – who voted against additional funding for Ukraine in the final FY23 spending package – has consistently stood in opposition to providing aid and assistance to Ukraine and has sought to tie continued support and assistance to Ukraine to border security, [arguing](#) that "no more money to secure Ukraine's border until we secure our own" and adding that "there's no accountability for the flow of money sent to Ukraine."
- Describing what he calls "the lack of clearly defined objective or a substantive plan for bringing the war to an end," he has [stated](#) that "I'm pro-Ukraine and anti-Russia," but has questioned "the purpose [of additional funds]... Is this another failed nation-building exercise? What is the purpose?"
- Following the Russia's attack, he [expressed](#) support for Ukraine, saying that "I'm praying for the people of Ukraine. This unjust attack was completely avoidable and will have dire consequences. Putin and his oligarch thugs must be expelled from any and all luxuries of the free world."

On the global competition with China:

- A member of Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, Banks has been an outspoken critic on China, [stating](#) that "America's foremost adversary, the Chinese Communist Party, has long pursued a malign agenda to weaken America from within. We can no longer sit back and allow the CCP to subvert our institutions, influence American students, and steal the crown jewels of American innovation."
- In discussing the threat China poses and increasing coordination of America's rivals, he has [said](#) that "Russia's menacing posturing against Ukraine is propped up by Beijing, Iran's escalation of its nuclear extortion is also buttressed by the financial lifeline that Beijing maintained with Tehran. What's also become increasingly clear is that China seeks to be the dominant force within a new world order run by authoritarians."
- In introducing the Stop CCP Fentanyl Act, he [stated](#) that "this presents a major threat to our national security and combatting this crisis starts with holding Communist China accountable."

- An author of the Countering China's Political Warfare Act and the Countering Communist China Act, he has [noted](#) that, "through Xi's increased authoritarianism and disregard for international norms, the Chinese communist leader is working to build the regime into a world threat rather than a responsible nation contributing to regional peace and security."

On alliances:

- A [critic](#) of some multilateral and international organizations, Banks has called for the U.S. to withdraw from the World Health Organization and United Nations Human Rights Council.
- As the Co-Chair of the bipartisan Future of Defense Task Force – which tackled emerging threats to America's national security – he co-authored an op-ed on the role building strategic alliances and partnerships should play, [writing](#) "we need to renew our relationships with our close allies, but also form new ones that serve our strategic interests both geopolitically and technologically."
- He has [called](#) Israel "our most important and cherished ally in the world" and has [argued](#) that "the stronger that Israel is the better off America is. I believe anything America can do to further support a strong Israel is the greatest deterrent to those who aren't acting in the best interest of America and creating havoc in that part of the world."

Senator-Elect Jim Banks joins the U.S Senate after representing Indiana's 3rd Congressional District since 2017 and served as the Chairman of the Republican Study Committee. He has traveled extensively overseas, including to Israel, Kenya, Afghanistan, and Eastern Europe. Prior to his election to Congress, Banks served in the Indiana State Senate from 2010-2016.



Senator-Elect **JOHN CURTIS** Republican from Utah

A native Utahn, who was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2017 and previously served as the Mayor of Provo, Senator-Elect John Curtis has been a steadfast supporter of U.S. global leadership and engagement, [stating](#) “throughout my life, I’ve had countless opportunities to see the value of U.S. global leadership around the world... In every conversation I’ve had in every country I’ve visited, one thing that has remained perfectly clear to me is that U.S. leadership on the global stage is more important than ever.”

The USGLC has been proud to host Senator-Elect Curtis as in Utah, where he has spoken out on the importance of America’s role in the world and the need for development and diplomacy programs, [saying](#) “when America engages around the world, we all stand to benefit... I am committed to supporting the vital U.S. government programs that protect our nation’s interests abroad. Our global ties help to open new markets for U.S. businesses and create jobs for Americans, while U.S. diplomats and development workers overseas are preventing conflicts and wiping out diseases before they reach our borders.”

As a founder of the Conservative Climate Caucus, he has been outspoken on climate issues during his tenure in the House, [calling](#) “the threat of climate change is real,” and arguing that conservatives “are committed to efforts that will reduce America’s emissions, not our economy; cut energy prices, not energy choices; and export American innovation, not American jobs.”

On diplomacy and global development:

- In speaking of the critical value of diplomacy and development, Curtis [stated](#) at 2019 USGLC event, “I’m often reminded of the legendary quote by General Mattis, our former Secretary of Defense. ‘If you don’t fund the State Department fully, then I need to buy more ammunition.’ The more we invest in our international relationships... the less we spend on armed conflict down the road” and while “diplomacy does require time, money, and energy... the evidence throughout our history shows that diplomacy is one of the strongest investments we can make for our security and our economic interests.”
- Touting the value of foreign aid and development programs as a “key to creating opportunity abroad,” he – in response to the Trump administration’s proposed cuts – [highlighted](#) that “continuing aid actually saves us money by creating stability, avoiding wars and creating markets for U.S. exports” and adding that, “it sounds like we are spending 1 percent of our budget on someone else... we are spending it on ourselves.... We are saving, in my opinion, our men’s and women’s lives who would otherwise have to fight battles.”
- He has also supported legislation to strengthen development and diplomacy programs, such as the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act, the Global Health Security Act of 2021, and the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022. He is also a co-sponsor of the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021 and BURMA Act of 2021.

On the war in Ukraine:

- Senator-Elect Curtis has consistently expressed support for Ukraine, [voting](#) in support of the national security emergency supplemental, “the United States must take decisive action abroad to prevent the worst-case scenario, allowing our adversaries in Russia, China, and Iran to bring chaos throughout the globe to the detriment of our national security,” and [adding](#) that, “over three-quarters of money spent on Ukraine aid stays in the U.S., to buy and build new weapons stocks, with \$90 million going to Utah’s Hill Air Force Base.”

- Following Russia's attack, he [emphasized](#) that "all people across the globe must unite to reject the assault on our friends in Ukraine. The U.S. and partner countries must hold nothing back as we escalate financial pressure and sanctions on Russia."
- After President Zelensky's address to Congress in 2022, he called for continued aid and assistance, [saying](#) "we need to do what we can to help Ukraine and, as I have called for already, we must give them more weapons and resources to defend themselves and increase sanctions against Russia. By supporting Ukraine, along with our European allies, we can show Putin he will not win this unprovoked invasion."
- However, he has also voiced concerns related to transparency and accountability, NATO support, and the country's path to victory, [stating](#) "I support Ukraine in their war. I support continued funding for their efforts, but these are basic questions any organization would ask in a transaction. To continue spending Utahns taxpayer dollars, Congress must receive assurances to these questions."

On the global competition with China:

- Curtis – who speaks Mandarin – has [touted](#) his "deep personal connection to Taiwan," serving as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the country in 1979, and has [said](#) his "time in the region has given me a unique understanding of the history, culture, and language."
- He has been a vocal critic of China, [saying](#) it "is a growing threat to the United States" and [calling](#) the country "a threat to global stability with their posture towards Taiwan, which ultimately impacts our homeland and economy."
- In response to China's increased bullying and aggression, he [authored](#) the bipartisan TAIPEI Act, which passed the House and Senate and was signed into law by President Trump, and "strengthens Taiwan's position in the world by promoting free trade negotiations, supporting Taiwan's participation in international organizations, and protecting its relations with its allies. This bill makes for a powerful statement and demonstrates that the United States stands with its democratic and free-market partners throughout the world."

On alliances:

- Recognizing the threats and challenges, especially from America's rivals, Curtis [stated](#) that he is "firmly committed to protecting our nation's interests abroad and supporting our allies across the globe—especially our NATO allies and Israel."
- Following passage of the national security emergency supplemental – which he voted in favor of in April – he [stressed](#) the importance of supporting our allies, "the United States must take decisive action abroad to prevent the worst-case scenario, allowing our adversaries in Russia, China, and Iran to bring chaos throughout the globe to the detriment of our national security. We don't live in a bubble, and deterring our enemies is critical to prevent escalation of conflicts that impact our country."
- A strong supporter of Israel, he [reiterated](#) his "unwavering support for the State of Israel, its defense of its people, and the return of the hostages who have endured a year in darkness, facing unimaginable torture, starvation, and abuse," following the attack on Israel by Hamas.

Senator-Elect John Curtis joins the U.S Senate after spending seven years representing Utah's 3rd Congressional District. He served on the Foreign Affairs, Energy and Natural Resources Committees and founded the House Conservative Climate Caucus. He has travelled overseas to Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South and America. Prior to his election to Congress, Curtis was a small business owner.



Senator-Elect

LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

Democrat from Delaware

A four-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the first Black woman to represent Delaware in both the House and Senate, Senator-Elect Lisa Blunt Rochester has expressed strong support for U.S. global leadership, [stating](#) that “throughout my life, I have had the privilege of visiting, working, and living in 30 countries. I have experienced the vibrance of new democracies, and I have witnessed the challenges of those living under corrupt regimes or

authoritarian powers. In all my travels one truth has remained constant: the United States has continued to stand as a beacon of hope and freedom.”

Senator-Elect Blunt Rochester has attended and spoken at every USGLC Mid-Atlantic Summit since being in the House, where she has [said](#), “time and time again, our nation has stood tall and been a leader for diplomacy, freedom and hope, but now more than ever, we must stand up and make the right investments. If we say we believe in peace, then we need to invest in peace. If we say we believe in diplomacy, we must invest in diplomacy. If we say we believe in development because it lifts all boats, then we must invest in development on that.”

On diplomacy and global development:

- As a supporter of strategic investments in diplomacy and development programs throughout her tenure in the House, Blunt Rochester emphasized the importance of making “the right investments in our domestic and global priorities” at USGLC’s 2024 Mid-Atlantic Summit, [saying](#) “that’s why forums such as today’s are so crucial – because it gives us an opportunity to come together to talk about how we can expand critical development and diplomacy programs while creating good-paying jobs at home and abroad.”
- She has a strong voting record on the International Affairs Budget, voting against amendments that would have cut the International Affairs Budget topline, including a July 2020 Amendment that would have cut funding for America’s development and diplomacy programs in the FY21 SFOPS bill by 5% across-the-board. She also supported legislation to strengthen development and diplomacy programs, including voting in favor of the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act; Global Health Security Act of 2021; Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022. She is also a co-sponsor of the BURMA Act of 2021.
- Voting in support of the national security emergency supplemental, she [emphasized](#) the role of diplomacy, stating “the focus on diplomacy, is so important. But it's not just a single objective. Diplomacy is a way for us to unite and foster a safer world. That's exactly what happened over the past week, when house the House of Representatives and the Senate came together in a bipartisan way to pass historic legislation that national security funding package for our allies abroad and for humanitarian aid was probably one of the most consequential votes we have taken, at least in my time.”

On the war in Ukraine:

- Senator-Elect Blunt Rochester has expressed support for Ukraine, [saying](#) “I cannot stress strongly enough the danger this invasion poses both to the Ukrainian people and to our international order... Through both the tools we have at our disposal as the United States government, and with our NATO allies, we must send a clear signal to Putin that these flagrant acts of war will not be tolerated.”
- Following President Zelensky’s address to a joint session of Congress, she affirmed why Ukraine continues to matter [stating](#) that, “put plainly - Ukraine’s security and democratic ideals are inextricably tied to our security, our ideals, and those of our allies.”

On alliances:

- Blunt Rochester [addressed](#) why the national security emergency supplemental was critical for our alliances, “I voted in favor of legislation that I believe upholds America’s national security interests and democracy around the world. It is crucial to me that I voted on these three pieces of legislation together and that they reflect the Senate-passed bipartisan national security supplemental. These bills meet the consequential moment we are in by providing vital assistance to our democratic allies Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan.”
- Following Russia’s unprovoked attack of Ukraine, she [stressed](#) the need to partner with our allies, “through both the tools we have at our disposal as the United States government, and with our NATO allies, we must send a clear signal to Putin that these flagrant acts of war will not be tolerated.”

On global health:

- Amid the global pandemic, Blunt Rochester [highlighted](#) why leading globally matters locally in an increasingly interconnected world, stating “the global economy is facing its greatest crisis since the Great Depression – something we’re feeling acutely here in Delaware and the Mid-Atlantic region at large. This ongoing health pandemic shows the close connection between our health and our economy, and without action, U.S. businesses and American jobs could be in jeopardy, not to mention our country’s economic recovery. I’m working with my colleagues in Congress to ensure that our response to COVID-19 helps those most in need – here at home and abroad – and invests in the tools and resources required to protect against future health threats.”

Senator-Elect Lisa Blunt Rochester joins the U.S. Senate after representing Delaware’s 1st Congressional District since 2017, serving on the House Energy and Commerce and Agriculture Committees. She co-founded the bipartisan Future of Work Caucus and was a member of the House Progressive Caucus. She graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a degree in International Relations and went on to earn a graduate degree from the University of Delaware.



Senator-Elect
RUBEN GALLEGO
Democrat from Arizona

A five-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives and Marine Corps combat veteran who served in Iraq, Senator-Elect Ruben Gallego will be the first Latino to represent Arizona in the U.S. Senate and with a strong [belief](#) that “America has what it takes to be a responsible leader on the world stage and stand up to enemies of democracy.”

USGLC has been proud to host Senator-Elect Gallego on multiple occasions, including in Arizona during his first-term as a freshman House member. Making the connection between Arizona and global engagement, he joined a USGLC Virtual Town Hall and [stated](#) that “what happens in the world affects us here at home... America’s global engagement is critical to respond to COVID-19, climate change, and other global challenges that threaten communities here in the United States. I am dedicated to supporting strong American global leadership, including resources for our country’s diplomats, health experts, and development personnel.”

On diplomacy and global development:

- A supporter of diplomacy and development programs in Congress, Gallego has recognized the importance of our civilian national security toolkit in addressing the authoritarian threat from Russia. He joined fellow representatives in [emphasizing](#) that “diplomacy and development are a crucial part of this equation... we cannot rely on military force while neglecting diplomacy and development” and including “supporting robust State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development budgets for governance and democracy.”
- Throughout his tenure in the House, he has built a strong voting record on the International Affairs Budget, voting against all six amendments that would have cut the 2024 International Affairs Budget topline, including an amendment that would have cut funding for USAID by \$4.5 billion.
- He has supported legislation to strengthen development and diplomacy programs, including voting in favor of the Global Health Security Act of 2021, the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022, and the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022. He is also a co-sponsor of the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021; and the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of 2021.

On the war in Ukraine:

- In the House, Gallego has been an outspoken supporter of Ukraine, [leading](#) multiple Congressional delegations to the country and [emphasizing](#) that “I have one message for the Russian Federation: we stand with Ukraine.”
- In the aftermath of Russia’s unprovoked invasion, he outlined the threat to global stability, [saying](#) Russia’s actions “unilaterally and radically changed European security by violating the territorial integrity of a sovereign state and threatening peace and stability beyond Ukraine’s borders.”
- He has called for continued assistance and aid, [stating](#) that “this war is far from over, and to ensure Ukraine remains a sovereign democracy, the United States cannot let up on providing the arms, intelligence, and aid Ukraine requires to defend its homeland.”
- Following a trip to Ukraine, he [reaffirmed](#) his commitment to the embattled country stating, “I led a delegation to make sure our partners in Ukraine had the resources they needed to fight any further incursion by Putin. One year later, we went back, and I was moved to witness firsthand the resilience and drive of the Ukrainian people as they defend their homeland... I am more committed than ever to fight and ensure Ukraine gets the arms and resources it needs to protect its democracy.”

On the global competition with China:

- From his perch on the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations, Gallego [spoke out](#) on the “threat China poses here at home,” highlighting that he has, “[introduced legislation](#) to counter the Chinese Communist Party’s influence in Latin America and [worked to strengthen](#) cooperation and coordination between the U.S. and Taiwan.”

On alliances:

- Following passage of the national security emergency supplemental – which he voted in favor of in April – Gallego [stressed](#) the importance of supporting our alliances and partnerships, “around the world, we are seeing a struggle between democracy and autocracy that threatens America and our interests. As supporters of freedom, it is vital to our national security that the U.S. stands with our allies and partners in their fight against tyranny.”
- Touting legislation “that would prevent any U.S. suspension of, termination of, or withdrawal from NATO unless and until Congress is consulted and gives its approval for such a move,” he [stated](#) that “NATO is and will remain a critical force for deterring Russian attempts to corrupt western democracy and for permanently underwriting U.S. and allied security. There is no more comparable collection of capable, coordinated, and effective nations at preserving the common defense than this alliance.”
- As the co-chair of the House Baltic Caucus, he has [spoken out](#) on the “continued and steadfast commitment to our Baltic allies [Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia],” [stating](#) that “we stand with our Baltic and NATO allies... And our commitment to Article 5 is ironclad... our support for NATO is bipartisan and bicameral... one of my proudest moments in Congress was securing a first-ever authorization for the Baltic Security Initiative... If we draw any lessons from the ongoing war in Ukraine it is that we need to ensure our allies and partners are too prickly for any adversary or competitor to swallow. And we will continue to stand with our Baltic allies in an increasingly dangerous neighborhood.”
- Expressing support for Israel, he [said](#) “I wanted to communicate... a determination that we will stand with Israel. We will help them in this fight against terrorism, and that we will be there every step of the way.”

On global health:

- Celebrating World AIDS Day in 2019, Gallego [pointed](#) to “the major strides that the global health community has made in the fight against HIV/AIDS” and that “we must continue to push for funding and policies that will preserve this hard-won progress and make sure that the United States remains a leader in the push for an AIDS-free world.”

Senator-Elect Ruben Gallego, the son of immigrants from Colombia and Mexico, joins the U.S Senate after representing Arizona’s 7th and 3rd Congressional Districts since 2015. He has also served on the House Natural Resources and Veterans’ Affairs Committees and was a Helsinki Commissioner and co-chair of the House Baltic Caucus. He is a graduate of Harvard University.



Senator-Elect
JIM JUSTICE
Republican from West Virginia

As a candidate, Senator-Elect Jim Justice [aligned](#) himself with President Ronald Reagan's vision of global leadership, "America must lead the world from a position of strength. The only way to ensure stability and security is to be taken seriously on the world stage." He has also affirmed President Trump's "America First" foreign policy mantra, [stating](#) it "kept our country safe and put our enemies on notice. This was accomplished with no new foreign conflicts."

On foreign policy, Justice [believes](#) "we must ensure that our military, national security, and defense agencies have the technology, manpower, training, and equipment to project strength, stand up to our enemies, and keep us safe."

On global economic engagement:

- Justice has stated his view that [energy independence](#) is key to economic security and global stability, "we have a colossal problem in this world right now. Energy has become weaponized. There's only one solution. This country needs to be energy independent in every single, solitary way."
- As Governor, he has touted "competing on the world stage" as critical to West Virginia's economic development, [emphasizing](#) that "our continued growth in exports showcases the incredible strength of West Virginia's economy. West Virginia businesses delivered quality products and services to 140 countries around the world last year [2022] which is proof that we are not only competitive in global markets, but growing year after year."

On the war in Ukraine:

- As Governor, Justice affirmed that U.S. support for Ukraine is important and has condemned Russia for its aggression, [saying](#) "in West Virginia, we stand up for what's right, which is why we stand united with Ukraine in every way... With Putin choosing to continue his deadly assault on Ukraine, he has shown us what he truly is: a monster and a madman."
- In asking the West Virginia Legislature join him in pledging \$5 million in assistance for the Ukrainian maternity and children's hospital bombed by Russian military forces, he [wrote](#) that "the ongoing war on Ukraine is beyond tragic, with Russia bombing civilians and committing war crimes upon the heroic people of Ukraine... We must take action to show solidarity and support at any level we can. I believe this \$5 million pledge may spur others to contribute, to join together in support, and to show Putin that the free world stands together in support of Ukraine."

On alliances

- Speaking out on the importance of Israel during his campaign for Governor, Justice has [said](#) "the United States has a moral obligation to protect Israel, and supporting Israel protects our interests in the Middle East. We know that the path to peace in the Middle East runs through a strong U.S.-Israel relationship, and as such, we must always stand with Israel."

Prior to being elected to the U.S. Senate, Jim Justice served as the 36th Governor of West Virginia since 2017 and was re-elected in 2020. He built his career in farming and energy, starting Justice Family Farms and as President and CEO of Bluestone Industries and Bluestone Coal Corporation.



Senator-Elect
ANDY KIM
Democrat from New Jersey

A three-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives and career public servant with experience at USAID, the U.S. Departments of Defense and State, and as a civilian advisor to General David Petraeus in Afghanistan, Senator-Elect Andy Kim arrives to the Senate as a strong champion for America's development and diplomacy programs.

USGLC has been proud to host Senator-Elect Kim at our Global Impact Forum. He has focused on the [need](#) to “engage in a strategic approach to our national security across our diplomatic, economic, and military efforts.” Connecting global stability and American stability, he has [emphasized](#) that “instability abroad, addressing the security issues abroad, are so vital to our ability to be able to provide for our communities, for our state. We’ve seen how economic turmoil abroad or conflicts abroad affect us, in the same way it did during the pandemic... we have to also be able to make sure that we’re addressing the global security, which does affect us here at home.”

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs and Armed Services Committees, Kim has spoken out on the importance of America's role in the world and against isolationism, [saying](#) “these are difficult and chaotic times, but I still believe American leadership has an important role to play to protect freedom and democracy around the world... we need to guard ourselves from the push to have America withdraw from the world and instead help shape stability in this volatile global era.”

On diplomacy and global development:

- As a steadfast supporter of diplomacy and development programs throughout his career, Kim [recognized](#) the importance of our civilian national security toolkit at a USGLC forum in 2023, saying “I was able to see those three Ds of our foreign policy, the Development, the Diplomacy, and the Defense to see how they work together to understand what it means in this day and age to have a comprehensive approach to the biggest challenges that we face.”
- He [added](#) that “those lessons were unbelievably important to be able to see across the board and see how they all come together and to see what we can do with the full strength of the United States government and all of our tools at our disposal.”
- He has a strong voting record on the International Affairs Budget, voting against all six amendments that would have cut the 2024 International Affairs Budget topline, including an amendment that would have cut funding for USAID by \$4.5 billion. He has supported legislation to strengthen U.S. development and diplomacy programs, including voting in favor of the Global Health Security Act of 2021, the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022, and the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022.

On the war in Ukraine:

- Senator-Elect Kim has expressed support for Ukraine, [stating](#) “our Ukrainian allies should be able to rely on us as a partner in their safety and security, and to democracy everywhere including increased funding and assistance,” and on the [need](#) for continued and increased funding and assistance, “there is an opportunity here to make a huge impact in helping the Ukrainian people defend themselves against Putin's invasion. Ukrainian leadership is asking the world to help them, and we feel the United States needs to act.”

On the global competition with China:

- As a member of the House Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, Kim [believes](#) diplomacy and deterrence aren't "mutually exclusive" in tackling the threat China poses, saying "there is... an important space, for military deterrence and security, no doubt, but it has to be paired, and it has to be done strategically... We can't be thinking about this as an existential threat or a new Cold War. If something is an existential threat, how can you have conversation or dialogue with that entity or that person? How can you have diplomacy."
- He has [stated](#) that it is critical to "build a comprehensive, clear-eyed, and strategic approach to our relationship with China and the Indo-Pacific that uses all the tools in our toolbox."

On alliances:

- Following passage of the national security emergency supplemental – which he voted in favor of in April – Kim [stressed](#) the importance of America's alliances and partnerships, "some of my colleagues espouse a belief that our support to allies and partners hurts us at home. I disagree strongly. Security abroad helps deliver stability at home, helps us keep our own families safe and our economy growing."
- Speaking to the key role of NATO, he [stated](#) that "our commitment to our NATO allies should be unwavering, and that solidarity must be a signal to Russia and others throughout the world that we are dedicated to defending democracy and confronting aggression."

Senator-Elect Andy Kim joins the U.S Senate after representing New Jersey's 3rd Congressional District since 2019. He has also served on the Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party.



Senator-Elect
BERNIE MORENO
Republican from Ohio

Born in Bogota, Colombia, Senator-Elect Bernie Moreno moved to the United States with his family at age 5 and became an American citizen at age 18. In touting “peace through strength,” Moreno has [said](#) “the reality is, the world has never been so dangerous as it is today... What keeps the world at peace, what keeps the world safe is American strength and American leadership” and [adding](#) that “our allies have got to trust us and our enemies have got to fear us.”

Moreno's worldview has been shaped by this experience, and he has approached foreign policy through an “America First” lens. He has [embraced](#) President Trump's National Security Strategy as roadmap to pursue America’s vital security interests, saying “our foreign policy must follow this roadmap and always, always, put America First. We need to spend more time and energy making America great than worrying about what other nations think of us.”

On diplomacy and global development:

- Speaking on the current conflict in the Middle East, Moreno [stated](#) that the “Middle East was on a path to peace. American strength, combined with smart diplomacy, had started to solve decades worth of conflict.”
- He has expressed skepticism about foreign assistance, especially on aid to Ukraine, [emphasizing](#) that “in Washington, D.C... They send hundreds of billions of dollars to foreign countries... and absolutely put the interests of Americans last, after everybody else.”
- During debate over the national security emergency supplemental in the U.S. Senate in April, his campaign spokesperson [affirmed](#) that he “would have supported the Israel aid in the package, but would have opposed the larger bill.”

On the war in Ukraine:

- Referring to Ukraine as another “endless war,” Moreno has [said](#), “let me answer crystal clear: absolutely no more money for Ukraine period. I’m sorry, I’m asking for you to elect me to be the Senator of the United States of America and not for Ukraine. And what a world leader does is he ends the killing and ends the war, and that’s what we should be doing.”
- He has voiced concerns related to transparency and accountability, [stating](#) “we want the killing to end in Ukraine, but we cannot continue to pump hundreds of millions of unaccountable U.S. dollars into Ukraine’s effort.”

On the global competition with China:

- During his campaign for Senate, Moreno has been an outspoken critic of China. He [highlighted](#) the need to “beat Communist China” and that “he saw schools shut down and China go unpunished for unleashing a virus on the world. He saw politicians afraid to take on the CCP for stealing our jobs and technology; buying our farmland; and influencing young minds via TikTok and Confucius Institutes” and [reiterated](#) the need to “stop the Chinese communist party from taking our data and land.”
- Discussing the issue of curbing carbon emissions, he [stated](#) that “the best way to crack down on carbon emissions is not to implement another mandate on Americans, but to hold China accountable... Our government must hold the Chinese Communist Party accountable, not appease them.”

On alliances:

- Addressing what message ending assistance and support for Ukraine would send to our allies, Moreno [said](#) “it sends a message that America's going to ensure peace and stability around the world. That we are the country and the Republican Party that is ensuring that we don't have conflicts around the world.”
- He has [said](#) that “America has no greater friend than Israel and we should always be their number one ally” and that “the United States must always stand unequivocally with Israel.”

The Senator-Elect is President of Bernie Moreno Companies and previously owned multiple car dealerships, which he later sold, and co-founded a blockchain company called ChampTitles that he also sold.



Senator-Elect
ADAM SCHIFF
Democrat from California

A twelve-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Senator-Elect Adam Schiff has been a strong supporter of America's role in the world, [stating](#) "we have a moral obligation and a strong national interest in supporting freedom-loving people around the world, in supporting democratic movements around the world, in championing people's rights to associate freely and speak freely and choose their own representatives."

During his tenure in the House, Schiff – who served as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and on the Foreign Affairs Committee – has long championed development and diplomacy programs and investments. He [believes](#) that "an America that inspires hope in its ideals is the best complement to an America that inspires awe in its strength. Integrity, generosity, and vision have always been essential cornerstones of our policy and prosperity. We are a more secure America when we rally the world to our side."

On diplomacy and global development:

- In the House, Schiff has focused on building the capacity of our nation's civilian tools of development and diplomacy, long [supporting](#) the expansion of the Foreign Service and USAID to expand American diplomatic presence abroad, "investing more in our foreign affairs and development professionals will greatly expand the ability of the State Department and USAID to perform their vital work on behalf of the nation, and advance our interests abroad."
- He has a strong voting record on the International Affairs Budget and has supported legislation to strengthen development and diplomacy programs, including voting in favor of the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act; Global Health Security Act of 2021; Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022. He was also a co-sponsor of the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of 2021 and Ethiopia Stabilization, Peace, and Democracy Act.

On the war in Ukraine:

- Schiff has been a steadfast supporter of Ukraine, [emphasizing](#) that "we need to help Ukraine." He has traveled to the country in 2022 and met with President Zelensky. Most recently, he voted in support of the national security emergency supplemental legislation in April.

On the global competition with China:

- As Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, he has spoken out on the threat China poses to the United States and liberal democracy, [saying](#) "with its expanding economic, military, and diplomatic might, [China] is at the forefront of this neoauthoritarian challenge. Beijing seeks to build a world in which its ambitions are unchallenged and individual freedoms give way to the needs of the state. The United States must rise to meet this challenge."

On alliances:

- Speaking out against the dangers of both isolationism and unilateralism, Schiff believes that America and its security is stronger with our alliances, especially NATO, [stating](#), “NATO has been responsible for the collective peace in Europe and the prosperity we’ve enjoyed and the security we’ve enjoyed at home.”
- Following passage of the national security emergency supplemental in the Senate in February, he reinforced the importance of supporting our alliances, [arguing](#) that “the stakes could not be higher. To fail in our support for our allies is to weaken our own position on the global stage. It sends a message to our adversaries that our resolve is wavering and that our international commitments can be undermined by internal divisions.”
- As a steadfast supporter of Israel, he has [said](#) – following the attacks from Hamas on October 7 – that “I stand strongly with Israel in the face of this terrorist attack by Hamas and declaration of war on the people of Israel. Israel has a right to defend itself, and the U.S. must do all it can to assist Israel as it protects its citizens and takes all necessary steps to recover the hostages taken.”

Prior to his election to the Senate, Schiff represented California’s 30th Congressional district since 2000, where he also served on the House Appropriations and Judiciary Committees. In 2006, Schiff co-founded the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Caucus for Freedom of the Press which aims to advance press freedom around the world. His dedication to press freedom resulted in the passage of the [Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act](#), the law led by Rep. Schiff places greater emphasis on press freedom as an essential component of human rights worldwide. Before entering Congress, Schiff served in the California State Senate from 1996 to 2000.



Senator-Elect

DAVID McCORMICK

Republican from Pennsylvania

A seventh generation Pennsylvanian, former Under Secretary of Treasury for International Affairs and former Army combat veteran deployed to the Middle East during Operation Desert Storm, awarded a Bronze Star, Senator-Elect David McCormick comes to the U.S. Senate as a strong supporter for U.S. global leadership, [emphasizing](#) that “the key to America’s role in the world is peace through strength.”

In pointing to the threat from America’s rivals – Russia, China, Iran – and their increasing coordination, McCormick [stated](#) that “each one of those adversaries poses a significant challenge to American security and American interests... those adversaries aligned – that gets really complicated.” He has [stressed](#) that, “the only way to counter this aggression and achieve a more stable world is by doubling down on America’s strength.”

During the 2024 campaign, McCormick joined a Polaris National Security Town Hall to discuss U.S. leadership in the world with former State Department Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus and Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC).

On diplomacy, global development and global economic engagement:

- In his confirmation hearing for Under Secretary of Treasury for International Affairs, he voiced support for diplomacy and development programs [saying](#) “if confirmed, I will immediately focus on pressing issues such as addressing growing global imbalances, accelerating China’s stable integration into the global economy, and ensuring that development assistance from the multilateral development banks is deployed effectively around the world.”
- As Treasury Under Secretary in 2008, he addressed the dangers of isolationism in touting the importance of global economic engagement, [stating](#) that “still others suggest that recovery lies in a retreat inward, away from international economic engagement, and back to what they remember as a calmer and simpler time when the U.S. was less dependent on the rest of the world. Yet, this is a false choice. In today’s global economy, a shift inward is tantamount to economic stagnation and would cost millions of jobs, deter foreign investment, curtail growth, and increase the cost of many goods and services purchased by American households.”
- Speaking about American exceptionalism, he [stressed](#) that “if we are to lead the world in fighting genocide and in promoting human rights, we must stop walking away from our global mission, even as we confront our own challenges at home. If the country that helped rebuild the West after World War II and create the institutions that sustain it is once again to play a leading role in the global order, we must stop walking away from what really makes America great.”

On the war in Ukraine:

- Calling Vladimir Putin a “bully” and “tyrant on the world stage,” McCormick has voiced support for Ukraine, [stating](#) “I believe that supporting Ukraine is in America’s interest, but I think it’s a very challenging situation.”
- He has distinguished the type of aid he supports, [saying](#) that “I think it’s important that we give military support, not economic support to Ukraine.”
- Addressing the national security emergency supplemental in Congress, he [stated](#) that, “I’m very pleased that Congress passed assistance for Israel in their war against Hamas. I would have preferred if aid to Ukraine was tied to securing the border – the two should not have been separated and should not have included \$10 billion of non-military aid to Ukraine. At the end of the day, it remains important to stand up to Putin, but it should have been done differently and more effectively.”

On the global competition with China:

- McCormick has been an outspoken critic and hardliner on China. In [unveiling](#) a six-point plan to tackle the relationship between China and the U.S. during his campaign, he [stated](#) that “to put it bluntly, China poses the greatest threat to our security and our well-being since the end of World War II.”
- In testimony before the House Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party in 2023, he [testified](#) that “I have seen how adversaries like the CCP use American intellectual property, supply chain dependence, and capital to benefit their regime at the expense of American interests. We must firmly oppose the CCP’s geopolitical ambition to overtake the United States.”

On alliances:

- On why supporting Ukraine is critical to our allies, McCormick [said](#) that “the reason I support military aid in Ukraine, not civilian aid, is because I think that to let Putin be successful in Ukraine destabilizes Europe, which is critical to America's interests. I think it sends a bad signal to our allies around the world, like Japan and Australia and others, that that we won't stand with our allies.”
- At the same time, he also [believes](#) that “the Europeans, particularly Germany and France, need to do their fair share... that our allies need to do their fair share around the world, and they haven’t been doing that.” Specifically, he [stated](#), “I think Germany and France need to pay their fair share. They're still paying significantly less than the 2% that they agreed to, and all NATO members should pay at least 2% of GDP for their militaries.”
- Traveling to Israel in the aftermath of the October 7th attacks by Hamas, he has voiced strong support for Israel, [saying](#) “we have to stand with Israel in defending its very existence.”

A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Senator-Elect David McCormick is Chief Executive Officer of Bridgewater Associates. Prior to Bridgewater, he served in the Administration of George W. Bush, as Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs, Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security, and Under Secretary of Treasury for International Affairs. He also served on the Defense Policy Board of the U.S. Department of Defense. USGLC’s Pennsylvania Advisory Committee members met with Senator-elect McCormick during the campaign to discuss America’s global leadership and role of international development and diplomacy.



Senator-Elect
TIM SHEEHY
Republican from Montana

Senator-Elect Tim Sheehy was motivated to enter politics following the U.S. withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and has [endorsed](#) an “America First foreign policy” to “stand up to adversaries like China and Iran.”

On national security, his focus has largely been on the military toolkit [stating](#) “it’s about time we reorient our military, we stand strong, and protect our interests on the world stage.” In touting his “veteran identity and real-life battlefield experience,” Sheehy [said](#) “we’re amongst the lowest percentage ever of veterans serving in Congress... It’s not disconnected that we have minimal veteran representation across all of our government... and we have some of our greatest military disasters, back-to-back-to-back-to-back.”

As a combat veteran, Sheehy has [expressed](#) that “I want to be very deliberate about what we’re going to engage with and what we’re not, because we can’t fight all the wars in the world right now. We don’t have the capability.”

On the war in Ukraine:

- Although Sheehy initially voiced support for Ukraine to win the war [stating](#), “listen, I stand with Ukraine. I supported the initial aid package when we could stop Putin’s advance to Ukraine,” he does not support continued aid and assistance, “now that conflict has turned into a territorial stalemate that we are propping up.”
- He [believes](#) it’s time for Europe to assume the leadership role, “I hope Ukraine wins. I’m proud of the fact that early on we gave them support. But now it’s time for European nations to stand up.”
- Describing Vladimir Putin as a “bad guy” and “our enemy,” he remains [concerned](#) that “the type of support we’re providing is not going to boomerang back on us like it has in Afghanistan, like it has in Vietnam, like it has in Iraq, and almost every other conflict we’ve been involved in, when American troops are dodging bullets made in America because we gave them to an adversarial nation.”

On the global competition with China:

- During his campaign, Sheehy spoke out the need to “stand strong against China,” [stating](#) that “we’re seeing China make moves that were unthinkable just 20 years ago.”
- In a [campaign ad](#) taking aim at China, he said “I built a Montana manufacturing business with zero supply chain dependence on China. Now I’m working to strengthen Montana beef production and stop the Chinese from undercutting our ranchers.”

On alliances:

- In response to the Congressional debate over foreign aid and assistance in 2023, Sheehy – [calling](#) Israel “one of our best friends in the world” – [affirmed](#) that the U.S. “should be aiding Israel with unconditional support” and that “we need to make it very clear we stand with Israel, provide them the aid they need.”

A graduate of the Naval Academy, Senator-Elect Tim Sheehy joins the U.S. Senate as a Navy Seal who was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor for Heroism in Combat and the Purple Heart Medal and was deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, South America, and the Pacific region. He is also the founder of Bridger Aerospace.



Senator-Elect
ELISSA SLOTKIN
Democrat from Michigan

A former national security official who served as Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs at the U.S. Department of Defense and as a Middle East analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency, Senator-Elect Elissa Slotkin has been a strong advocate for U.S. global leadership, [stating](#) “our vision is based on our values, the values that took us to the shores of Normandy and helped us win the Cold War. We believe America should inspire and lead at home and abroad.”

Amid a period of global instability and uncertainty, Slotkin – who served three tours in Iraq with the CIA alongside the military – has [said](#) “I find that there are people on both the right and the left who are uniting on this idea that we should be an isolationist nation and should not be claiming the mantle of American leadership. And that is deeply, deeply troublesome to me... we have to do a better job as a community in explaining why engaging in the world is important.”

On diplomacy and global development:

- During her tenure in the House, Slotkin has had a strong voting record on the International Affairs Budget, voting against all six amendments that would have cut the 2024 International Affairs Budget topline, including an amendment that would have cut funding for USAID by \$4.5 billion.
- She has supported legislation to strengthen development and diplomacy programs, including voting in favor of the Global Health Security Act of 2021, the Global Food Security Reauthorization Act of 2022, and the Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2022. She also co-sponsored the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021; Baltic Defense and Deterrence Act; and Uyghur Policy Act of 2021.

On the war in Ukraine:

- Warning of the consequences of not providing continued support and assistance to Ukraine, Slotkin [noted](#) that “we can pay now to help Ukraine, or we can pay much more later to counteract the strategic gains we would hand Vladimir Putin and Russia. And this tragedy would ripple far beyond Ukraine. It has major implications for U.S. leadership and would mark the unofficial end of more than 70 years of our commitment to democracy and to standing up to autocracies around the world. Make no mistake, our adversaries and our friends are watching. China will take note that the U.S. was unwilling to finish the job and use that in their calculus on Taiwan. Our friends will doubt our fortitude, their safety and will look to other countries for leadership.”
- Voting in support of the national security emergency supplemental in April, she [stated](#) that “the support we provide now will help avoid spending much more later, in both blood and treasure, if the Russians win and turn their eyes to NATO states. And with this assistance, we send an important signal to the world, consistent with our position since World War II, that the United States will not sit by and allow a democracy to be overrun by an authoritarian government.”

On the global competition with China:

- Describing the greatest threat facing the U.S., Slotkin [said](#) “it's honestly great power competition, and in particular the military threat and the economic threat from China... To me, it's really important, on a bipartisan basis, for us to come up with thoughtful plans on how to make sure we're prepared militarily, God forbid, if we need it. But also, just as importantly, that we take a really serious approach to China, investing in things like our farmland, our manufacturing facilities.”

On alliances:

- Speaking out on the critical role of our alliances and NATO, Slotkin [emphasized](#) that “the U.S. is safer when we work in alliances and coalitions” and that it is imperative to “communicate why NATO is important going forward to the middle of the country, you must explain to my dad, who's in the meat business, why NATO is important to his security, his grandkids, his future. if we do not do that, and we do not explain... the affirmative, positive mission statement of NATO going forward – not against something, but for something – in the next generation, then we will lose the public support that we still do have. And then, we're really in trouble.”
- A supporter of Israel and its right to self-defense, she [stated](#) that “every country in the world has the right to safety and security including Israel. If someone attacks them they have the right to go after the perpetrators.”
- She also voiced concern over the loss of civilian casualties and has called for a ceasefire, [saying](#) “the need for a ceasefire – to allow for the return of hostages and to allow desperately needed aid into Gaza – remains dire. If Israel does not address the humanitarian crisis... I believe it will be time to consider restrictions on our offensive military assistance. I sincerely hope that Israel learns the lessons the U.S. learned in our own wars.”

Prior to her election to the Senate, Slotkin represented Michigan’s 8th Congressional District since 2019. She served on the Armed Services, Homeland Security, Veterans' Affairs and Agriculture Committees, and was a member of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus.