

Background on the Senator-elect's statements, positions, and record on diplomacy, international assistance, and U.S. international affairs programs.

South Carolina pediatrician Senator-Elect Dr. Annie Andrews has emphasized diplomacy and congressional oversight of military action, pledging to "**Put diplomacy and accountability first**," end open-ended wars, require congressional approval for the use of military force, and support veterans and military families. On the campaign trail, Dr. Andrews often connects foreign-policy decisions to the costs facing families.

Dr. Andrews has spent her career as a pediatrician and has worked in gun-violence prevention and advocacy. She lives in Charleston with her three children and previously ran for the state's 1st Congressional District. She graduated from the University of Dayton, with a master's from the Medical University of South Carolina, and her MD from the University of Cincinnati.

ON U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY, DIPLOMACY, AND INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE:

- In an October 2026 interview reflecting on the late Senator Lindsey Graham, Andrews identified his past work as "a vocal advocate for the USAID program" among elements of his legacy that offered "a lot to respect."

ON GLOBAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT:

- On trade and affordability, Andrews's campaign policy paper states, "Tariff is a tax." On Congress's role, it adds, "In Congress, I'll fight to reclaim Congress's taxing authority, end chaotic and unilateral tariffs, and bring costs down."
- In a February 2026 video on tariffs, Andrews argued trade uncertainty hurts South Carolina ports, farmers, small businesses, and manufacturers such as BMW and Michelin, saying, "If you don't know what your manufacturing is going to cost because you don't know what these products are going to cost, it's really hard to plan. It's really hard to grow."

ON THE GLOBAL COMPETITION WITH CHINA:

- In a September 2026 interview, Andrews described Taiwan as "a really important democratic ally of the United States" and China as "a national security threat to America and our economy," saying, "just like we need to stand with our allies in the Ukraine, we need to stand with our allies in Taiwan."
- Andrews also warned in the same interview that a conflict over Taiwan would disrupt global supply chains, saying, "so many semiconductors are built in Taiwan and we need to, for that reason, protect this relationship."

ON RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE:

- Following Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, Andrews said in a statement, "Our job now must be to protect freedom and democracy by subjecting Putin and his cronies to paralyzing economic sanctions and expelling the Kremlin from the international community." She also said, "The consequences must be historic and overwhelming."
- In an October 2026 interview with This Week in South Carolina, she said, "I've been unequivocally supportive of Ukraine. We need to stand with our democratic allies in Ukraine."
- Andrews also criticized a proposed U.S.-Russia diesel deal for undermining sanctions in the same interview, saying, "we're now essentially helping Russia fund their war."

ON CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST:

- Discussing the Iran war, Andrews called it an "irresponsible, illegal, billion-dollar-a-day war," saying, "We never should have gotten into this war in the first place."
- In a September 2026 interview about the Iran war, Andrews said, "I think the Iran nuclear deal was working. They didn't have a nuclear weapon." She questioned entering the war without congressional approval or clarity about "what the ultimate objective was, what the definition of success was, and then most importantly, how we're going to get out of it."
- On Iran, Andrews said during an October debate, "I would not have started or supported a $50 billion war overseas…that American taxpayer dollars could have been invested in our infrastructure, in our public education system, and our healthcare system."
- She linked the Iran war to fuel costs facing South Carolina, connecting decisions overseas to pressures on the state's agricultural economy and household budgets saying, "Let's remember why we are in this war, why diesel prices are at a record high, diesel prices that are crushing our shrimpers and our farmers and our truckers and making everything cost more because we irresponsibly entered this war."
- Asked about U.S. policy toward Israel during the October 2026 debate, she stated, "Israelis deserve a safe place to live and Palestinians also deserve to live in peace." She added, "It is a humanitarian crisis… We must find an expedited path to peace."