

# ***House Appropriations Committee***

***Chairman Hal Rogers***

**Website address:** <http://appropriations.house.gov/>

## **FY 2015 Omnibus – State and Foreign Operations Appropriations**

*Bill will help ensure the safety of American diplomats and facilities abroad, address instability in the Middle East, counter Russian aggression, and provide critical humanitarian assistance*

The State and Foreign Operations portion of the fiscal year 2015 Omnibus contains funding for diplomatic operations, security assistance for key allies, and humanitarian assistance abroad. The legislation provides \$49 billion in discretionary funding – approximately the fiscal year 2014 enacted level and \$1.2 billion less than the fiscal year 2015 request.

The legislation also includes \$2.5 billion in emergency funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Ebola virus, which is \$370 million less than requested by the President. This funding level is sufficient to meet all critical and immediate needs to address the Ebola crisis in Africa.

The bill rejects the President’s proposed reductions to embassy security and targets funding to prevent and protect against future terrorist attacks, unrest, and other acts of violence. It also contains funding to address instability in the Middle East – including assistance to key allies such as Israel and Jordan – and includes funding above the requested amount for Ukraine and other countries in the region to counter Russian aggression.

**International Security Assistance** – The bill provides a total of \$8.4 billion in base and contingency funding for international security assistance. This includes funds for international narcotics control, anti-terrorism programs, nonproliferation programs, peacekeeping operations, and other critical international security and stabilization efforts. The bill restores \$237 million of cuts proposed by the White House for these essential programs.

Within this amount, the legislation provides security assistance to key allies, including full funding for the \$3.1 billion commitment to the United States-Israel Memorandum of Understanding, and prioritizes funding for counter-narcotics and law enforcement efforts in Mexico, Colombia, and Central America.

**Export and Investment Programs** – The bill supports continued operations of the Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. The legislation also includes a provision to prohibit the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and Export-Import Bank from blocking coal-fired or other power-generation projects that increase the export of U.S. goods or services and prevent the loss of U.S. jobs.

**International Monetary Fund (IMF)** – The bill provides no funds for the IMF.

**State Department Operations and Related Agencies** – The bill contains a total of \$15.7 billion in base and contingency funding for the operational costs of the State Department and related agencies – \$838 million less than the President’s request. Within this total, the legislation targets \$5.4 billion – \$46 million above the amount requested – for embassy security to keep U.S. personnel abroad safe from harm and to ensure the security of our facilities.

**United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** – The bill contains \$1.4 billion for base and contingency funding for USAID, a reduction of \$168 million from the requested level. This includes funding for the USAID Inspector General to conduct appropriate and rigorous oversight of U.S. taxpayer dollars in countries receiving USAID assistance.

**Bilateral Assistance** – The legislation contains a total of \$22.3 billion in base and contingency funding for bilateral assistance to foreign countries. Within this amount, funding is prioritized to support global health and humanitarian assistance. The bill rejects cuts proposed by the President for life-saving international HIV/AIDS programs, and it provides \$1.5 billion above the request for disaster and refugee assistance to respond to the extraordinary levels of unrest and instability around the world.

**Funding Prohibitions** – The bill includes provisions to rein in wasteful or unnecessary spending, such as:

- No funding for the “Green Climate Fund”;
- A prohibition on funding for the renovation of UN Headquarters in New York;
- A prohibition on appropriations for a new London embassy;
- No funding for debt relief for foreign countries;
- A prohibition on aid to Libya until the Secretary of State confirms Libyan cooperation in the Benghazi investigation;
- A prohibition on funding to implement the UN Arms Trade Treaty; and
- No funding for the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

**Other Important Policy and Oversight Provisions** – The bill includes other important policy provisions to ensure the respect for life around the globe, to promote good government, and to enhance oversight and accountability of our foreign assistance. For example, the bill:

- Maintains longstanding pro-life provisions, including the “Tiahrt Amendment,” which ensures family planning programs are voluntary; the “Helms Amendment,” which bans foreign aid from being spent on abortions; and the “Kemp-Kasten Amendment,” which prohibits funds to organizations the President determines to support coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.
- Withholds funds from the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) – dollar-for-dollar - if they operate a program in China.

- **Afghanistan** – Withholds funds for the Government of Afghanistan until certain conditions are met, such as requiring Afghanistan to implement the Bilateral Security Agreement with the United States.
- **Egypt** – Allows funds to be provided to Egypt if certain conditions are met – including maintaining the strategic relationship with the United States and upholding the peace treaty with Israel.
- **Palestinian Authority (PA)** – Stops economic assistance to the PA if they obtain membership in the United Nations or UN agencies without an agreement with Israel, restricts aid if the PA pursues actions against Israel at the International Criminal Court, prohibits funds for Hamas, and halts funds unless action is taken to counter the incitement of violence.
- **Central America** – Conditions assistance to Central American governments on their progress on addressing the migration of unaccompanied, undocumented minors, including increasing border security, enforcing laws to reduce the flow of illegal migrants to the U.S., and supporting repatriation for migrants returning from the U.S.
- **Guantanamo Bay Detainee Transfers** – Requires the State Department to report to Congress on agreements with other countries to accept detainees from Guantanamo Bay.
- **Iran** – Requires the Secretary of State to inform Congress about nuclear negotiations.
- **UN Relief and Works Agency** – Requires a report by the Secretary of State to ensure that UNRWA is implementing a no-weapons policy and conducting regular inspections of facilities.

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