



Key Messages and Target Legislation for Ukrainian Advocacy

June 22, 2023

The United States should continue to give Ukraine the weapons it needs and economic support the state requires until victory. The United States is not doing enough. The US should take three additional steps today:

1. The US should send F16 fighter jets and train Ukrainian pilots to fly them;

- Equipping the Ukrainian armed forces with F16s would help them establish air cover of the front lines, facilitating Ukrainian counter-offensives and boosting their chances of success.
- F16 fighters would radically improve the protection of critical infrastructure, nuclear power plants, and the defense of civilian populations in cities.
- F16 fighters would allow Ukraine to achieve air superiority over the sea and unblock ports by protecting grain corridors and safeguarding freedom of navigation in the Black Sea.

2. The US should state its univocal support for Ukraine eventually joining NATO at the Vilnius summit, July 11-12. There are at least 7 reasons why Ukraine should be part of NATO after the war is over.

- It's cheaper to stop Putin in Ukraine than in western Europe, and Ukraine's eventual NATO membership is the only ironclad way to stop Putin in Ukraine.
- Ukraine has proven that its rightful place is in NATO and is making great strides toward interoperability. It's a democratic country making concrete efforts to curb corruption and conduct oversight with a world-class military, and an invitation to join would ensure the final steps for Ukraine meeting or exceeding NATO standards.
- NATO will be stronger with Ukraine as a member—Ukraine has the most experienced modern army in Europe. It has already shown it can be interoperable with NATO equipment, and NATO has much to learn from Ukraine's 16 months of combat experience.
- Best deterrent of future wars. Don't repeat past mistakes—keeping Ukraine and Georgia out of NATO in 2008 allowed Russia to invade both. NATO membership is the best guarantee against future wars.
- Don't be late to the game! Consensus among NATO Allies is already building for Ukraine to join. France, the UK, the Baltic states, and Poland all are in favor

of Ukrainian membership. Just like with weapons systems, consensus will only continue to build for membership for Ukraine.

- NATO membership is the best way to bring stability to Ukraine and Europe. Ukraine needs weapons to win the war now, but the Alliance is what can bring lasting peace after Ukraine wins.
- No more Bucharests. NATO already committed that Ukraine *could* join—now is the time to tell Ukraine *when* it can join. No one expects instant membership, but if Vilnius brings no specifics on when accession can happen, it will be Bucharest 2.0 and embolden the Russians.

3. The US should provide Ukraine with ATACMS now

- Ukraine has committed that it will not use ATACMS to launch attacks into Russian territory, so there is no danger of escalation.
- By withholding ATACMS from Ukraine, we are allowing Russia to freely carry out attacks on Ukrainian civilians.
- By withholding ATACMS from Ukraine, we are prolonging the war. Providing ATACMS would empower Ukraine to strike the Russian navy and air force stationed in Crimea, which most military analysts believe is critical to ending the war.
- Ukraine can use ATACMS to hit behind enemy lines in the Donbas, thereby ending the war sooner.

Critical legislation that Congress should act on now

H or H.R. indicates House bill or resolution, S or S.Res. indicates Senate

1. Provide ATACMS (Army Tactical Missile Systems) to Ukraine - [H.Res.488](#)
This resolution calls on the Biden administration to immediately provide Army Tactical Missile Systems to Ukraine. The House Foreign Affairs Committee passed the resolution through committee on Wednesday, increasing the pressure on the White House to provide a critical piece of weaponry the Biden Administration has resisted sending since the full-scale invasion.
2. Transfer Russian sovereign assets to assist Ukraine - [H.R.4175](#) | [S.2003](#)
This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes. Just introduced and needs more co-sponsors.
3. Designate Russia a State Sponsor of Terrorism - [H.R.3979](#)
To provide for the designation of the Russian Federation as a state sponsor of terrorism. Just introduced and needs more co-sponsors.

4. Support Ukrainian Victory - [H.Res.332](#) | [S.Res.172](#)

Declares that the United States must work with its allies and partners to ensure that—

(A) the Russian Federation pays reparations to Ukraine;

(B) the global community helps to rebuild Ukraine;

(C) the leaders of the Russian Federation are held accountable for this war of aggression; and

(D) there is justice for victims of crimes committed by the Russian Federation during its invasion.

Co-sponsors continue to increase.