



➤ *The U.S. must end military involvement in the war in Yemen, reassess its military-only approach to countering terrorism, and lead efforts to depoliticize Yemen's post-conflict stabilization and reconstruction.*

Ongoing U.S. policies in Yemen have destabilized the country and prolonged the conflict. We must take a new approach to the country that puts diplomacy first and focuses on addressing local drivers to conflict and building inclusive post-conflict governance.

- The U.S. must withdraw its military and political support for the Saudi and UAE-led coalition in the war in Yemen.
- The U.S. must push Saudi Arabia and the UAE to end the Hodeidah offensive, agree to a nationwide ceasefire, and negotiate in good faith an end to the Saudi-led intervention and an inclusive political settlement to the war.
- Congress must conduct oversight of U.S. counterterrorism strategy in Yemen, which lacks transparency and has failed to address sources of radicalization.

ENDING U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT

The U.S. provided in-flight refueling and continues to provide intelligence, other logistical support, and weapons for the Saudi and UAE-led coalition that have been repeatedly used to kill Yemeni civilians.



- Coalition airstrikes, supported by the U.S., are the leading cause of civilian casualties.
- Despite a call for a conditional ceasefire and cutting off refueling after facing insurmountable opposition in Congress, the DoD continues other critical support, sending the message that the coalition can continue the war indefinitely.

U.S. COMPLICITY IN STARVATION AS A WEAPON

Since the Saudi and UAE-led intervention in Yemen's ongoing civil war in 2015, the economic and social collapse of the country threatens 15.9 million people with famine.



- The Saudi and UAE-led coalition's airstrikes and siege on the port city Hodeidah (through which a significant amount of essential aid flows) and blockade of the country has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis.
- The economic crisis and Saudi blockade has caused the price of food and goods to skyrocket. This, along with the Yemeni government's failure to pay the salaries of civil servants for over two years, prevents Yemenis from buying food even if the markets are fully stocked.

U.S. COUNTERTERRORISM (CT) STRATEGY

Years of drone strikes and allegations of human rights abuses committed by U.S. CT partners in Yemen have failed to eradicate Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).



- The Saudi and UAE-led intervention into the civil war has made AQAP stronger than ever, including through UAE payments to AQAP militants.
- Congress must end CIA authority to conduct drone strikes, demand the release of the administration's rules of engagement in areas of active hostilities, and implement controls to prevent civilian casualties.
- Congress must investigate allegations of abuse and cut off funding for U.S. CT partners in Yemen found to be responsible for gross violations of human rights and international law.

THE WORLD'S
LARGEST
HUMANITARIAN
CRISIS FUELED BY
THE U.S.



22 MILLION

people in Yemen, three quarters of the population, are in need of humanitarian assistance.

1.2 MILLION

cases of cholera, as Yemen experiences the largest cholera outbreak in modern history.

8 MILLION

children without regular access to basic water, sanitation, and hygiene services.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONGRESS

Members of Congress must stop U.S. military support for the Saudi and UAE-led coalition in Yemen. Congress can build on previous action to help bring an end to the war and address the humanitarian crisis by enacting the following policy recommendations:



SUPPORT AN END TO U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN YEMEN

Defund the provision of in-flight refueling, intelligence, and other logistical support for the Saudi and UAE-led coalition. Co-sponsor or vote in support of a **War Powers Resolution**, or similar measure, to end U.S. military involvement in Yemen.



BLOCK ANY ONGOING OR FUTURE ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA AND THE UAE

Until a diplomatic settlement is negotiated in Yemen, cancel any pending and future arms sales to Saudi Arabia or the UAE, including a pending precision-guided munition sale currently being held up by Senator Bob Menendez.



INCREASE HUMANITARIAN AID & SUPPORT YEMEN'S RECONSTRUCTION

Increase funding for humanitarian assistance and support multilateral efforts to establish a pooled fund for reconstruction and urge Saudi and the UAE to distribute assistance through the fund to avoid politicization of aid.



END CIA AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT DRONE STRIKES

Prohibit funding and authorization for CIA drone strikes in Yemen, and other areas of hostility, including Somalia, Libya, and Pakistan.

PAST LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON YEMEN

	FOR	AGAINST
• June 2016: House votes on amendment to Defense Appropriations to block cluster bombs to Saudi Arabia	204	216
• August 2016: Senate votes on resolution of disapproval to block tank sale	27	71
• June 2017: Senate votes on resolution of disapproval to block PGM sale	47	53
• March 2018: Senate votes on War Powers Resolution	44	55
• December 2018: Senate passes War Powers Resolution, S.J. Res. 54	56	41
• February 2019: House passes War Powers Resolution, H.J. Res. 37	248	177



A NEW PUSH TO END THE WAR

After the Saudi government murdered *Washington Post* journalist Jamal Khashoggi, congressional opposition to U.S. involvement in the war in Yemen has grown. Congressional pressure to end U.S. assistance to the coalition positively impacted UN-led peace talks to de-escalate the conflict in December and a series of agreements, despite the administration's desire to continue military support. **Congress must build on the pressure the House generated when it passed H.J.Res.37 and enact legislation that formally cuts off U.S. support to the coalition.**

For further questions and additional resources:



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