

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 of 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, resume all humanitarian assistance to the country, and reverse the terrorist designations of the Houthi movement made in the final days of the Trump administration.
- The U.S. must push Saudi Arabia and the UAE to agree to a nationwide ceasefire, fully fund the humanitarian response, negotiate an end to the intervention, and support 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. halted in-flight refueling but continues to provide other logistical support, intelligence, 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 late 2018 call for a conditional ceasefire and an end to refueling after growing opposition in Congress, continuing any form of military or political support for the intervention sends the message that the coalition can continue the war indefinitely.

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



U.S. COMPLICITY IN STARVATION AS A WEAPON



Since the Saudi- and UAE-led intervention in Yemen's ongoing civil war in March 2015, the economic and social collapse of the country, plus the spread of COVID-19, threatens 10 million people with famine.

- The Saudi- and UAE-led coalition's airstrikes have destroyed civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, and its ongoing de-facto air and sea blockade of the country has severely exacerbated the humanitarian crisis.
- The economic crisis and blockade has caused the price of food and fuel to skyrocket. Coupled with the Yemeni government's failure to pay civil servant salaries for over two years, Yemenis are unable to buy food even if markets are fully stocked.

24 MILLION

people in Yemen, over
80% of the population,
need humanitarian
assistance

U.S. COUNTERTERRORISM (CT) STRATEGY



Decades of drone strikes and alleged 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, 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 – including the UAE.
- The Trump administration maintained the failed U.S. CT strategy, which has not addressed violence and has caused decades of harm. The Biden administration must reverse this course of action and at a minimum, release its rules of engagement in areas of active hostilities, including in Yemen, to implement controls to prevent civilian casualties.

27%

mortality rate for Yemenis
with COVID-19, more
than five times the global
average

Half

of pre-war medical
facilities are no longer
functional



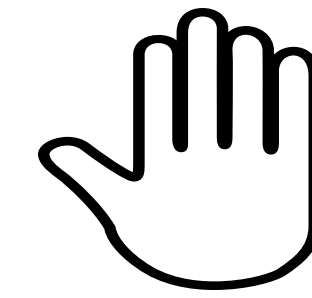
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONGRESS

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:



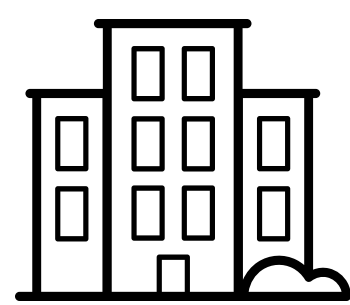
SUPPORT AN END TO U.S. MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN YEMEN

Defund the provision of intelligence sharing and other logistical support for the Saudi- and UAE-led coalition. Co-sponsor or vote in support of legislation 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 the pending \$23 billion sale of advanced armed drones, precision weapons, and F-35 jets to the UAE.



INCREASE HUMANITARIAN AID & SUPPORT YEMEN'S RECONSTRUCTION

Immediately reverse Trump's halting of humanitarian assistance and increase its funding, including the provision of aid to slow the spread of COVID-19 and ensure vaccine distribution. Support multilateral efforts to establish a pooled fund for reconstruction, and urge Saudi Arabia and the UAE to distribute assistance through the fund to avoid the 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.

Reverse Terrorism Designation of Houthis

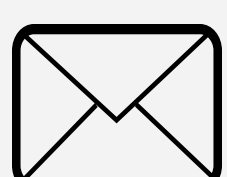
The Biden administration should immediately reverse the politically-motivated terror FTO and SDTG designations of the Houthis, which will prevent the delivery of critical humanitarian assistance to millions of innocent people, greatly hurt the prospects for a negotiated settlement to the conflict, and further undermine U.S. national security interests in the region.

SELECT PAST LEGISLATIVE ACTION ON YEMEN

- **June 2016:** House votes on amendment to Defense Appropriations to block cluster bombs to Saudi Arabia.
- **August 2016:** Senate votes on resolution of disapproval to block tank sale.
- **June 2017:** Senate votes on resolution of disapproval to block PGM sale.
- **March 2018:** Senate votes on War Powers Resolution.
- **December 2018:** Senate **passes** War Powers Resolution, S.J. Res. 54; Speaker Paul Ryan blocks vote on House War Powers Resolution.
- **April 2019:** House **passes** War Powers Resolution; Trump subsequently vetoes it.
- **May 2019:** Senate **fails** to override presidential veto of War Powers Resolution.
- **July 2019:** Multiple amendments to H.R. 2500 and the FY20 NDAA pass, effectively prohibiting funds or weapons support to the Saudi- and Emirati-led war in Yemen.
- **Jan. 2020:** The Trump administration designates Yemen's Houthi movement a terrorist organization.



For further questions and additional resources:



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