

# WIN WITHOUT WAR

## A New Year's Debrief Gift Basket

As we approach the end of a long year, we want to give you, our loyal readers, some gifts. In place of a regular Debrief, this week we have for you a mix of old and new to sustain you over the holiday season and whet your appetite for a return to regular Debrief service in January.

The first gift is a [collection](#) of some of our favorite Debrief issues from 2022. We put this collection together for donors, to give them a sense of the kind of analysis they are supporting, but we wanted to share it with you as well. It's a great way to review both some of the biggest events of the year in foreign policy and to track how we, and the progressive foreign policy community writ large, thought about the opportunities to make progress on our goals in a tumultuous time.



The second gift is a bit more lighthearted. It's a Win Without War [holiday story](#), about some trouble with a defense contractor whose heart is three sizes too small. We hope you enjoy, and that you have a lovely new year filled with hope and peace, whether it's in US-ville or anywhere else around the world.

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Finally, we have something else new for you. We are experimenting with a new feature for the Debrief, called Today in Progressive Foreign Policy, that will provide you with a one stop shop for progressive efforts and events in Washington, DC and online dealing with foreign policy. We hope you find this helpful—we look forward to your feedback.

## *Today in Progressive Foreign Policy*

### Congress

- Congressional leaders failed to include the Afghan Adjustment Act in the omnibus bill despite support from [Afghan women leaders](#), [former ambassadors](#), [veterans](#), and many others.. Without the AAA, 70,000 Afghans in the U.S. may lose their legal status next year.
- The repeal of the 2002 Iraq AUMF has been left out of the NDAA at the 11th hour. Analysts [argue](#) that the removal of the AUMF is “important not primarily as a matter of legislative hygiene, but to guard against the future misuse of this tool.” Congress can *still* repeal the outdated and dangerous law before the year is done.
- Senator Warren helped introduce the *Streamline Pentagon Spending Act* in the Senate, which will repeal statutory requirements for the Pentagon to provide “unfunded spending priorities lists” on top of the president’s formal budget request. She [called](#) the wish lists a

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“primary tool to boost an already excessive top line.” Congresswoman Jayapal is leading similar efforts in the House of Representatives.

- Speaking of Pentagon wish lists - on Thursday evening, the fiscal year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act [passed](#) the Senate and will go to the president’s desk for final signature. The bill authorizes nearly \$860 billion for a Pentagon that just “racked up its fifth comprehensive [audit failure](#).” See our statement opposing the bill [here](#).
- Last Wednesday, Senator Sanders [pulled](#) his Yemen War Powers Resolution from the Senate floor, citing a commitment from the White House to address U.S. involvement in the war through other means. You can watch his speech ahead of the now delayed vote [here](#).

## Advocacy

- Win Without War Executive Director Sara Haghdooosti [spoke](#) with the Next in Foreign Policy podcast to discuss the ongoing protests in Iran.
- Nearly 40 organizations [called](#) on Congress to repeal the 2002 Iraq War AUMF in the upcoming NDAA, arguing that the military authorization could be used to start a new war by a future president, while circumventing congressional war powers.
- Over 100 organizations signed onto a [letter](#) calling on Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas to extend Yemen’s Temporary Protected Status (TPS) as disastrous humanitarian conditions in Yemen continue, even with the warring parties somewhat respecting the terms of an expired truce. If it is not extended ahead of its March 2023 expiration, then Yemenis already in the U.S. and who are still arriving could be forced to return before Yemen is safe and secure, putting their lives at risk.
- Last week, the Afghan Adjustment Act “[FireWatch](#)” held a press conference at the Capitol, urging Congress to pass the AAA. FireWatch is a group of Afghans, veterans, and activists who have toured the country over the past few months advocating for the AAA.

## Upcoming Events

- Check back for updates after the New Year!