

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 3030, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3030

To help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2017

Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MESSER, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. KEATING, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CRIST, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. COFFMAN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Elie Wiesel Genocide
5 and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that the United States
8 affirms the critical importance of strengthening the
9 United States Government’s efforts at atrocity prevention
10 and response through interagency coordination such as the
11 Atrocities Prevention Board (referred to in this section as
12 the “Board”) or successor entity. In carrying out the work
13 of the Board or successor entity, appropriate officials of
14 the United States Government should—

15 (1) meet regularly to monitor developments
16 throughout the world that heighten the risk of atroc-
17 ities;

18 (2) identify any gaps in United States foreign
19 policy concerning regions or particular countries re-
20 lated to atrocity prevention and response;

21 (3) facilitate the development and implementa-
22 tion of policies to enhance the capacity of the United
23 States to prevent and respond to atrocities world-
24 wide;

1 (4) provide the President with recommendations
2 to improve policies, programs, resources, and tools
3 related to atrocity prevention and response;

4 (5) conduct outreach, including consultations,
5 not less frequently than biannually, with representa-
6 tives of nongovernmental organizations and civil so-
7 ciety dedicated to atrocity prevention and response;

8 (6) operate with regular consultation and par-
9 ticipation of designated interagency representatives
10 of relevant Federal agencies, executive departments,
11 or offices; and

12 (7) ensure funds are made available for the
13 policies, programs, resources, and tools related to
14 atrocity prevention and response, including through
15 mechanisms such as the Complex Crises Fund or
16 other related accounts.

17 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

18 It shall be the policy of the United States to—

19 (1) regard the prevention of genocide and other
20 atrocities as in its national security interests;

21 (2) mitigate threats to United States security
22 by addressing the root causes of insecurity and vio-
23 lent conflict to prevent—

24 (A) the mass slaughter of civilians;

1 (B) conditions that prompt internal dis-
2 placement and the flow of refugees across bor-
3 ders; and

4 (C) other violence that wreaks havoc on re-
5 gional stability and livelihoods;

6 (3) enhance the capacity of the United States
7 to identify, prevent, address, and respond to the
8 drivers of atrocities and violent conflict as part of
9 the United States' humanitarian, development, and
10 strategic interests; and

11 (4) pursue a Government-wide strategy to pre-
12 vent and respond to the risk of genocide and other
13 atrocities by—

14 (A) strengthening the diplomatic, risk
15 analysis and monitoring, strategic planning,
16 early warning, and response capacities of the
17 Government;

18 (B) improving the use of foreign assistance
19 to respond early, effectively, and urgently in
20 order to address the root causes and drivers of
21 violence, and systemic patterns of human rights
22 abuses and atrocities;

23 (C) strengthening diplomatic response and
24 the use of foreign assistance to support transi-

1 tional justice measures, including criminal ac-
2 countability, for past atrocities;

3 (D) supporting and strengthening local
4 civil society, including human rights defenders
5 and others working to help prevent and respond
6 to atrocities, and protecting their ability to re-
7 ceive support from and partner with civil soci-
8 ety at large;

9 (E) promoting financial transparency and
10 enhancing anti-corruption initiatives as part of
11 addressing a root cause of insecurity; and

12 (F) employing a variety of unilateral, bilat-
13 eral, and multilateral means to prevent and re-
14 spond to conflicts and atrocities by—

15 (i) placing a high priority on timely,
16 preventive diplomatic efforts; and

17 (ii) exercising a leadership role in pro-
18 moting international efforts to end crises
19 peacefully.

20 **SEC. 4. TRAINING OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS IN CON-**
21 **FLICT AND ATROCITIES PREVENTION.**

22 Section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
23 U.S.C. 4028) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
2 “and” at the end;

3 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
4 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following new
6 subparagraph:

7 “(D) instruction on recognizing patterns of
8 escalation and early warning signs of potential
9 atrocities or violence, including gender-based vi-
10 olence, and methods of conflict assessment,
11 peacebuilding, mediation for prevention, early
12 action and response, and transitional justice
13 measures to address atrocities.”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
15 section:

16 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term
17 ‘peacebuilding’ means nonviolent activities designed to
18 prevent conflict through—

19 “(1) addressing root causes of violence;

20 “(2) promoting sustainable peace;

21 “(3) delegitimizing violence as a dispute resolu-
22 tion strategy;

23 “(4) building capacity within society to peace-
24 fully manage disputes, including the capacity of gov-
25 ernments to address citizen grievances; and

1 “(5) reducing vulnerability to triggers that may
2 spark violence.”.

3 **SEC. 5. REPORTS.**

4 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
5 ment of this Act and annually thereafter for the following
6 six years, the President shall transmit to the Committee
7 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and
8 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-
9 port, with a classified annex if necessary, that includes—

10 (1) a review, in consultation with appropriate
11 interagency representatives, consisting of a detailed
12 description of—

13 (A) current efforts based on United States
14 and locally identified indicators, including ca-
15 pacities and constraints for Government-wide
16 detection, early warning and response, informa-
17 tion-sharing, contingency planning, and coordi-
18 nation of efforts to prevent and respond to situ-
19 ations of genocide and atrocities and other
20 mass violence, such as gender-based violence
21 and violence against religious minorities;

22 (B) recommendations to further strengthen
23 United States capabilities described in subpara-
24 graph (A);

1 (C) funding expended by relevant Federal
2 departments and agencies on atrocities preven-
3 tion activities, including transitional justice
4 measures and the legal, procedural, and re-
5 source constraints faced by the Department of
6 State and the United States Agency for Inter-
7 national Development throughout respective
8 budgeting, strategic planning, and management
9 cycles to support conflict and atrocities preven-
10 tion activities in countries identified to be at
11 risk of atrocities;

12 (D) current annual Government global as-
13 sessments of sources of instability, conflict, and
14 atrocities, the outcomes and findings of such
15 assessments, and, where relevant, a review of
16 activities, and the efficacy of such activities,
17 that the Atrocities Prevention Board or suc-
18 cessor entity undertook to respond to sources of
19 instability, conflict, and atrocities;

20 (E) consideration of analysis, reporting,
21 and policy recommendations to prevent and re-
22 spond to atrocities produced by civil society,
23 academic, and other nongovernmental organiza-
24 tions and institutions;

1 (F) countries and regions at risk of atroc-
2 ities, including a description of most likely
3 pathways to violence, specific risk factors, po-
4 tential groups of perpetrators, and at-risk tar-
5 get groups; and

6 (G) instruction on recognizing patterns of
7 escalation and early warning signs of potential
8 atrocities and methods of conflict assessment,
9 peace-building, mediation for prevention, early
10 action and response, and transitional justice
11 measures to address atrocities in the Federal
12 training programs for Foreign Service officers;

13 (2) recommendations to ensure shared responsi-
14 bility by—

15 (A) enhancing multilateral mechanisms for
16 preventing atrocities, including strengthening
17 the role of international organizations and
18 international financial institutions in conflict
19 prevention, mitigation, and response; and

20 (B) strengthening regional organizations;

21 (3) implementation status of the recommenda-
22 tions contained in such review; and

23 (4) identification of the Federal departments
24 and agencies and civil society, academic, and non-

1 governmental organizations and institutions con-
2 sulted for preparation of such report.

3 **SEC. 6. DEFINITION.**

4 In this Act, the term “genocide” means an offense
5 under subsection (a) of section 1091 of title 18, United
6 States Code, or any substantially similar conduct.