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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To establish a Center for Conflict Analysis, Planning, and Prevention in
the Department of State, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. JACOBS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To establish a Center for Conflict Analysis, Planning, and
Prevention in the Department of State, and for other
purposes.

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 “Conflict Prevention
5 Act”.

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

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) better understanding and responding to
2 conflict and supporting peace processes and complex
3 political negotiations will further United States na-
4 tional security and foreign policy interests;

5 (2) the Department of State should possess an
6 institutional hub to help regional bureaus and em-
7 bassies efficiently and effectively address violent con-
8 flict, peace processes, and complex political negotia-
9 tions; and

10 (3) such an institutional hub should be staffed
11 by subject matter experts that can equip United
12 States diplomats in conflict analysis and peace nego-
13 tiations.

14 **SEC. 3. CENTER FOR CONFLICT ANALYSIS, PLANNING, AND**
15 **PREVENTION AT THE DEPARTMENT OF**
16 **STATE.**

17 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—There shall be in the Depart-
18 ment of State a Director for Conflict Analysis, Planning,
19 and Prevention, who shall be responsible to the Secretary
20 of State, acting through the Under Secretary for Political
21 Affairs, for matters relating to conflict prevention, mitiga-
22 tion, and negotiations to develop policy options and pro-
23 vide expertise for the Under Secretary of Political Affairs
24 and for the Assistant Secretaries of each regional bureau.

1 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-
2 sibilities described under subsection (a), the Director and
3 the Center established under subsection (c) may carry out
4 the following, as appropriate:

5 (1) Developing advanced analytic methodolo-
6 gies, data, and tools to understand global conflict
7 dynamics, produce conflict trend assessments, and
8 inform the Department's efforts to prevent and miti-
9 gate conflict and crises of top priority to the United
10 States.

11 (2) Forecasting potential hotspots of violent
12 conflict in foreign countries to best identify risks to
13 United States national security interests or opportu-
14 nities for advancing United States foreign policy pri-
15 orities.

16 (3) Conducting in-depth analyses of conflict dy-
17 namics in foreign countries to—

18 (A) advise regional bureaus on program
19 goals and approaches to burden-sharing with
20 foreign partners; and

21 (B) provide quantifiable metrics to inform
22 effective use of the Department's resources.

23 (4) Supporting peace processes by providing ex-
24 pertise to the Under Secretary of Political Affairs,
25 regional bureaus, and chiefs of mission, to enable

1 and inform peace negotiation and mediation strate-
2 gies, implementation, and monitoring.

3 (5) At the direction of the Under Secretary, co-
4 ordinating with regional and relevant functional bu-
5 reaus on the implementation of the Global Fragility
6 Act of 2019 (22 U.S.C. 9801 et seq.).

7 (6) Providing strategic gaming, “red team”
8 (contrarian-structured analytic techniques to chal-
9 lenge assumptions and test vulnerabilities), and
10 table-top exercises, to rigorously test foreign policy
11 options and strategies.

12 (7) Supporting the development of training for
13 Foreign Service officers on conflict prevention and
14 mediation skills, including the trainings required
15 under the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Pre-
16 vention Act of 2018.

17 (8) Such other functions as the Under Sec-
18 retary for Political Affairs may designate from time
19 to time.

20 (c) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be in the Depart-
21 ment a Center for Conflict Analysis, Planning, and Pre-
22 vention (in this section referred to as the “Center”), led
23 by the Director appointed pursuant to the authorization
24 under subsection (a), which shall perform functions re-
25 lated to data analysis and strategic planning on emerging

1 or ongoing foreign conflicts to develop policy options and
2 provide expertise for the Under Secretary of Political Af-
3 fairs and for the Assistant Secretaries of each regional bu-
4 reau.

5 (d) DISSEMINATION OF ANALYTIC PRODUCTS.—The
6 Under Secretary shall ensure that the Center’s analytic
7 products are disseminated to relevant stakeholders within
8 the Department, as well as other elements of the United
9 States Government, as appropriate.

10 (e) MEMBERSHIP.—The Center shall be comprised of
11 not more than 20 full-time Department employees, includ-
12 ing a contingent capable of temporary deployments to sup-
13 port embassies—

14 (1) in conflict-affected regions; or

15 (2) in regions that the Under Secretary for Po-
16 litical Affairs determines to be at risk of conflict or
17 civil strife.