

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Secretary of Defense, and in coordination with the Secretary of State, I have certified that the Government of Ukraine has taken substantial actions to make defense institutional reforms for the purposes of decreasing corruption, increasing accountability, and sustaining improvements of combat capability enabled by U.S. assistance. An assessment of the actions taken by Ukraine, the remaining areas in need of defense institutional reform, and the methodology used to evaluate this reform are included in this letter. Furthermore, now that this defense institutional reform has occurred, we will use the authority provided by section 1250 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92), as amended most recently by section 1246 of the John S. McCain NDAA for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232), to support programs in Ukraine further. Implementation of this further support will begin no sooner than 15 days following this notification. This authority will be used to provide appropriate security assistance, including training, equipment, and logistics support, supplies, and services, to the military and other security forces of the Government of Ukraine.

Pursuant to Section 9013 of the Department of Defense (DoD) Appropriations Act, 2019 (division A of Public Law 115-245), we are notifying the committees of this obligation.

Figures provided in this notification reflect estimated quantities and values. These figures may change based on the final price and availability of individual items, but the overall cost will not exceed \$125 million, and the quantity of items will remain consistent with the stated nature and scope of the program.

The primary methodology used to inform this certification was persistent U.S. engagement with Ukraine, including, but not limited to: 1) the Secretary's meetings with Minister of Defense Poltorak; 2) a visit to Kyiv by the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine, Eurasia; 3) Lieutenant General (Retired) Keith Dayton's bilateral consultations with and participation in Ukraine's Defense Reform Advisory Board in his role as U.S. Senior Defense Advisor on Ukraine; 4) former Secretary of the Navy Dr. Donald Winter's visit to Kyiv in his role as U.S. Senior Defense Industry Advisor; 5) senior level engagements led by the Department of State, including the U.S.-Ukraine Strategic Partnership Commission; 6) U.S. European Command's efforts through the Multinational Joint Commission on Ukraine; 7) the Joint Multinational Training Group – Ukraine training program; and 8) other advisory efforts through the Ministry of Defense Advisors Program, Defense Governance and Management

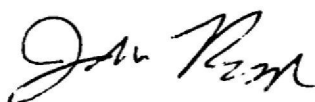
Team, Cooperative Technology Security Dialogue, and the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv and U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels.

Through these engagements, the United States has effectively helped Ukraine advance institutional reforms through a number of substantial actions to align Ukraine's defense enterprise more closely with NATO standards and principles. The Ukrainian Government adopted legislation to authorize the Ministry of Defense to conduct direct procurement from international manufacturers, including through the Foreign Military Sales program. Furthermore, to strengthen civilian control of the military, the ministry is making progress toward increasing civilian staff, as most prominently illustrated by the fact that the Minister of Defense is now a civilian. Minister Poltorak also initiated an ambitious program to reform the command and control system in line with Euro-Atlantic principles, which will further strengthen civilian control, and to separate force generation from force employment functions, which will improve the management of Ukraine's forces. Lastly, Ukraine committed in writing to defense industry reforms and requested a Senior Defense Industry Advisor to improve the ability of Ukraine's domestic industry to provide critical material to the Ukrainian armed forces and transform the state-owned enterprise.

Substantial progress has been made on defense reform since 2014, but there remain areas that require significant attention. Although Ukraine has made a commitment to defense industry reforms, increased transparency in acquisition and budgeting will require a sustained effort. DoD is supporting Ukraine with the development of a transformation plan to bring its industry in line with global best practices, which will likely be a multi-year effort. The implementation of a modern human resources management system is another area that still requires attention. Moreover, Ukraine, with U.S. advice and mentoring, continues to mature its processes and procedures to ensure technology security, proper accountability, and end-use controls for U.S.-provided equipment. The United States remains committed to assisting with the implementation of these reforms to bolster Ukraine's ability to defend its territorial integrity in support of a secure and democratic Ukraine.

This notification is provided to meet the requirements of section 1250 of the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2016, as amended. Descriptions of the programs and associated training are enclosed. I am sending identical letters to the other congressional defense committees, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Sincerely,



John C. Rood