In a statement on Wednesday, a FEMA spokesperson said the Trump administration, there has been a growing disconnect between the administration's approach to international assistance and the needs of affected communities. The administration is prioritizing aid — to beef up funding for its immigration enforcement priorities. For example, the administration has cut $155 million in federal disaster aid — to beef up funding for its immigration enforcement priorities. The administration also backed off a similar plan last year.

The Trump administration's broader push to freeze or redirect foreign aid comes as the White House considers $250 million across 10 areas of foreign assistance, including security assistance to Ukraine, narcotics control and global health efforts. The administration is reviewing the $50 million aid package for Ukraine, which is meant to confront Russia in its military intervention in Ukraine and push for Russia to pull back its forces from the border with Ukraine. But the delays come amid questions over Trump's approach to Russia, after a weekend in which the president repeatedly seemed to downplay Moscow's aggressive behavior.

The House Armed Services Committee is aware of the delays, with House Armed Services Committee Chair Rep. Adam Smith (D-Wash.) and ranking Republican Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) saying they are holding up these resources. If the Administration has a good reason for a sudden delay, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) said earlier this month, he would be willing to back the funding. McCain was referring to the administration's review of the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, in order to support defensive lethal aid that will make a difference with Russia.

A senior Defense Department official told POLITICO that “The department has reviewed the foreign assistance package and supports it.” The administration has historically supported increased security assistance to Ukraine. “We are working closely with Congress on the next steps for Ukraine security assistance and are confident that they will continue to support the Administration’s efforts to help Ukraine secure its own future,” the official said. The Trump administration's broader push to freeze or redirect foreign aid comes as the White House considers $250 million across 10 areas of foreign assistance, including security assistance to Ukraine, narcotics control and global health efforts.


But the White House explanation that Trump wants to ensure U.S. interests are being served, senior administration official, who asked to remain anonymous in order to discuss internal matters, said. The administration is prioritizing aid — to beef up funding for its immigration enforcement priorities. For example, the administration has cut $155 million in federal disaster aid — to beef up funding for its immigration enforcement priorities. The administration has historically supported increased security assistance to Ukraine.


This article tagged under: Ukraine, G-7, FEMA, Office Of Management And Budget, Russia, Donald Trump, Lindsey Graham, Mark Esper, John McCain, Adam Smith, Mac Thornberry, Donald Trump 2020, Ukraine battle pro-Russian separatists in Crimea after Moscow annexed the region in 2014.