

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: To expand the uses for which amounts in the Countering Russian Influence Fund are available.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—115th Cong., 1st Sess.**

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To counter the influence of the Russian Federation in Europe and Eurasia, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. PORTMAN

Viz:

1 In section 5, strike subsections (b) through (d), and  
2 insert the following:

3 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts in the Countering  
4 Russian Influence Fund shall be used for the following:

5 (1) To assist in protecting critical infrastruc-  
6 ture and electoral mechanisms from cyberattacks in  
7 the following countries:

8 (A) Countries that are members of the  
9 North Atlantic Treaty Organization or the Eu-  
10 ropean Union that the Secretary of State deter-  
11 mines—

1 (i) are vulnerable to influence by the  
2 Russian Federation; and

3 (ii) lack the economic capability to ef-  
4 fectively respond to aggression by the Rus-  
5 sian Federation without the support of the  
6 United States.

7 (B) Countries that are participating in the  
8 enlargement process of the North Atlantic  
9 Treaty Organization or the European Union,  
10 including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
11 Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Kosovo, Serbia,  
12 and Ukraine.

13 (2) To combat corruption, improve the rule of  
14 law, and otherwise strengthen independent judi-  
15 ciaries and prosecutors general offices in the coun-  
16 tries described in paragraph (1).

17 (3) To respond to the humanitarian crises and  
18 instability caused or aggravated by the invasions and  
19 occupations of Georgia and Ukraine by the Russian  
20 Federation.

21 (4) To improve participatory legislative proc-  
22 esses and legal education, political transparency and  
23 competition, and compliance with international obli-  
24 gations in the countries described in paragraph (1).

1           (5) To build the capacity and resilience of civil  
2 society, media, and other nongovernmental organiza-  
3 tions in countering the influence and propaganda of  
4 the Russian Federation in such countries.

5           (6) To improve democratic governance, trans-  
6 parency, accountability, rule of law, and combat cor-  
7 ruption, including by strengthening democratic civil  
8 society and political parties, and independent and  
9 nonpartisan think tanks in such countries.

10          (7) To support the efforts of independent media  
11 outlets and public broadcasters to broadcast, dis-  
12 tribute, and share information in all regions in such  
13 countries.

14          (8) To support objective, Russian-language,  
15 independent media, investigative journalism, and  
16 civil society watchdog groups working to combat cor-  
17 ruption in such countries.

18          (9) To promote and protect Internet freedom  
19 and information security in such countries.

20          (10) To strengthen cybersecurity practices of  
21 governments and civil society organizations in such  
22 countries.

23          (11) To support research and analysis on the  
24 effects of information warfare on target audiences  
25 and best practices for promoting resilience.

1           (12) To encourage cooperation with social  
2           media entities to strengthen the integrity of informa-  
3           tion on the Internet.

4           (13) To support other programs to expose and  
5           counter disinformation and misinformation in such  
6           countries.

7           (14) To assist the Secretary of State in exe-  
8           cuting the functions specified in section 1287(b) of  
9           the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
10          Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328) for the purposes  
11          of recognizing, understanding, exposing, and coun-  
12          tering propaganda and disinformation efforts by for-  
13          eign governments.

14          (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

15           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall,  
16           acting through the Coordinator of United States As-  
17           sistance to Europe and Eurasia (authorized pursu-  
18           ant to section 601 of the Support for East European  
19           Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5461)  
20           and section 102 of the Freedom for Russia and  
21           Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets  
22           Support Act of 1992 (22 U.S.C. 5812)) and in con-  
23           sultation with the Administrator for the United  
24           States Agency for International Development, the  
25           Director of the Global Engagement Center of the

1 Department of State, the Secretary of Defense, the  
2 Chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors,  
3 and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, co-  
4 ordinate and carry out activities described in sub-  
5 section (b).

6 (2) METHOD.—The activities described in sub-  
7 section (b) shall be carried out through—

8 (A) initiatives of the United States Gov-  
9 ernment;

10 (B) Federal grant programs such as the  
11 Information Access Fund; or

12 (C) nongovernmental or international orga-  
13 nizations, such as the Organization for Security  
14 and Co-operation in Europe, the National En-  
15 dowment for Democracy, the Black Sea Trust,  
16 the Balkan Trust for Democracy, the Prague  
17 Civil Society Centre, the North Atlantic Treaty  
18 Organization Strategic Communications Centre  
19 of Excellence, the European Endowment for  
20 Democracy, and related organizations.

21 (3) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1  
23 of each year, the Secretary of State, acting  
24 through the Coordinator of United States As-  
25 sistance to Europe and Eurasia shall submit to

1 the appropriate congressional committees a re-  
2 port on the programs and activities carried out  
3 to achieve the goals described in subsection (b)  
4 during the preceding fiscal year.

5 (B) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by  
6 subparagraph (A) shall include, with respect to  
7 each program or activity described in that sub-  
8 paragraph—

9 (i) the amount of funding for the pro-  
10 gram or activity;

11 (ii) the goal described in subsection  
12 (b) to which the program or activity re-  
13 lates; and

14 (iii) an assessment of whether or not  
15 the goal was met.