

December 3, 2020

Dear Members of Congress,

We, the undersigned groups, urge you to support [H.Con.Res.123](#), the bipartisan Yemen War Powers Resolution introduced by Representatives DeFazio, Biggs, Dingell, and Castro (and with original cosponsors Rooney, Gaetz, Khanna, and Pocan) to end unauthorized U.S. military participation in the Saudi- and Emirati-led war on Yemen. The resolution rejects the Trump Administration's latest escalations of the crisis and will send the strongest possible signal to the warring parties that Congress will move swiftly and decisively to bring this conflict to a close.

This resolution comes as Yemen is fast approaching what may be its darkest chapter, as members of the Saudi-led coalition have slashed their aid funding to Yemen while maintaining the blockade of Yemen's ports. Last week, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres issued an urgent [warning](#) that Yemen is now "in imminent danger of the worst famine the world has seen for decades. In the absence of immediate action, millions of lives may be lost." He further urged that the world avoid "taking any action that could make the already dire situation even worse."

Guterres' plea was widely considered to refer to the Trump Administration's plans -- announced this month -- to [designate](#) the Houthis a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) before the end of his term. The designation is yet another giveaway by the Administration to the Saudis, who have long sought the designation to strengthen their leverage in potential negotiations. Labeling the Houthis a FTO threatens to put the United States on a perpetual war footing in Yemen, empowers Saudi Arabia to continue its disastrous aerial bombings, and endangers humanitarian aid delivery to the 80% of Yemenis who live in Houthi-governed territory. The designation will make providing aid a criminal offense and further complicate peace talks with the Houthis that are necessary to end the war and humanitarian crisis.

Furthermore, the Trump Administration is simultaneously attempting to intensify the horrific conflict in Yemen through green-lighting a [transfer](#) of \$23 billion in weapons to the United Arab Emirates -- including precision guided munitions and drones, which have been used against Yemeni civilians -- a move that signals approval for the UAE's deadly actions against civilians in this war.

As Trump continues to hurt the prospects of peace in Yemen during his last months as President, Congress must enact the bipartisan Yemen War Powers Resolution, H.Con.Res.123. Passage of this bill will direct the President to immediately terminate unconstitutional military support for the war. By enacting this resolution, Congress will reject the Trump White House's latest escalations, reaffirm for Saudi Arabia and the international community that it is committed to urgently ending U.S. participation in the war, and set the stage for partnership with the incoming Administration to advance peace and humanitarian relief for the people of Yemen.

We thank you for your leadership in working to end U.S. involvement in the Saudi and Emirati-led war in Yemen and ask that you cosponsor and vote in favor of this urgent Yemen War Powers Resolution.

Sincerely,

National Organizations

Action Corps
American Friends Service Committee
Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain
Avaaz
Center for International Policy
Center on Conscience & War
Charity & Security Network
Churches for Middle East Peace
CODEPINK
DAWN (Democracy for the Arab World Now)
Defending Rights & Dissent
Demand Progress
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Franciscan Action Network
Freedom Forward
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Global Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ
Institute for Policy Studies, New Internationalism Project
Just Foreign Policy
Justice Is Global
MADRE
Muslims United for Justice
National Council of Churches
National Religious Campaign Against Torture
OneHamtramck LLC
Pax Christi USA
Peace Action
Peace Direct
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Progressive Peace Coalition
Project Blueprint
Public Citizen
Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft
RootsAction.org
The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society
United for Peace and Justice

Veterans For Peace
World Beyond War
Yemen Relief and Reconstruction Foundation
Yemeni Alliance Committee

Regional Organizations

Brooklyn For Peace
Chicago Area Peace Action
Interfaith Peace Network of WNY
Massachusetts Peace Action
Oakhurst Baptist Church
Peace Action New York State
Peace Action of Wisconsin
Veterans For Peace/Chapter 102
WNY Peace Center