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National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations: A Guide to Component Accounts

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SUMMARY

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National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations: A Guide to Component Accounts

National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs (NSRP) appropriations legislation funds many U.S. nondefense international affairs activities. Between FY2008 and FY2025, the bill was titled Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs (SFOPS) appropriations. Within NSRP appropriations, the Department of State and Related Programs (Title I) portion makes up about one-third of the funding, and the various foreign assistance accounts compose the remainder. For FY2026, NSRP is one of 12 appropriations acts that fund the federal government.

Congress appropriated NSRP funds for FY2026 in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (Division F of P.L. 119-75). Division F of the act is divided into seven titles. Each title funds a variety of government activities, ranging from government agencies' operational and administrative costs to direct grant funds for private nonprofit or multilateral organizations. By title, NSRP provisions set out activities as follows:

- **Title I—Department of State and Related Programs** funds State Department diplomatic programs and general operations, including Foreign and Civil Service personnel salaries and training, public diplomacy and cultural exchange programs, information technology maintenance and modernization, dues to the United Nations (UN) and other international organizations, international broadcasting, and embassy construction and diplomatic security. It also provides funding to U.S. diplomacy-focused nongovernmental organizations and legislative commissions.
- **Title II—Administration of Assistance** funds general operations and oversight of foreign assistance but not foreign assistance programs.
- **Title III—Bilateral Economic Assistance** is the primary funding source for the U.S. government's humanitarian and international development programs. It includes bilateral assistance for disaster relief, global health, and economic development activities, as well as funding for several independent development-oriented agencies, notably the Millennium Challenge Corporation and Peace Corps.
- **Title IV—International Security Assistance** is the primary title for U.S. security cooperation programs abroad outside of the Defense appropriations bill. It includes counternarcotics and rule-of-law strengthening programs; nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, and demining programs; some assistance to foreign militaries; and some funding for international peacekeeping efforts.
- **Title V—Multilateral Assistance** contributes funds to several multilateral finance and grant-making institutions.
- **Title VI—Export and Investment Assistance** funds the three U.S. government export promotion agencies: the Export-Import Bank, the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), and the Trade and Development Agency.
- **Title VII—General Provisions** guides the allocation of funds appropriated in other titles and lays out restrictions and priorities for programming.

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Introduction

The National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs (NSRP) appropriations legislation[1] is one of 12 appropriations bills that Congress considers annually to fund U.S. government discretionary activities. NSRP funds many U.S. government nondefense international affairs activities and programs.[2] Congress structures NSRP into several titles, which consist of broad spending categories. These titles are subdivided into paragraphs that each address one component account, a funding line item that includes one or several activities of the government. A single component account may cover one agency's entire annual budget, grant funds to an independent organization, or fund multiple activities associated with statutory authorities, among other things.

Congress appropriated NSRP funds for FY2026 in Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75). Division F is divided into seven titles, each associated with the following activities:

Table 1. FY2026 NSRP Appropriations, by Title

Title	Title Name	Activities
I	Department of State and Related Programs	State Department diplomatic engagement programs, personnel costs, general operations, information technology programs, public diplomacy and cultural exchanges, dues to international organizations and peacekeeping missions, international broadcasting, embassy construction and security, and direct funding to foreign affairs-focused nongovernmental organizations and legislative commissions.
II	Administration of Assistance	Development and humanitarian assistance personnel and administration activities worldwide, as well as oversight. Excludes program implementation, which Title III funds.
III	Bilateral Economic Assistance	U.S. foreign assistance programs for economic development, global health, international disaster assistance, democracy programs, and several development-focused independent agencies.
IV	International Security Assistance	U.S. foreign assistance for counternarcotics, weapons nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, and demining activities; peacekeeping operations; and various forms of military assistance.
V	Multilateral Assistance	Funding to several multilateral development banks and UN-system organizations.
VI	Export and Investment Assistance	Funding for U.S. agencies promoting export and investment abroad.
VII	General Provisions	Cross-cutting guidance on programmatic priorities, use of funds, funding to specific regions and countries, and restrictions on funding.

Source: Division F of P.L. 119-75.

[1] Between FY2008 and FY2025, the legislation was the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs (SFOPS) appropriations. For more, see CRS Report R40482, *Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations: A Guide to Component Accounts*, by Cory R. Gill and Emily M. McCabe.

[2] The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) assigns three-digit codes to the various functions of the government. International affairs, designated "the 150 Account," also contains several subfunctions. For example, subfunction 151 encompasses international development and humanitarian assistance. International Commissions accounts are the only NSRP appropriations outside the 150 Account—they are part of the 300 Natural Resources Budget Function.

Many of the component accounts within these titles correspond to one or several authorities in statute. Title 22 of the *U.S. Code* contains many of these authorities. Major acts in Title 22 include the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (P.L. 84-885; hereinafter the Basic Authorities Act), the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-465), and the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (P.L. 87-195; hereinafter the FAA), among others. This report identifies the statutory authorities that correspond with each component account. A list of these major acts, and cross-references to their location in the *U.S. Code*, are in **Table A-1**. For information on NSRP funding levels, trends, and congressional action, see CRS Report R48624, *Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs: FY2026 Budget and Appropriations*.

FY2026 NSRP Appropriations: Key Considerations[3]

Several issues should be taken into account when reviewing this report:

- Congress may create, eliminate, or consolidate component accounts and has made adjustments to account structure over the years. This report profiles component accounts only if they were funded for FY2026 through P.L. 119-75.[4]
- Several activities that may be considered international affairs activities are included in other appropriations bills. Food assistance,[5] some global epidemic prevention activities,[6] and various security assistance and international energy activities are examples.
- Figures in the President's budget include estimated revenues from government-collected fees for some accounts.[7] These revenues need not be appropriated if Congress has previously authorized their use for an activity. Congress often sets a ceiling for total expenditures to such a component account.
- Public law requires that most NSRP funding be authorized prior to obligating or expending funds. If Congress does not enact an NSRP authorization of appropriations, it must enact a waiver to this requirement, which it does routinely.[8]

Account Descriptions

Title I—Department of State and Related Programs

Title I, which accounts for approximately 33% of FY2026 NSRP funding (excluding supplemental funding, which is often weighed toward other titles), funds priorities including (1) State Department diplomatic engagement programs, personnel costs, and general operations; (2) public diplomacy and cultural exchange programs; (3) embassy construction and diplomatic security activities; (4) information technology modernization and maintenance; (5) dues payments to international organizations and peacekeeping missions; (6) participation in international

[3] For a general overview of the appropriations process, see CRS Report R42388, *The Congressional Appropriations Process: An Introduction*, coordinated by James V. Saturno.

[4] Congress may make these changes at its own initiative or at the President's request. To compare with the SFOPS legislation from FY2025, refer to CRS Report R40482, *Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations: A Guide to Component Accounts*, by Cory R. Gill and Emily M. McCabe.

[5] On food aid, see CRS In Focus IF13162, *U.S. International Food Assistance Primer*, by Rhoda Margesson, Emily M. McCabe, and Benjamin Tsui.

[6] Many of these activities are managed by the Department of Health and Human Services, in particular the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

[7] See below, for example, the Consular and Border Security Programs under Title I; contributions to international financial institutions under Title V; and the Export-Import Bank and Overseas Private Investment Corporation under Title VI.

[8] For example, see §7022 of P.L. 119-75.

commissions; (7) U.S. government nonmilitary international broadcasting; and (8) several foreign affairs-focused nongovernmental organizations and legislative commissions.

Administration of Foreign Affairs

The Administration of Foreign Affairs heading provides funding for the State Department's diplomatic engagement programs, personnel, and operations. It is composed of the following component accounts.

Diplomatic Programs (DP)

DP, the principal operating account of the State Department, includes four funding categories:

- **Human Resources** funds the salaries of domestic and overseas Foreign and Civil Service employees, Foreign Service Institute training programs, and Bureau of Global Talent Management operating costs.
- **Overseas Programs** funds operations and management costs at the State Department's overseas posts, along with diplomatic engagement and public diplomacy programs to advance U.S. national security and foreign policy interests.
- **Diplomatic Policy and Support** funds the State Department's strategic and managerial units, such as the Office of the Secretary and the Bureaus of Administration, Budget and Planning, Diplomatic Technology, and Intelligence and Research, among others.
- **Security Programs** serves as the primary funding source for the Worldwide Security Protection item of Diplomatic Programs, which funds the Bureau of Diplomatic Security and other bureaus implementing programs to protect the State Department's staff, property, and information. Among other operating units, this category also funds the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, which is tasked with securing the freedom of U.S. nationals held hostage or wrongfully detained abroad.

Consular and Border Security Programs (CBSP)

Congress established CBSP in 2017 and directed the State Department to deposit several consular fees and surcharges into this account that it is authorized by various laws to collect and expend on consular services, including passport and visa processing.[9] While fees the State Department deposits into CBSP primarily fund the Bureau of Consular Affairs (CA), some fees are allocated to other bureaus that support CA's operations. As it is almost entirely fee-funded, CBSP does not usually receive an annual appropriation from Congress. In recent years, Congress has provided budget authority under this heading for the State Department to expend passport application and execution fee collections, as required by Section 7069(e) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2022 (Division K of P.L. 117-103). Other fee collection statutes authorize the State Department to expend fees without further provision of budget authority.

[9] Title VII, §7081 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (Division J of P.L. 115-31), codified at 8 U.S.C. §1715.

Capital Investment Fund (CIF)

Congress authorized the CIF in 1994 to provide for "the procurement and enhancement of information technology [IT] and other related capital investments" at the State Department and ensure the efficient management of such resources.[10] In recent years, the State Department has utilized the CIF to modernize its IT infrastructure and strengthen cybersecurity.

Office of Inspector General (OIG)

This account funds the State Department's Office of Inspector General (OIG). The OIG conducts independent audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations of the programs and operations of the State Department and the U.S. Agency for Global Media. Congress also directly funds the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) through this account. Congress has authorized both the OIG and SIGAR in statute.[11]

Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs (ECE)

ECE funds the State Department's management of U.S. educational, professional, and cultural exchanges, such as the Fulbright Program, the International Visitor Leadership Program, and the Citizen Exchange Programs. Authority for these programs derives from the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (also referred to as the Fulbright-Hays Act; P.L. 87-256).

Representation Expenses

The Representation Expenses account provides for expenses involved with establishing and maintaining U.S. diplomatic relationships abroad, including U.S. government representation at cultural and traditional events, such as national holidays.[12]

Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials

As authorized in law, this account funds reimbursable expenses to municipal, state, and federal law enforcement agencies throughout the United States, along with qualified security professionals, for "extraordinary" protective services provided to foreign missions and officials.[13]

Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance (ESCM)

ESCM provides for the acquiring, designing, constructing, operating, maintaining, leasing, and disposing of U.S. embassies and other diplomatic properties around the world. Congress designates a share of the ESCM appropriation for Worldwide Security Upgrades, which, along with contributions from other agencies with personnel assigned to U.S. overseas posts, funds much of the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of such posts.

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[10] Title I, §135, of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FY1994-1995 (P.L. 103-236), as amended (22 U.S.C. §2684a).

[11] Title I, §209, of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-465), as amended (22 U.S.C. §3929); Title IV, §413, of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-399), as amended (22 U.S.C. §4861); and Division A, Title XII, §1229, of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (P.L. 110-181), as amended (5 U.S.C. §415 note).

[12] Title I, §905, of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-465), as amended (22 U.S.C. §4085).

[13] Title II, §214, of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (P.L. 84-885), as amended (22 U.S.C. §4314) and §605(a) of the Secret Service Authorization and Technical Modification Act of 2005 (Title VI of P.L. 109-177), codified at 18 U.S.C. §3056A(d).

Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service (EDCS)

Congress authorized the EDCS account to meet several requirements, including emergency evacuations of U.S. diplomats and their families or, in some circumstances, private U.S. citizens or third-country nationals. It also funds some travel costs of senior Administration officials and expenses involved with the hosting of international summits and conferences in the United States.[14] Additionally, this account funds the State Department's Rewards Program, through which rewards are transmitted for information on matters including international terrorism, international narcotics-related activities, transnational organized crime, foreign election interference, and war crimes.[15]

Repatriation Loans Program Account

As authorized in law, the Repatriation Loans Program account subsidizes small loans for temporary subsistence, transportation, and other related expenses to assist destitute U.S. citizens abroad who are unable to fund their return to the United States.[16]

Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT)

The Taiwan Relations Act (P.L. 96-8) provides that U.S. relations with Taiwan shall be carried out through the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), a nonprofit, private corporation created shortly after the United States changed its diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979.[17] AIT's Taipei office performs many of the same functions as U.S. embassies elsewhere. This account funds AIT costs and core activities that AIT implements on behalf of the U.S. government.

International Center, Washington, DC

The International Center, or International Chancery Center (ICC), is a diplomatic enclave sited on a 47-acre lot located in Washington, DC.[18] The International Center Act (P.L. 90-553) authorizes the State Department to use fees paid by executive agencies and foreign governments for use of the ICC to fund ICC operations and maintenance, subject to congressional appropriations.

Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund

This account provides mandatory funding comprising State Department contributions to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability System and the Foreign Service Pension System, as authorized in the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-465).[19]

International Organizations

The State Department uses funds provided in the following two accounts under the International Organizations heading to pay the United States' assessed contributions (membership dues) to

[14] §4(a) and (b) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (P.L. 84-885), as amended (22 U.S.C. §2671).

[15] The Rewards Program is authorized pursuant to §36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (P.L. 84-885), as amended (22 U.S.C. §2708).

[16] See §4(b) and (d) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (P.L. 84-885), as amended (22 U.S.C. §2671).

[17] §6 of the Taiwan Relations Act (P.L. 96-8), codified at 22 U.S.C. §3305.

[18] International Center Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-553), as amended.

[19] Title I, Chapter 8, of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-465), as amended (Title 22, Chapter 52, Subchapter VIII, of the *U.S. Code*).

many international organizations and peacekeeping efforts that it supports. The State Department provides these assessed contributions pursuant to various treaties and laws. For example, the United Nations Participation Act authorizes United States participation in and funding of the United Nations (UN).[20] Title V of NSRP appropriates voluntary contributions to multilateral organizations.

Contributions to International Organizations (CIO)

CIO funds the United States' assessed contributions to the budget of the United Nations, UN affiliated agencies, inter-American organizations, and other international organizations.

Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA)

CIPA funds the United States' assessed contributions to UN peacekeeping operations worldwide, as well as contributions to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

International Commissions

Accounts under the International Commissions heading fund U.S. obligations under law or treaty to several bilateral and multilateral commissions, including

- the International Boundary and Water Commission (between the United States and Mexico) and the Community Assistance Program of the North American Development Bank (formerly the Border Environment Cooperation Commission between the United States and Mexico);
- the International Joint Commission and the International Boundary Commission (both between the United States and Canada); and
- several international fisheries commissions, such as the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

Related Agency: U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM)

The sole listing under the "Related Agency" heading, USAGM is the independent federal agency established in 1999 (as the Broadcasting Board of Governors) to coordinate and supervise U.S. government-funded international broadcasting to foreign publics. Led by USAGM's Chief Executive Officer, the agency supervises and supports seven distinct entities: two federal organizations, the Voice of America and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting, and five nonprofit organizations receiving federal grants from USAGM, which are Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, the Middle East Broadcasting Networks, the Open Technology Fund, and the Frontline Media Fund.[21] The heading is divided into two accounts, as follows.

[20] UN Participation Act (P.L. 79-264), as amended (Title 22, Chapter 7, Subchapter XVI, of the *U.S. Code*).

[21] USAGM, "Structure," at https://www.usagm.gov/who-we-are/organizational-chart/. For more information, see CRS Report R46968, *U.S. Agency for Global Media: Background, Governance, and Issues for Congress*, by Matthew C. Weed. In March 2025, the President ordered suspension of much USAGM activity. That order is the object of court action.

International Broadcasting Operations (IBO)

IBO is the USAGM core operating account. USAGM uses IBO resources to operate all of its aforementioned media organizations, while also meeting related program delivery and support costs.

Broadcasting Capital Improvements (BCI)

BCI funds major capital projects, improvements, and maintenance of both USAGM's global transmission network and its digital multimedia infrastructure.

Related Programs

Through the Related Programs heading, Congress funds several nongovernmental entities that pursue objectives aligned with U.S. foreign policy goals. Many of these organizations were created by acts of Congress. Congress funds several of these organizations by providing them authority to use interest and earnings generated from trust funds Congress established to fund their operations.

The Asia Foundation

The Asia Foundation is an international nonprofit organization based in San Francisco that implements programming across Asia and the Pacific focused on matters including governance, economic growth, education and leadership, environment and climate resilience, international cooperation, and women's empowerment. The annual appropriation Congress provides the Asia Foundation is authorized pursuant to the Asia Foundation Act of 1983.[22] In addition to the U.S. government, foreign governments and multilateral institutions, foundations, corporations, and individuals fund the Asia Foundation's work.[23]

United States Institute of Peace (USIP)

Established by Congress in 1984, USIP serves as an "independent, nonpartisan institute that supports the Executive Branch in resolving violent conflict abroad."[24]

Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund

Congress created the Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue (Hollings Center) in 2004 and provided it with a dedicated trust fund.[25] Based in Istanbul, the Hollings Center promotes dialogue between the United States and nations with predominantly Muslim populations that is intended to generate new thinking on key international issues and deepen channels of communication among opinion leaders and experts.[26]

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[22] The Asia Foundation Act (Title IV of P.L. 98-164), as amended (Title 22, Chapter 54, Subchapter I, of the *U.S. Code*).

[23] Asia Foundation, "About the Asia Foundation," at https://asiafoundation.org/about/ and Asia Foundation, *Annual Report 2025*, at https://asiafoundation.org/the-asia-foundation-2025-annual-report/.

[24] United States Institute of Peace Act (Title XVII of P.L. 98-525), as amended (Title 22, Chapter 56, of the *U.S. Code*) and U.S. Institute of Peace "About the Institute of Peace," at https://www.usip.org/.

[25] "International Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund" subheading and §633 of the Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004 (Division B, Titles IV and VI, of P.L. 108-199), codified at 22 U.S.C. §2078.

[26] Hollings Center, "Our History," at https://hollingscenter.org/who-we-are/.

Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program

The Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program brings professionals who are rising leaders in their countries to the United States and sends their U.S. counterparts abroad for learning and networking opportunities.[27] In 1990, Congress created a dedicated trust fund for the Eisenhower Program.[28]

Israeli Arab Scholarship Program (IASP)

Congress authorized the IASP in 1991, providing the program with an endowment enabling it to fund scholarships for Israeli Arabs to attend institutions of higher education in the United States.[29]

East-West Center

Congress authorized the establishment of the East-West Center in 1960.[30] Based in Hawaii, the East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding between the United States and Asia-Pacific nations through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. In addition to U.S. government funding, it receives support from foreign governments, private agencies, individuals, foundations, and corporations.[31]

National Endowment for Democracy (NED)

Congress authorized federal funding for the NED in 1983.[32] NED is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering the growth of democratic institutions abroad, including political parties, trade unions, free markets, and business organizations.[33] NED maintains four "core institutes," each affiliated with a U.S. domestic organization. The National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the International Republican Institute (IRI), which are affiliated with the two major American political parties, are nonpartisan entities that promote and bolster electoral democracy.[34] The Center for International Private Enterprise, affiliated with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, leads global programs intended to advance economic freedoms and strengthen democratic resilience, while the Solidarity Center, allied with the AFL-CIO, supports labor rights in workplaces abroad.[35] NED also receives funding from the Democracy Fund in Title III.

[27] Eisenhower Fellowships, "Fellowship Programs," at https://www.efworld.org/fellowship-programs/.

[28] Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-454), as amended (20 U.S.C. Chapter 63).

[29] Title II, §214, of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (P.L. 102-138), codified at 22 U.S.C. §2452 note.

[30] Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West Act of 1960 (Chapter VII of P.L. 86-472), as amended (22 U.S.C. Chapter 29, Subchapter I).

[31] East-West Center, "Mission," at https://www.eastwestcenter.org/about/mission.

[32] National Endowment for Democracy Act (Title V of P.L. 98-164), as amended (22 U.S.C. Chapter 54, Subchapter II).

[33] National Endowment for Democracy, "About the National Endowment for Democracy," at https://www.ned.org/about/.

[34] National Democratic Institute, "Who We Are," at https://www.ndi.org/who-we-are, and International Republican Institute, "About IRI," at https://www.iri.org/about/.

[35] Center for International Private Enterprise, "Who We Are," at https://www.cipe.org/who-we-are, and Solidary Center, https://www.solidaritycenter.org.

Other Commissions

Congress has established several commissions to advance selected U.S. foreign policy objectives. Most of these commissions are listed under the Legislative Branch Boards and Commissions in the President's budget request to Congress. However, Congress funds these commissions through NSRP, given their international affairs focus.

Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad

Congress created the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad in 1985.[36] This 21-member independent executive agency seeks to identify cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings in Eastern and Central Europe that are associated with the heritage of U.S. citizens (especially American Jews) and works to obtain assurances from the governments of the region that they will be protected and preserved. The commission also facilitates private and foreign government site restoration, preservation, and memorialization projects.[37]

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)

Congress created USCIRF in 1998 and has tasked it with reviewing the facts and circumstances of violations of religious freedom around the world and providing policy recommendations and options to the President, the Secretary of State, and Congress on matters involving international religious freedom.[38] Of USCIRF's nine voting commissioners (excluding the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, whom Congress has designated shall serve as a nonvoting member), three are appointed by the President and six are appointed by congressional leadership.[39]

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE)

Congress established the CSCE (also known as the U.S. Helsinki Commission) in 1976.[40] The CSCE monitors compliance with the Helsinki Final Act and promotes human rights, democracy, and economic, environmental, and military cooperation in the 57-country Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).[41] Members of Congress serve on the commission with executive branch officials.[42]

[36] Title XIII, §1303, of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-83), as amended (54 U.S.C. Chapter 3123).

[37] Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, "About," at https://www.heritageabroad.gov/about.

[38] Title II of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-292) as amended (22 U.S.C. Chapter 73 Subchapter II).

[39] United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, "Frequently Asked Questions," at https://www.uscirf.gov/about-uscirf/frequently-asked-questions.

[40] A bill to establish a Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (P.L. 94-304), as amended (22 U.S.C. Chapter 45).

[41] Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, "About the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe," at https://www.csce.gov/about-commission-security-and-cooperation-europe/. For more information on the Helsinki Final Act, see Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, "The Helsinki Process and the OSCE," at https://www.csce.gov/helsinki-process-and-osce/.

[42] Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, "Commissioners," at https://www.csce.gov/commissioners/.

Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China (CECC)

Congress created the CECC in 2000, providing it with a mandate to monitor human rights and the development of the rule of law in the People's Republic of China and to issue annual reports to Congress that outline its findings and provide recommendations for legislative or executive action.[43] Members of Congress serve on the CECC with executive branch officials.[44]

United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission

Congress created the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission in 2000, tasking it with monitoring, investigating, and reporting to Congress on the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China, while also providing recommendations for legislative and executive action.[45] Congressional leadership appoint the commission's members.[46]

House Democracy Partnership (HDP)

The House of Representatives first established the House Democracy Partnership pursuant to H.Res. 135 in the 109th Congress.[47] HDP "facilitates peer-to-peer Member exchanges and technical assistance directly with international counterparts, reinforcing U.S. leadership while deepening cooperation with strategically important nations."[48] The commission comprises 20 Members of Congress.

Title II—Administration of Assistance

This title provides operational and oversight funds for the U.S. foreign assistance programs funded in Title III.

Operating Expenses (OE)

The OE account is to carry out Section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961, as amended, which authorizes funding for operating expenses of "the agency primarily responsible" for administering the assistance authorized in Part I of the act.[49] Such funds provide for overseas and domestic operational expenses for foreign assistance, including salaries and benefits, staff training, physical security, and information technology maintenance.

[43] Title III of the U.S.-China Relations Act of 2000 (Division B of P.L. 106-286), as amended (22 U.S.C. Chapter 77 Subchapter II).

[44] Congressional-Executive Commission on China, "About," at https://www.cecc.gov/about.

[45] Division A, Title XII, §1238, of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (P.L. 106-398), as amended (22 U.S.C. §7002).

[46] U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, "About Us," at https://www.uscc.gov/about-us.

[47] House Democracy Partnership, "About," at https://hdp.house.gov/about.

[48] House Democracy Partnership, "About," at https://hdp.house.gov/about.

[49] An annotated version of the FAA is available at https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-1071/pdf/COMPS-1071.pdf.

Office of Inspector General

This account supports operational costs of the Office of the Inspector General overseeing foreign assistance. The OIG conducts audits and investigations of foreign assistance programs, as well as of the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Inter-American Foundation, and the United States African Development Foundation.

Title III—Bilateral Economic Assistance

Under this title, funds are appropriated in support of U.S. government departments and independent agencies conducting humanitarian, development, and other programs meeting U.S. foreign policy objectives throughout the world.

Global Health Programs (GHP)

GHP supports multiple health assistance activities conducted by the State Department (FAA §104). It is divided into two components. General Global Health funding provides for programs focused on combating infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis. Programs also focus on immunization, oral rehydration, maternal and child health, vulnerable children, and family planning and reproductive health. Appropriations for Global Health-HIV/AIDS are the largest source of funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). Funds may be transferred to programs implemented by the Department of Defense, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Peace Corps, among others. A specified amount from the Global Health-HIV/AIDS line supports the U.S. contribution to the multilateral Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.

International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA)

A new account established in the FY2026 NSRP law, the IHA account combines authorities previously under the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) and Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) accounts. Funds for IHA provide relief and rehabilitation to nations struck by natural and manmade disasters and emergencies (FAA, §491[b]). The account also provides emergency food assistance using what is referred to as "market-based approaches" (i.e., cash transfers, food vouchers, and food sourced either in the country or region in which it will be provided) to complement commodity food aid provided through the Food for Peace Act, Title II Grants account in the agriculture appropriation (FAA, §491[c]). IHA funds also may support refugee assistance and protection activities worldwide pursuant to the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended (P.L. 87-510). These may include U.S. contributions to UN entities such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as well as organizations such as the International Committee for the Red Cross. The account also funds resettlement of refugees to other countries as well as processing and initial placement of refugees to the United States.[50]

[50] Congress funds refugee expenses after initial settlement in the United States under the Department of Health and Human Services' Refugee and Entrant Assistance account.

United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance (ERMA) Fund

ERMA is a humanitarian contingency fund for rapid deployment in unanticipated urgent refugee and migrant emergencies. Appropriations typically replenish this account up to a congressionally authorized level, and the executive branch must notify Congress when funds are used.

National Security Investment Programs (NSIP)

A new account established in the FY2026 NSRP law, the NSIP account combines authorities previously under the Development Assistance (DA), Economic Support Fund (ESF), and Assistance for Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia (AEECA) accounts. Supported programs may include those

- aligned with priorities in Part I of the FAA, including sectors referenced in Chapters 1 and 2 targeting agriculture and rural development (§103); education and human capital (§105); energy (§106(b)); urban economic and social development (§106(d)); technical cooperation and development (§106(d)(1)); economic development research and evaluation (§106(d)(2)); disaster preparedness and reconstruction (§106(d)(3)); U.S. citizen-sponsored schools and hospitals overseas (§214); and micro-, small-, and medium-enterprise development programs (including credit access) (§252);
- in sub-Saharan Africa specifically, pursuant to the priorities for that region described in FAA Chapter 10, including agricultural production and natural resources, health, voluntary family planning services, education, and income-generating activities (§496);
- authorized under Part II, Chapter 4, of the FAA (§531), supporting economic assistance, in part to advance U.S. political and strategic goals in countries of special importance to U.S. foreign policy; and
- authorized under the FAA (§498-499), the FREEDOM Support Act (P.L. 102-511), and the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (P.L. 101-179), providing economic assistance to once-Communist states of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Democracy Fund

This account supports democracy promotion programs overseen by the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL). Authorities for this account are found throughout the FAA, but specific reference to the Democracy Fund was added in 2002 (§664, P.L. 107-228). The account is also meant to carry out the purposes of Sections 502(b)(3) and (5) of the National Endowment for Democracy Act (P.L. 98-164).

Independent Agencies

Several agencies operate independently and report directly to the Executive Office of the President.

Peace Corps[51]

The Peace Corps sends U.S. volunteers to developing countries to provide technical aid and to promote mutual understanding on a people-to-people basis between the United States and citizens of foreign nations (Peace Corps Act of 1961, P.L. 87-293).

Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)[52]

The MCC provides large-scale, five-year development grants to foreign governments. Known as "compacts" and underpinned by bilateral agreements, these grants are intended to promote economic growth and to eliminate extreme poverty in countries chosen and determined to be eligible, in part, based on their demonstrated commitment to just and democratic governance; investment in health, education, and the environment; and support for economic freedom. Congress established and authorized the MCC in the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (Title VI of P.L. 108-199).

Inter-American Foundation (IAF)

The IAF is a nonprofit corporation that finances small-scale enterprise and grassroots community self-help activities aimed at the social and economic development of low-income communities in Latin America, as originally set out in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-179), which established it as an independent entity.

United States African Development Foundation (USADF)

The USADF is a nonprofit corporation that finances small-scale enterprise and grassroots community self-help activities aimed at the social and economic development of marginalized populations and communities in Africa. Modeled after the IAF, it was established by the African Development Foundation Act in 1980 (Title V of P.L. 96-533).

United States Foundation for Natural Security and Counterterrorism

The U.S. Foundation for Natural Security and Counterterrorism is a nonprofit corporation that is to provide grants to support protected and conserved areas in eligible countries with "a high degree of biodiversity or species and ecosystems of significant ecological value."[53] Congress directed the Secretary of State to establish the Foundation in Subtitle A of Title LI of Division E of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (P.L. 118-159), referring to the foundation as the U.S. Foundation for International Conservation. Section 7034(k) of the FY2026 NSRP law renamed the foundation to the U.S. Foundation for Natural Security and Counterterrorism.

[51] For further information on the Peace Corps, see CRS Report RS21168, *The Peace Corps: Overview and Issues*, by Nick M. Brown.

[52] For further information on the Millennium Challenge Corporation, see CRS Report RL32427, *Millennium Challenge Corporation: Overview and Issues*, by Nick M. Brown.

[53] Section 5102(b)(1) of P.L. 118-159.

Department of the Treasury

International Affairs Technical Assistance

This program deploys financial advisors to provide technical assistance to developing or transitional countries in support of economic reforms, with a focus on banking and financial institutions, financial crimes, government debt, revenue policy, and budget and financial accountability (FAA §129, added in 1998 by P.L. 105-277).

Debt Restructuring

Appropriations for this account seek to help some of the world's poorest countries achieve economic stability and growth, and reduce poverty. Certain debt restructuring and relief may be pursuant to multilateral cooperation, such as the Paris Club debt restructurings and the "Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative." Such amounts may also be provided notwithstanding any other provision of law.

Title IV—International Security Assistance

Department of State

International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE)

INCLE funds international counternarcotics activities; programs to combat transnational crime and corruption, including combating human and wildlife trafficking; and rule-of-law activities focused on strengthening criminal justice institutions and law enforcement capacity building (e.g., foreign police assistance). The State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) coordinates and oversees the majority of INCLE activities. INCLE authorities primarily derive from the FAA (§481-490).

Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining, and Related Programs (NADR)

This account funds a variety of State Department-managed activities aimed at countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (FAA, §581-586), supporting antiterrorism training and related activities (FAA, §571-575), and promoting demining operations in developing nations (FAA, §301). It also funds voluntary contributions to certain nonproliferation-focused international organizations (FAA, §301). Programs also finance certain defense articles related to nonproliferation, demining, and antiterrorism to friendly governments (Arms Export Control Act, §23, P.L. 90-629), and disarmament in the former Soviet Union (FREEDOM Support Act, §504, P.L. 102-511).

Peacekeeping Operations (PKO)

Unlike the Title I Contributions to Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA) account, which provides assessed funds for UN peacekeeping operations, the PKO account provides voluntary support for multilateral efforts in conflict resolution, such as the training of African peacekeepers and funding operations of the Multinational Force and Observers mission in the Sinai. The State Department controls the funds and sets PKO program policies (FAA, §551-563). The Department of Defense implements the activities.

Funds Appropriated to the President

International Military Education and Training (IMET)

Through IMET, the United States provides training and education to selected foreign military and civilian personnel on U.S. military practices and standards, including democratic values like civilian control of the military. Participants take courses at military education facilities in the United States or receive instruction from U.S. training teams abroad. The State Department controls the funds and has policy authority over the program (FAA, §541-549), which the Department of Defense implements.

Foreign Military Financing Program (FMF)

The Foreign Military Financing Program supports U.S. overseas arms transfers on a loan and grant basis. Funding generally may be used by recipient countries only to purchase U.S. weapons, equipment and training, though a portion of FMF to Israel may be used to support purchases from Israeli defense firms.[54] The State Department controls the funds and has policy authority (Arms Export Control Act, §23). The Department of Defense implements this program.

Title V—Multilateral Assistance

International Organizations and Programs (IO&P)

IO&P is a State Department-administered account providing voluntary U.S. contributions to support international organizations and entities involved in a range of development, humanitarian, and scientific activities, including the UN Development Program (UNDP), UN Environment Program (UNEP), UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and UN Population Fund (UNFPA). IO&P is distinct from the CIO account under Title I, which funds assessed contributions (dues) to international organizations. Authority is derived from the FAA (§301-307 on International Organizations and Programs).

International Financial Institutions[55]

Under this category, funds are provided through the Department of the Treasury to a wide range of multilateral financial institutions, which offer loans—both "soft" (i.e., concessional) and "hard" (i.e., near-market rate)—and some grants to developing countries and private sector entities in those countries. Not all international financial institutions require or receive U.S. contributions from year to year; some receive funding under multiyear "replenishments." Authorizations for these contributions have historically been provided in appropriations acts of the relevant year.

In the case of concessional lending or grant-making institutions, U.S. appropriations contribute through annual installments toward periodically agreed donor replenishments as capital is drawn down. Nonconcessional bank institutions typically require new financial commitments only in

[54] For more on FMF for Israel, see CRS Report RL33222, *U.S. Foreign Aid to Israel: Overview and Developments since October 7, 2023*, by Jeremy M. Sharp.

[55] For an overview of these institutions, see CRS Report R41170, *Multilateral Development Banks: Overview and Issues for Congress*, by Rebecca M. Nelson.

order to increase the institution's capitalization, as in the ongoing capital increase for the African Development Bank (see below).[56] For FY2026, funds were appropriated for the entities below.

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Established by the UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank, the GEF, administered by the World Bank, makes grants to help developing countries deal with global environmental problems.

World Bank: International Development Association (IDA)

As the World Bank's "soft loan" window, IDA provides concessional loans, grants, and debt relief to the lowest-income countries in the world.

Asian Development Fund (AsDF)

The AsDF is the grants-only window of the Asian Development Bank (AsDB), which finances economic development programs in lower-income countries in Asia and the Pacific. AsDF ceased issuing concessional loans in 2017. AsDB now finances and issues all concessional loans directly through its capital reserves.

African Development Bank (AfDB)

The AfDB lends at near-market rates to public and private entities, with special emphasis on agriculture, infrastructure, and industrial development. To support a general capital increase, legislative provisions include both paid-in capital and callable capital subscriptions.[57]

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

The EBRD lends at near-market rates to help East European and former Soviet states adopt market economies. Private sector and privatizing public sector firms receive substantial amounts of EBRD lending.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

IFAD is a UN-system financial institution that issues grants and low-interest loans to developing countries to increase rural incomes, improve nutritional levels, and advance food security.

Treasury International Assistance Programs

Funds made available for this account may be used for loan guarantees to the IBRD and Asian Development Bank (AsDB). Funds may also be transferred to the Contributions to the International Development Association account and Department of the Treasury accounts found in Title III.

[56] A 2010 agreement to increase the IBRD's capitalization similarly resulted in five corresponding appropriation installments from 2012 to 2016. A similar IBRD agreement in 2018 resulted in an appropriations request for FY2020 in the President's budget.

[57] U.S. financial commitments to the general capital increases include "paid-in" capital (money paid directly to the multilateral development bank) and "callable capital" (money that is a guarantee, but only paid in the event of a default). Callable capital is denoted in legislation as a "Limitation on Callable Capital Subscriptions."

Title VI—Export and Investment Assistance

Export-Import Bank of the United States[58]

Ex-Im Bank issues direct loans, loan guarantees, and export credit insurance to support U.S. exports of goods and services. It aims to support U.S. jobs by providing such financing and insurance when the private sector is unwilling or unable to do so alone and/or to counter financing offered by foreign countries through their export credit agencies. Ex-Im Bank program and administrative expenses are financed by collections such as loan interest, risk premia, and other fees, for which congressional appropriations establish a ceiling. Congress also provides an appropriation for the agency's Office of Inspector General. Ex-Im Bank's authorizing legislation is the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (P.L. 79-173).

U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)[59]

Launched in 2019, DFC assumed the functions of and replaced the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and USAID's Development Credit Authority (DCA). It uses financial tools to promote private investment in less-developed countries and seeks to support economic development as well as U.S. economic interests and foreign policy aims. Congress also provides an appropriation for the agency's Office of Inspector General. DFC derives authority from the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 (BUILD Act, Division F of P.L. 115-254).

Trade and Development Agency (TDA)[60]

TDA funds project preparation services such as feasibility studies and other activities to link U.S. businesses to export opportunities in emerging markets for infrastructure and other development projects (FAA, §611). For example, TDA funds reverse trade missions that bring foreign decisionmakers to the United States.

Title VII—General Provisions

General Provisions set out limitations and prohibitions on assistance; administrative, notification, and reporting requirements; and more detailed funding requirements for specific accounts in other titles of the legislation. This title also specifies allocations for various aid sectors, including education, democracy promotion, water and sanitation, and food security, as well as cross-cutting issues such as gender equality. In addition, Title VII provides more detail about aid to certain countries and regions. Certain general provisions are long-standing—for example Section 7008, which restricts foreign assistance following a country's coup d'état,[61] has been included in some

[58] For further discussion, see CRS In Focus IF10017, *Export-Import Bank: Overview and Reauthorization Debate*, by Shayerah I. Akhtar.

[59] For more on the DFC, see CRS Report R47006, *U.S. International Development Finance Corporation: Overview and Issues*, by Shayerah I. Akhtar and Nick M. Brown.

[60] For further discussion, see CRS In Focus IF10673, *U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA)*, by Shayerah I. Akhtar.

[61] For more, see CRS In Focus IF11267, *Coup-Related Restrictions in U.S. Foreign Aid Appropriations*, by Alexis Arieff, Nick M. Brown, and Travis A. Ferrell.

form every year since FY1985—while others may only appear in the bill for one appropriations year.

Appendix. National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Authorizing Legislation and *U.S. Code* References

Table A-1. List of Acts Authorizing NSRP Account Activities, by Date of Enactment

Act Name	Public Law	*U.S. Code*
Export-Import Bank Act of 1945	P.L. 79-173	12 U.S.C. 635 et seq.
United Nations Participation Act of 1945	P.L. 79-264	22 U.S.C. 287 et seq.
State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956	P.L. 84-885	22 U.S.C. 2651a et seq.
Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West Act of 1960	Chapter VII of P.L. 86-472	22 U.S.C. 2051 et seq.
Foreign Assistance Act of 1961	P.L. 87-195	22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.
Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961	P.L. 87-256	22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.
Peace Corps Act of 1961	P.L. 87-293	22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.
Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962	P.L. 87-510	22 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.
International Center Act of 1968	P.L. 90-553	None, see 82 Stat. 958.
Arms Export Control Act of 1968	P.L. 90-629	22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.
Inter-American Foundation Act of 1969	Part IV of P.L. 91-175	22 U.S.C. 290f et seq.
A bill to establish a Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe	P.L. 94-304	22 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.
Taiwan Relations Act of 1979	P.L. 96-8	22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.
Foreign Service Act of 1980	P.L. 96-465	22 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.
African Development Foundation Act of 1980	Title V of P.L. 96-533	22 U.S.C. 290h et seq.
Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act	P.L. 98-111	22 U.S.C. 1465 et seq.
The Asia Foundation Act of 1983	Title IV of P.L. 98-164	22 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.
National Endowment for Democracy Act of 1983	Title V of P.L. 98-164	22 U.S.C. 4411 et seq.
United States Institute of Peace Act of 1984	Title XVII of P.L. 98-525	22 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.
Television Broadcasting to Cuba Act	Part D of Title II of P.L. 101-246	22 U.S.C. 1465aa et seq.
Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990	P.L. 101-454	20 U.S.C. 5201 et. seq.
Support for Eastern European Democracy Act of 1989	P.L. 101-179	22 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.
Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993	Title II, Section 214 of P.L. 102-138	22 U.S.C. 2452 note
Freedom for Russia and Emerging Eurasian Democracies and Open Markets Support (FREEDOM Support) Act of 1992	P.L. 102-511	22 U.S.C. 5801 et seq.
Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995	Title I, Section 135 of P.L. 103-236	22 U.S.C. 2684a.
United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994	Title III of P.L. 103-236	22 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.

Act Name	Public Law	*U.S. Code*
International Religious Freedom Act of 1998	P.L. 105-292	22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.
Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999	Title VI of P.L. 106-113	22 U.S.C. 4865 et seq.
U.S.-China Relations Act of 2000	Division B, Title III of P.L. 106-286	22 U.S.C. 6911 et seq.
Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001	Division A, Title XII, Section 1238 of P.L. 106-398	22 U.S.C. 7002.
Department of State and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2004	Division B, Titles IV-VI of P.L. 108-199	22 U.S.C. 2078.
Millennium Challenge Act of 2003	Division D, Title VI of P.L. 108-199	22 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.
Secret Service Authorization and Technical Modification Act of 2005	Title VI, Section 605(a) of P.L. 109-177	18 U.S.C. 3056A(d).
To enact title 54, *U.S. Code*, "National Park Service and Related Programs," as positive law	Section 3 of P.L. 113-287	54 U.S.C. 312301 et seq.
Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development (BUILD) Act of 2018	Division F of P.L. 115-254	22 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.

Source: Office of the Law Revision Counsel, U.S. House of Representatives.

Notes: Many of these acts have been amended multiple times. For the most up-to-date status of these acts, see the *U.S. Code*, at http://uscode.house.gov/browse.xhtml.

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