

CHOOSE TO INVEST

FY2025



Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill

Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Title VII

Section 7032

FY2025 Recommendation

No less than

\$2.90 Billion

FY2025 President's Request

\$3.05 Billion

FY2024 Enacted

\$2.90 Billion

What is Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance?

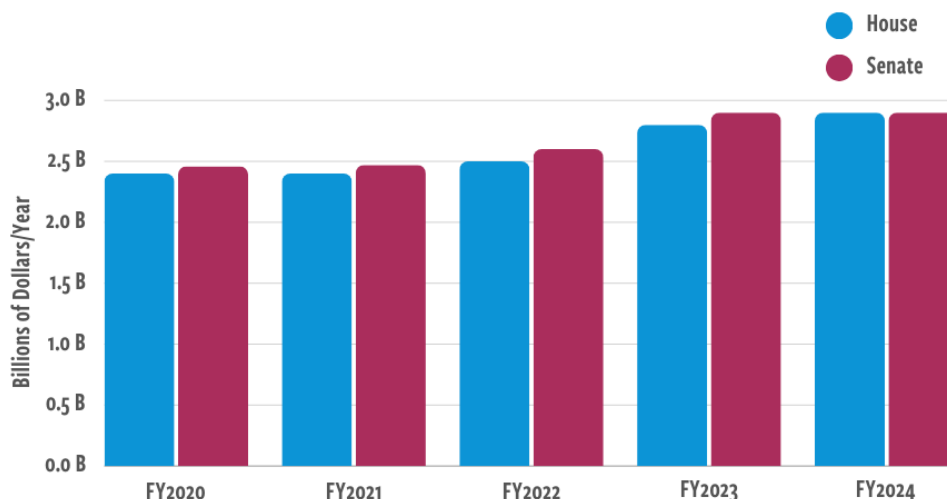
Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) programs are foundational to building a secure, just, and prosperous world. The U.S. has **been the largest donor and leading supporter** of DRG for decades and believes it is vital to the pursuit of freedom and national security. DRG programs advance human dignity and reduce the need for other forms of assistance to mitigate conflict or violence.

What do the funds support?

- Programs that address a range of issues, such as **combating corruption** and **strengthening the rule of law; supporting free and fair elections; strengthening independent media; defending human rights**; countering authoritarian influence; strengthening civil society and preserving civic space; **promoting labor rights**; and **strengthening democratic governance and institutions**.
- The **USAID Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance's** efforts to shape policy and development agendas, catalyze partnerships, and mobilize cutting-edge programs and technical assistance to accelerate democratic development globally.
- Implementing work under the **Presidential Initiative for Democratic Renewal (PIDR)** and preventing, countering, and mitigating corruption and kleptocracy, through the **U.S. Strategy on Countering Corruption**.

Funding History

Funding levels may not accurately reflect those in the appropriations bills and/or reports due to rounding.



CHOOSE TO INVEST

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Democracy Fund

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill

Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Title III

FY2025 Recommendation

No less than

\$355.7 Million

FY2025 President's Request

\$290.7 Million

FY2024 Enacted

\$345.2 Million

What is the Democracy Fund?

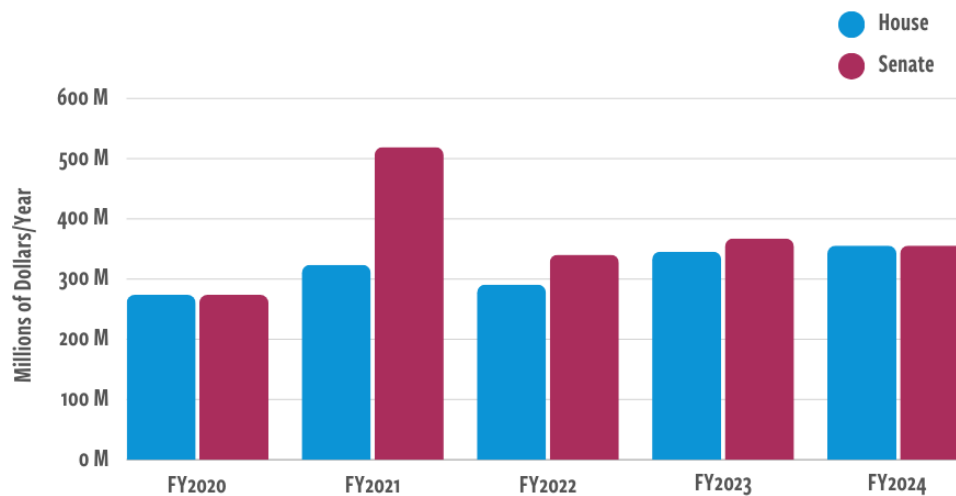
The Democracy Fund supports democracy, rights, and governance (DRG) programming which helps to build resilient and responsive democratic societies, increase respect for human rights, and counter foreign authoritarian influence. Funding fosters a community of democratic allies, strengthening U.S. national security and expanding support for American values worldwide.

What do the funds support?

- Capacity strengthening of democratic actors, institutions, local organizations, and governments; efforts to improve political and electoral processes; and responses to political transitions, restrictive civic space, and crises.
- Programs that build respect for human rights and inclusive development and governance, as well as those that promote gender equality and the rights of women and girls.
- Priorities of USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG), the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL), and the implementation of the Presidential Initiative for Democratic Renewal (PIDR), a signature initiative of the Summit for Democracy.

Funding History

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National Endowment for Democracy

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill
Title I

FY2025 Recommendation

No less than

\$315 Million

FY2025 President's Request

\$300 Million

FY2024 Enacted

\$315 Million

What is the National Endowment for Democracy?

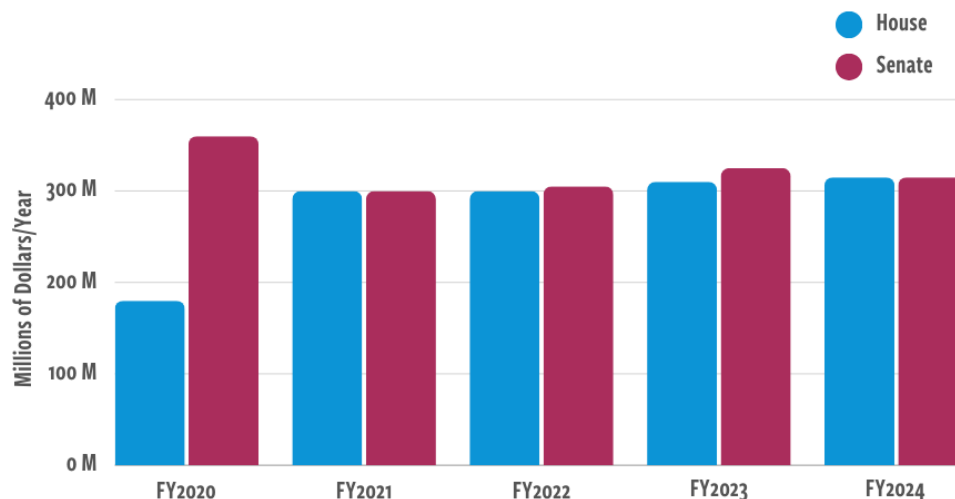
Established in 1983, the [National Endowment for Democracy](#) (NED) is an independent, bipartisan, and non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting democratic institutions and processes, a vibrant civil society, labor rights, economic freedom, and the dignity afforded by human rights. NED's independent structure allows it to respond quickly and flexibly to political developments and work in some of the world's most challenging environments.

What do the funds support?

- [Approximately 2,000 grants](#) to non-governmental groups in more than 100 countries that are working to advance democracy and human rights.
- Direct funding to NED's four core institutes: the [Center for International Private Enterprise](#), the [International Republican Institute](#), [National Democratic Institute](#), and the [Solidarity Center](#).
- A [network of democracy advocates](#) that help sustain democratic gains, address backsliding, and counter the global effort by autocrats to corrupt and destabilize democracies around the world.

Funding History

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Foreign Aid Delivers

Around the world, authoritarians seek to undermine democracy and promote a political model that serves their own interests. U.S. democracy assistance directly counters these illiberal influences by strengthening transparency and democratic governance, and equipping civil society with the tools that they need to advocate for democracy. Strengthening democracy abroad safeguards America's security and prosperity and leads to a world with more stable democracies rather than a proliferation of autocracies or weak, semi-democratic states. Democracy assistance is also a cost-effective foreign policy tool. Strengthening democracy promotes economic growth and limits corruption, thus providing a stable foundation for other types of foreign assistance to succeed and increasing the likelihood that countries will become self-sufficient and resilient.

The United States' support for DRG through Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance programs, the Democracy Fund, and the National Endowment for Democracy is a critical component in the global effort to strengthen democracy, defend U.S. national security, and maintain U.S. leadership and influence abroad. Both the Democracy Fund and NED provide support and grants to democracy advocates, independent media, human rights defenders, and civil society organizations focused on combating corruption and kleptocracy, and countering malign influences from authoritarian states. For example, the Democracy Fund supports the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor's media programs that support civil society, protect journalists, and bolster independent media with more than 6,000 journalists supported so far. To improve political and electoral processes, USAID's programming helped strengthen the Election Commission of Nepal, improve their electoral legal framework, and facilitate the participation of marginalized groups. Lastly, to strengthen democratic governance and institutions, NED worked with partners across Asia to strengthen democratic unity, promote human rights and civil liberties, and raise awareness about rising authoritarianism and transnational repression.

"In an increasingly complex world, America must lead on the global stage. By providing the right tools and resources to our allies across the world, we are promoting democracy and diplomacy, while also protecting U.S. national security interests."

- Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)



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