

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 923

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 28, 2022

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

AN ACT

To support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Georgia Support Act”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

Sec. 2. United States policy.

TITLE I—ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. United States-Georgia security assistance.

Sec. 102. Report on United States democracy and governance assistance to
Georgia.

Sec. 103. United States cybersecurity cooperation with Georgia.

Sec. 104. Enhanced assistance to combat Russian disinformation and propa-
ganda.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Imposition of sanctions on persons complicit in or responsible for se-
rious human rights abuses, including right to life in Georgian
regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia occu-
pied by Russia.

TITLE III—DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS

Sec. 301. Determination of budgetary effects.

6 **SEC. 2. UNITED STATES POLICY.**

7 It is the policy of the United States to—

8 (1) support continued development of demo-
9 cratic values in the Republic of Georgia, including
10 free and fair elections, an independent and account-
11 able judiciary, public sector transparency and ac-
12 countability, the rule of law, and anticorruption ef-
13 forts;

14 (2) support Georgia’s sovereignty, independ-
15 ence, and territorial integrity within its internation-
16 ally recognized borders;

1 (3) support Georgia's capacity to protect its
2 sovereignty and territorial integrity from further
3 Russian aggression or encroachment on Georgian
4 territory in light of Russia's full-scale invasion of
5 Ukraine;

6 (4) support the right of the people of Georgia
7 to freely determine their future and make inde-
8 pendent and sovereign choices on foreign and secu-
9 rity policy, including regarding their country's rela-
10 tionship with other nations and international organi-
11 zations, without interference, intimidation, or coer-
12 cion by other countries;

13 (5) support Georgia's Euro-Atlantic and Euro-
14 pean integration;

15 (6) not recognize territorial changes effected by
16 force, including the illegal invasions and occupations
17 of Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Re-
18 gion/South Ossetia by the Russian Federation;

19 (7) condemn ongoing detentions, kidnappings,
20 and other human rights violations committed in the
21 Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Re-
22 gion/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian
23 Federation, including the recent killings of Georgian
24 citizens Archil Tatunashvili, Giga Otkhozoria, Davit

1 Basharuli, and others in the Georgian regions of
2 Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia; and
3 (8) support peaceful conflict resolution in Geor-
4 gia, including by urging the Russian Federation to
5 fully implement the European Union-mediated
6 ceasefire agreement of August 12, 2008, and sup-
7 porting the establishment of international security
8 mechanisms in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia
9 and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia and the safe
10 and dignified return of internally displaced persons
11 (IDPs) and refugees, all of which are important for
12 lasting peace and security on the ground.

13 **TITLE I—ASSISTANCE**

14 **PROVISIONS**

15 **SEC. 101. UNITED STATES-GEORGIA SECURITY ASSISTANCE.**

16 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

17 (1) In fiscal year 2021, the United States pro-
18 vided Georgia with \$2,200,000 in assistance under
19 chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act
20 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2347 et seq.; relating to inter-
21 national military education and training) and
22 \$35,000,000 in assistance under section 23 of the
23 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763; relating
24 to the Foreign Military Financing Program) and in
25 2021 announced the Georgia Defense and Deter-

1 rence Enhancement Initiative (GDDEI) to enable
2 further modernization of the Georgian Ministry of
3 Defense and the Georgian Defense Forces.

4 (2) Georgia has been a longstanding NATO-as-
5 pirant country.

6 (3) Georgia has contributed substantially to
7 Euro-Atlantic peace and security through participa-
8 tion in the International Security Assistance Force
9 (ISAF) and Resolute Support Missions in Afghani-
10 stan as one of the largest troop contributors.

11 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
12 gress that United States assistance to the Republic of
13 Georgia under chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assist-
14 ance Act of 1961 and section 23 of the Arms Export Con-
15 trol Act should be increased.

16 (c) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
17 of the United States, in consultation with the Republic
18 of Georgia, to enhance Georgia’s deterrence, resilience,
19 and self-defense, including through appropriate assistance
20 to improve the capabilities of Georgia’s armed forces.

21 (d) REVIEW OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO GEOR-
22 GIA.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
25 retary of State, in consultation with the heads of

1 other appropriate United States departments and
2 agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign
3 Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
4 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-
5 port reviewing United States security assistance to
6 the Republic of Georgia.

7 (2) COMPONENTS.—The report required under
8 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

9 (A) An assessment of needed security as-
10 sistance to improve Georgia’s capacity to defend
11 its sovereignty and territorial integrity from
12 further invasion of Georgian territory by Rus-
13 sian forces, including an assessment of need for
14 anti-armor, anti-air, and anti-tank weapons, as
15 well as intelligence, surveillance, and reconnais-
16 sance capabilities.

17 (B) A detailed review of all United States
18 security assistance to Georgia from fiscal year
19 2008 to the date of the submission of such re-
20 port.

21 (C) An assessment of threats to Georgian
22 independence, sovereignty, and territorial integ-
23 rity, including an assessment of changes to the
24 force posture or intent of Russian forces occu-
25 pying Georgian territory.

1 (D) An assessment of Georgia’s capabili-
2 ties to defend itself, including a five-year strat-
3 egy to enhance Georgia’s deterrence, resilience,
4 and self-defense capabilities that incorporates
5 plans to address the capability gaps subject to
6 the assessment described in subparagraph (A).

7 (3) FORM.—The report required under para-
8 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but
9 may contain a classified annex.

10 **SEC. 102. REPORT ON UNITED STATES DEMOCRACY AND**
11 **GOVERNANCE ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,
14 in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Fed-
15 eral departments and agencies as appropriate, shall sub-
16 mit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
17 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
18 tions of the Senate a report on United States democracy
19 and governance assistance to the Republic of Georgia.

20 (b) COMPONENTS.—The report required by sub-
21 section (a) shall include the following:

22 (1) A description of goals for United States de-
23 mocracy and governance assistance to Georgia and
24 its democratic institutions, including how such as-

1 sistance is supporting Georgia’s stated goals for Eu-
2 ropean integration.

3 (2) An assessment of the impact of United
4 States democracy and governance assistance to
5 Georgia since fiscal year 2008, including challenges
6 to achieving the goals described in paragraph (1).

7 (3) An assessment of Georgia’s progress relat-
8 ing to freedom of the press and support for inde-
9 pendent media, including steps to hold accountable
10 those responsible for attacks on independent media
11 and on LGBTQ rights activists on July 5, 2021, in
12 Tbilisi.

13 (4) An assessment of Georgia’s progress on
14 strengthening its democratic institutions, including
15 through electoral and judicial reforms necessary to
16 build public confidence.

17 (5) A description of barriers and challenges to
18 United States investment in the Georgian economy,
19 as well as an assessment of how support from the
20 United States International Development Finance
21 Corporation in Georgia could help create a better de-
22 veloped and more transparent investment climate.

23 (c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)
24 shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain
25 a classified annex.

1 **SEC. 103. UNITED STATES CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION**
2 **WITH GEORGIA.**

3 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that the Secretary of State should take the following
5 actions, commensurate with United States interests, to as-
6 sist the Republic of Georgia to improve its cybersecurity:

7 (1) Provide Georgia such support as may be
8 necessary to secure government computer networks
9 from malicious cyber intrusions, particularly such
10 networks that defend the critical infrastructure of
11 Georgia.

12 (2) Provide Georgia support in reducing reli-
13 ance on Russian information and communications
14 technology.

15 (3) Assist Georgia to build its capacity, expand
16 cybersecurity information sharing, and cooperate on
17 international cyberspace efforts.

18 (b) REPORT.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
21 retary of State shall submit to the Committee on
22 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and
23 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate
24 a report on United States cybersecurity cooperation
25 with the Republic of Georgia.

1 (2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report
2 required by paragraph (1) shall include information
3 relating to the following:

4 (A) United States efforts to strengthen
5 Georgia’s ability to prevent, mitigate, and re-
6 spond to cyber incidents, including through
7 training, education, technical assistance, capac-
8 ity building, and cybersecurity risk management
9 strategies.

10 (B) The potential for new areas of collabo-
11 ration and mutual assistance between the
12 United States and Georgia to address shared
13 cyber challenges, including cybercrime, critical
14 infrastructure protection, and resilience against
15 automated, distributed threats.

16 (C) NATO’s efforts to help Georgia de-
17 velop technical capabilities to counter cyber
18 threats.

19 **SEC. 104. ENHANCED ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT RUSSIAN**
20 **DISINFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA.**

21 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
22 of the United States to enhance the capabilities of the Re-
23 public of Georgia to combat Russian disinformation and
24 propaganda campaigns intended to undermine the sov-

1 ereignty and democratic institutions of Georgia, while pro-
2 moting the freedom of the press.

3 (b) REQUIRED STRATEGY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
6 retary of State, in consultation with the heads of
7 other appropriate United States departments and
8 agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign
9 Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
10 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-
11 port outlining a strategy to implement the policy de-
12 scribed in subsection (a).

13 (2) COMPONENTS.—The report required under
14 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

15 (A) A detailed assessment of Russian
16 disinformation and propaganda efforts across
17 all media platforms targeting the Republic of
18 Georgia.

19 (B) An assessment of Georgia’s capabilities
20 to deter and combat such Russian efforts and
21 to support the freedom of the press.

22 (C) A detailed strategy coordinated across
23 all relevant United States departments and
24 agencies to enhance Georgia’s capabilities to
25 deter and combat such Russian efforts.

(3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON PERSONS COMPLICIT IN OR RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, INCLUDING RIGHT TO LIFE IN GEORGIAN REGIONS OF ABKHAZIA AND TSKHINVALI REGION/SOUTH OSSETIA OCCUPIED BY RUSSIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose on a foreign person the sanctions described in subsection (b) if the President determines that such foreign person, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) is responsible for, complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing the commission of serious human rights abuses in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian Federation;

(2) is materially assisting, sponsoring, or providing significant financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to, a foreign person described in paragraph (1); or

1 (3) is owned or controlled by a foreign person,
2 or is acting on behalf of a foreign person, described
3 in paragraph (1).

4 (b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
5 scribed in this subsection are the following:

6 (1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all pow-
7 ers granted to the President by the International
8 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701
9 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit
10 all transactions in all property and interests in prop-
11 erty of a person determined by the President to be
12 a person described in subsection (a) if such property
13 and interests in property are in the United States,
14 come within the United States, or are or come with-
15 in the possession or control of a United States per-
16 son, including by taking any of the actions described
17 in paragraph (1) of section 203(a) of such Act (50
18 U.S.C. 1702(a)).

19 (2) INADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN INDIVID-
20 UALS.—

21 (A) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS AND ADMIS-
22 SION TO THE UNITED STATES.—A person deter-
23 mined by the President to be a person described
24 in subsection (a) is—

25 (i) inadmissible to the United States;

1 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other
2 documentation to enter the United States;
3 and

4 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted
5 or paroled into the United States or to re-
6 ceive any other benefit under the Immigra-
7 tion and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et
8 seq.).

9 (B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—A person
10 determined by the President to be a person de-
11 scribed in subsection (a) is subject to the fol-
12 lowing:

13 (i) Revocation of any visa or other
14 entry documentation regardless of when
15 the visa or other entry documentation is or
16 was issued.

17 (ii) A revocation under clause (i)
18 shall—

19 (I) take effect immediately; and

20 (II) automatically cancel any
21 other valid visa or entry documenta-
22 tion that is in the foreign person's
23 possession.

24 (C) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED
25 NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT AND

1 LAW ENFORCEMENT OBJECTIVES.—Sanctions
2 under subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an
3 individual if admitting such individual into the
4 United States would further important law en-
5 forcement objectives or is necessary to permit
6 the United States to comply with the Agree-
7 ment regarding the Headquarters of the United
8 Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,
9 1947, and entered into force November 21,
10 1947, between the United Nations and the
11 United States, or other applicable international
12 obligations of the United States.

13 (c) WAIVER.—The President may waive the applica-
14 tion of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a
15 person if the President determines that such a waiver is
16 important to the national interests of the United States.

17 (d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

18 (1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may ex-
19 ercise all authorities provided to the President under
20 sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-
21 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and
22 1704) to carry out subsection (b)(1).

23 (2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-
24 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
25 violation of subsection (b)(1) or any regulation, li-

1 cense, or order issued to carry out such subsection
2 shall be subject to the penalties specified in sub-
3 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-
4 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
5 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that
6 commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a)
7 of such section.

8 (e) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act and at least
10 once every 180 days thereafter for a period not to exceed
11 two years, the President, in consultation with the Sec-
12 retary of the Treasury, shall transmit to Congress a de-
13 tailed report with respect to persons that have been deter-
14 mined to have engaged in activities described in subsection
15 (a).

16 (f) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF
17 GOODS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and require-
19 ments to impose sanctions under this title shall not
20 include the authority or requirement to impose sanc-
21 tions on the importation of goods.

22 (2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subsection, the
23 term “good” means any article, natural or man-
24 made substance, material, supply or manufactured

1 product, including inspection and test equipment
2 and excluding technical data.

3 **TITLE III—DETERMINATION OF**
4 **BUDGETARY EFFECTS**

5 **SEC. 301. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

6 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
7 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
8 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
9 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
10 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
11 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
12 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
13 vote on passage.

Passed the House of Representatives April 27, 2022.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.