

Department to any permanent secretariat of the Community of Democracies or to the government of any country that is a member of the Convening Group of the Community of Democracies.

(c) Establishment of an office for multilateral democracy promotion

The Secretary should establish an office of multilateral democracy promotion with the mission to further develop and strengthen the institutional structure of the Community of Democracies, develop interministerial projects, enhance the United Nations Democracy Caucus, manage policy development of the United Nations Democracy Fund, and enhance coordination with other regional and multilateral bodies with jurisdiction over democracy issues.

(d) International Center for Democratic Transition

(1) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that the International Center for Democratic Transition, an initiative of the Government of Hungary, serves to promote practical projects and the sharing of best practices in the area of democracy promotion and should be supported by, in particular, the United States, other European countries with experiences in democratic transitions, and private individuals.

(2) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010 to the Secretary for a grant to the International Center for Democratic Transition. Amounts appropriated under this paragraph are authorized to remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 110-53, title XXI, §2151, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 535.)

SUBCHAPTER VI—FUNDING FOR PROMOTION OF DEMOCRACY

§ 8261. The United Nations Democracy Fund

(a) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that the United States should work with other countries to enhance the goals and work of the United Nations Democracy Fund, an essential tool to promote democracy, and in particular support civil society in foreign countries in their efforts to help consolidate democracy and bring about transformational change.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated \$14,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009 to the Secretary for a United States contribution to the United Nations Democracy Fund.

(Pub. L. 110-53, title XXI, §2161, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 536.)

§ 8262. United States democracy assistance programs

(a) Sense of Congress regarding use of instruments of democracy promotion

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) United States support for democracy is strengthened by using a variety of different instrumentalities, such as the National Endowment for Democracy, the United States Agency for International Development, and the Department; and

(2) the purpose of the Department's Human Rights and Democracy Fund should be to support innovative programming, media, and materials designed to uphold democratic principles, practices, and values, support and strengthen democratic institutions, promote human rights and the rule of law, and build civil societies in countries around the world.

(b) Sense of Congress regarding mechanisms for delivering assistance

(1) Findings

Congress finds the following:

(A) Democracy assistance has many different forms, including assistance to promote the rule of law, build the capacity of civil society, political parties, and legislatures, improve the independence of the media and the judiciary, enhance independent auditing functions, and advance security sector reform.

(B) There is a need for greater clarity on the coordination and delivery mechanisms for United States democracy assistance.

(2) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development should develop guidelines, in consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, building on the existing framework for grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and other acquisition mechanisms to guide United States missions in foreign countries in coordinating United States democracy assistance and selecting the appropriate combination of such mechanisms for such assistance.

(Pub. L. 110-53, title XXI, §2162, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 536.)

CHAPTER 90—VOLUNTEERS FOR PROSPERITY PROGRAM

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| Sec. | |
| 8301. | Findings. |
| 8302. | Definitions. |
| 8303. | Office of Volunteers for Prosperity. |
| 8304. | Authorization of appropriations. |

§ 8301. Findings

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Americans engaged in international volunteer service, and the organizations deploying them—

(A) play critical roles in responding to the needs of people living throughout the developing world; and

(B) advance the international public diplomacy of the United States.

(2) The Volunteers for Prosperity Program has successfully promoted international volunteer service by skilled American professionals.

(3) In its first 4 years, the VFP Program helped to mobilize 74,000 skilled Americans, in-