

§ 1549. Report on and notice of changes made to the legal and policy frameworks for the United States' use of military force and related national security operations

(a) Annual report

(1) In general

Not later than March 1 of each year, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the legal and policy frameworks for the United States' use of military force and related national security operations.

(2) Matters to be included

The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the legal, factual, and policy justifications for any changes made to such legal and policy frameworks from the preceding year, including—

(A) a list of all foreign forces, irregular forces, groups, or individuals for which a determination has been made that force could legally be used under the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107–40), including—

(i) the legal and factual basis for such determination; and

(ii) a description of whether force has been used against each such foreign force, irregular force, group, or individual; and

(B) the criteria and any changes to the criteria for designating a foreign force, irregular force, group, or individual as lawfully targetable, as a high value target, and as formally or functionally a member of a group covered under the Authorization for Use of Military Force.

(b) Notice required

Not later than 30 days after the date on which a change is made to the legal and policy frameworks described in subsection (a)(1), the President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of such change, including the legal, factual, and policy justification for such change.

(c) Form

The report required by subsection (a) and each notice required by subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex. The unclassified portion of each report shall, at a minimum, include each change made to the legal and policy frameworks during the preceding year and the legal, factual, and policy justifications for such changes, and shall be made available to the public at the same time it is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.

(d) Appropriate congressional committees defined

In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(Pub. L. 115–91, div. A, title XII, §1264, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1689; Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title XII, §1261, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1689.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Authorization for Use of Military Force, referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(A), is Pub. L. 107–40, Sept. 18, 2001, 115 Stat. 224, which is set out as a note under section 1541 of this title.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, and not as part of the War Powers Resolution which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116–92, §1261(1), substituted “Annual” for “Initial” in heading.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 116–92, §1261(2), substituted “March 1 of each year” for “90 days after December 12, 2017”.

Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 116–92, §1261(3), substituted “from the preceding year, including—” and subpars. (A) and (B) for “during the period beginning on January 20, 2017, and ending on the date the report is submitted.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116–92, §1261(4), inserted at end “The unclassified portion of each report shall, at a minimum, include each change made to the legal and policy frameworks during the preceding year and the legal, factual, and policy justifications for such changes, and shall be made available to the public at the same time it is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees.”

§ 1550. Reports and briefings on use of military force and support of partner forces

(a) In general

Not later than 180 days after December 20, 2019, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on actions taken pursuant to the Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107–40) against those countries or organizations described in such law, as well as any actions taken to command, coordinate, participate in the movement of, or accompany the regular or irregular military forces of any foreign country or government when such forces are engaged in hostilities or in situations where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, during the preceding 180-day period.

(b) Matters to be included

The report required by subsection (a) shall include, with respect to the time period for which the report was submitted, the following:

(1) A list of each country or organization with respect to which force has been used pursuant to the Authorization for Use of Military Force, including the legal and factual basis for the determination that authority under such law applies with respect to each such country or organization.

(2) An intelligence assessment of the risk to the United States posed by each such country or organization.

(3) A list of each country in which operations were conducted pursuant to such law