

SUBCHAPTER IV—TRAINING IN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS; INCENTIVES

§ 8241. Training in democracy promotion and the protection of human rights

(a) In general

The Secretary shall continue to enhance training for members of the Foreign Service and civil service responsible for the promotion of democracy and the protection of human rights. Such training shall include appropriate instruction and training materials regarding:

(1) International documents and United States policy regarding the promotion of democracy and respect for human rights.

(2) United States policy regarding the promotion and strengthening of democracy around the world, with particular emphasis on the transition to democracy in nondemocratic countries and democratic transition countries.

(3) For any member, chief of mission, or deputy chief of mission who is to be assigned to a nondemocratic country or democratic transition country, ways to promote democracy in such country and to assist individuals, nongovernmental organizations, and movements in such country that support democratic principles, practices, and values.

(4) The protection of internationally recognized human rights (including the protection of religious freedom) and standards related to such rights, provisions of United States law related to such rights, diplomatic tools to promote respect for such rights, and the protection of individuals who have fled their countries due to violations of such rights.

(b) Consultation

The Secretary, acting through the Director of the National Foreign Affairs Training Center of the Foreign Service Institute of the Department, shall consult, as appropriate, with nongovernmental organizations involved in the protection and promotion of such rights and the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom with respect to the training required by this subsection.¹

(c) Report

Not later than 180 days after August 3, 2007, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing a description of the current and planned training provided to Foreign Service officers in human rights and democracy promotion, including such training provided to chiefs of mission serving or preparing to serve in nondemocratic countries or democratic transition countries.

(Pub. L. 110–53, title XXI, §2141, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 534.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

References to National Foreign Affairs Training Center considered to refer to George P. Shultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center, see section 1(b) of Pub. L. 107–132, set out as a note under section 4021 of this title.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “section”.

§ 8242. Sense of Congress regarding ADVANCE Democracy Award

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Secretary should further strengthen the capacity of the Department to carry out results-based democracy promotion efforts through the establishment of an annual award to be known as the “Outstanding Achievements in Advancing Democracy Award”, or the “ADVANCE Democracy Award”, that would be awarded to officers or employees of the Department; and

(2) the Secretary should establish procedures for selecting recipients of such award, including any financial terms associated with such award.

(Pub. L. 110–53, title XXI, §2142, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 534.)

§ 8243. Personnel policies at the Department of State

In addition to the awards and other incentives already implemented, the Secretary should increase incentives for members of the Foreign Service and other employees of the Department who take assignments relating to the promotion of democracy and the protection of human rights, including the following:

(1) Providing performance pay under section 3965 of this title to such members and employees who carry out their assignment in an outstanding manner.

(2) Considering such an assignment as a basis for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service.

(3) Providing Foreign Service Awards under section 4013 of this title to such members and employees who provide distinguished or meritorious service in the promotion of democracy or the protection of human rights.

(Pub. L. 110–53, title XXI, §2143, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 535.)

SUBCHAPTER V—COOPERATION WITH DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES

§ 8251. Cooperation with democratic countries

(a) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that the United States should cooperate with other democratic countries to—

(1) promote and protect democratic principles, practices, and values;

(2) promote and protect shared political, social, and economic freedoms, including the freedoms of association, of expression, of the press, of religion, and to own private property;

(3) promote and protect respect for the rule of law;

(4) develop, adopt, and pursue strategies to advance common interests in international organizations and multilateral institutions to which members of cooperating democratic countries belong; and

(5) provide political, economic, and other necessary support to countries that are undergoing a transition to democracy.

(b) Community of Democracies

(1) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that—

(A) the Community of Democracies should develop a more formal mechanism for carrying out work between ministerial meetings, such as through the creation of a permanent secretariat with appropriate staff to carry out such work, and should establish a headquarters; and

(B) nondemocratic countries should not participate in any association or group of democratic countries aimed at working together to promote democracy.

(2) Detail of personnel

The Secretary is authorized to detail on a nonreimbursable basis any employee of the 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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§ 8301. Findings

Congress makes the following findings: