



## **1. INTRODUCE YOURSELF.**

Hi, I'm **[your name]**, a constituent from **[your town/county/city, state]**. I am a member of the United Nations Association of the USA, a grassroots movement of Americans dedicated to supporting the vital work of the United Nations. My local chapter is UNA **[chapter name]**.

## 2. LEAD WITH YOUR STORY.

Why did **YOU** get involved in UNA-USA?

Why are **YOU** passionate about the work of the UN?

What UN issues are **YOU** advocating for in your community?

## **3. MAKE THE CORE ASK.**

You may already know the Biden administration released its budget request for FY'23. It includes several positive proposals that I care about, including providing a \$730 million down payment to begin paying back arrears to UN peacekeeping operations that the U.S. has accrued since FY'17.

For over 75 years, the UN has been a critical forum to which the U.S. has repeatedly turned to advance its interests in peace, promote democracy, and help share the load around complex global challenges. Now is the time for the U.S. to lead by the power of our example, work with our allies, and restore our credibility and position on the world's stage.

That is why I'm asking you to support the President's budget proposal and ensure we fully fund our UN Peacekeeping and Regular Budget dues.

## **4. SUPPORT THE ASK WITH FACTS.**

You know your Members of Congress and district best. Consider what makes your community unique and how that might motivate your representatives' decision-making process. Below select <u>2-3 facts</u> from the <u>2022 Congressional Briefing Book</u> to support the ask.

### 5. THANK YOU AND REQUEST A PHOTO

Thank your Member of Congress and/or staffer for meeting with you. You should ask to take a photo with them, and UNA-USA will post it on our social media pages with your permission.

### **6. SHARE YOUR INSIGHTS**

Let us know how your meeting went by filling out our in-district meeting form.





# **CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING BOOK FACTS**

Americans remained overwhelmingly united in their belief that the U.S. needs to maintain an active role in the UN, with **84 percent** of voters saying this is "very important" or "somewhat important."

Even as Americans continue to grapple with the economic impacts of COVID-19 at home, majorities of **voters** continue to **support** the U.S. **paying our dues** for the UN regular budget **(63 percent favor**) and for UN peacekeeping **(68 percent favor**) on time and in full.

According to the United Nations Global Marketplace, **American companies** were **awarded** more than **\$1.7 billion** in procurement contracts with the UN in 2019 (the most recent year for which data was available), by far the most of any country.

International Maritime Organization (IMO) sets international safety standards for **ships**, **ports**, **and maritime facilities**, and operating requirements. Standards promulgated by IMO are central to the health of the **U.S. economy**, as more than **90 percent** of all **international trade** is carried out on ships.

Two studies published by the U.S. Government Accountability Office more than a decade apart (in 2006<sup>2</sup> and 2018<sup>3</sup>) found that a **UN operation** is **one-eighth** the **cost** to American **taxpayers** of deploying a comparable U.S. force.

**711 million** is the **U.S. share** of the **UN regular budget**, and it is **less** than the city of **Tulsa**, **Oklahoma's budget**, which is \$840 million.

In recent years, U.S. assessments for the **UN regular budget**, peacekeeping operations, and specialized agencies have amounted to less than \$3 billion annually, equivalent to around **0.06 percent** of the **federal budget**.

**China** is the **tenth** largest **troop-contributor** (providing more than the U.S., UK, France, and Russia combined), and the **second** largest **financial contributor**. China is seeking to use this expanded profile to articulate its agenda more **aggressively** at the UN, including by **challenging** the **human rights** and **civilian protection** related aspects of UN peacekeeping mandates.

During the first half of 2021, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) reached more than **1.2 million people** in Yemen with life-saving reproductive health and protection services and emergency relief, targeting support to women and girls through **118 health facilities** and assisting with **344,000 safe births**.

In total, UNICEF procured **1.9 billion doses** of vaccines for **102 countries** and supplied vaccines to reach **45 percent** of the world's **children under five**.

Hard-fought efforts to alleviate the burden of malaria through rapid scaling up of cost-effective interventions have **saved** more than **10.6 million lives**, **averted** over **1.7 billion cases** of the disease, and **decreased** the number of malaria endemic countries from 106 in 2000 to **85 in 2021**.

In **1998**, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme **founded** the **UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)** to provide governments with the **best scientific information** so policy makers could develop sound climate change policies.