



UNA ★ USA

1. INTRODUCE YOURSELF

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

2. LEAD WITH YOUR STORY

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

What domestic or international issues are **YOU** advocating for in your community?

3. MAKE THE CORE ASK

The world's to-do list is daunting, with the highest number of violent conflicts since 1945, record temperatures, soaring food prices, and more. However, we can confront these challenges head-on by leveraging a well-supported United Nations (UN) and international affairs budget. **That is why I'm asking you to support the President's budget proposal and ensure we fully fund our UN Regular Budget and Peacekeeping dues.**

I also ask you to oppose efforts to slash or eliminate funding from the UN. Last year's House FY 24 State/Foreign Operations Appropriations bill made unprecedented cuts to U.S. funding for the UN. This year, the House is almost sure to do the same, and if enacted, it will be the most extreme bill towards the UN in history. By removing funding for the UN, the bill would cause untold suffering, endanger allies, and create a leadership vacuum at the UN that China and Russia would be happy to fill. We need a world that's more secure, not less, and U.S. leadership in the UN is critical to that effort.

[For House meetings only] As it stands, the U.S. has not paid the full peacekeeping amount we agreed to, resulting in over one billion dollars in arrears to the UN. We would like for you to be an original cosponsor to the U.S. Commitment to Peacekeeping Act, which was introduced by Representative Sara Jacobs. The bill simply allows the U.S. to pay for peacekeeping missions it voted for in the Security Council, otherwise countries are not fully reimbursed for their contributions. *[If interested, staffers can reach out to Rep. Sara Jacobs' office.]*

4. SUPPORT THE ASK WITH FACTS

Consider what makes your community unique and how that might motivate your elected officials' decision-making process. Below select **2-3 facts** from the [2024 Congressional Briefing Book](#) to support the ask.



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5. HUMANITARIAN AID

Did you know that in some areas of the world, UN agencies are the only ones providing aid? We ask that you champion continued support for the UN’s lifesaving humanitarian assistance worldwide and oppose efforts to slash aid. Significant cuts from the U.S., the world’s single largest humanitarian funder, would have catastrophic consequences for millions of lives and could further destabilize already fragile countries and populations, including our own.

Last year, the House FY’24 bill called for zeroing out the entire International Organizations and Programs (IO&P) account – which contains over a dozen UN entities – including core funding for UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, and UNRWA. The bill also called for eliminating funding to the World Health Organization (WHO) and Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO). *Drawing your attention to two examples of many:*

In Gaza, when the fighting ends, a massive reconstruction effort will need to be undertaken in addition to meeting ongoing humanitarian needs. UNRWA remains the key humanitarian actor in the region. Its work cannot be simply replaced, and it’s critical funding is restored to the agency in the FY’25 bill. (Earlier this year, Congress passed a one-year ban on U.S. funding to UNRWA. The measure suspended funding through March 2025.)

In Sudan, millions are on the brink of famine, but “a window of opportunity” exists for the international community to act now as the planting season begins. Cutting off aid to FAO would be devastating, as would eliminating support for WHO, which is delivering critical trauma supplies to health facilities in the country.

6. ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY & QUESTIONS

If time permits, this is the moment to bring up additional commentary or questions on topics relevant to your chapter such as the ceasefire in Gaza, UN treaties/CEDAW, climate, or others.

7. WORLD REFUGEE DAY

If the office seems supportive, ask if the communications staffer will post about **World Refugee Day**. *[Point to QR Code in Leave-Behind Folder]*

8. THANK YOU & REQUEST A PHOTO

Thank your Member of Congress/Staffer for meeting with you. If possible, politely request a photo! Feel free to post it on your social media pages using our pre-crafted posts. **Most importantly, don't forget to send a thank you email & fill out the feedback form in the AdvocacyDay App.**



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CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING BOOK FACTS

- In 2022, the United Nations **purchased nearly \$2.4 billion in goods and services from U.S. companies**, the most of any country and more than what the U.S. paid in UN regular budget and peacekeeping dues in FY'22. 88% of contracts awarded to U.S. companies were **\$1 million or more**. The top three sectors for U.S. company contracts were the pharmaceutical sector, followed by management/administrative services and engineering/research.
- Conducted by Morning Consult in August 2023, a survey found that roughly **two-thirds of Republicans** and **86% of Democrats** believe that it is important for the **U.S. to “maintain an active role”** in the UN.
- According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), **67% of refugees** and asylum seekers **originated** from countries with **food crises**.
- There are currently 11 UN peacekeeping operations deployed around the world – all of which the U.S. voted for. [Decades of research](#) has demonstrated that UN peacekeeping is effective at reducing violence during civil wars and saving civilian lives. It's also **eight times cheaper** than sending U.S. troops into conflict zones. UN peacekeeping promotes burden-sharing: more than 120 countries contribute troops and police. The U.S. provides only 35 troops out of more than 73,000 personnel.
- In 2022, UNICEF **procured nearly 2.5 billion doses of pediatric vaccines** for 108 countries, reaching 46% of the world's children under the age of five.
- The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) operates over **172 Family Health Clinics in Afghanistan** where women can receive needed services, even as rights for women continue to be narrowed by the Taliban.
- Failing to meet our financial obligations to the UN not only harms critical programs that advance American interests and values, but also **sends a signal to our global competitors, particularly China and other authoritarian governments, that the door is open for them to influence the organization** in a way that more closely aligns with their own national interests.
- The UN and its partners **reached nearly 11 million people in Ukraine** with life-sustaining assistance in 2023 — including providing 7.2 million people with health care, nearly 6 million with water and hygiene services, and 4 million with food and livelihood support.
- UNHRC renewed the mandate of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on **Venezuela** in 2022, continuing its **documentation of human rights abuses** like the Venezuelan government's implication in torture, arbitrary detention, extrajudicial killings, and other acts of political repression.
- In August 2023, an UN-coordinated operation transferred the oil from the decaying supertanker FSO Safer, moored off the coast of **Yemen**, to a secure replacement vessel. It **averted** the potential spillage of more than one million barrels of oil into the Red Sea, which could have caused **an environmental, humanitarian, and economic catastrophe** four times greater than the 1989 Exxon Valdez accident.
- Thanks to sustained funding from the U.S. government through CDC and USAID, UN partners like UNICEF and WHO, and the coordinated efforts of GPEI, **Africa was certified as polio-free**.
- In 2022, the Global Fund provided 24.5 million people living with HIV and AIDS antiretroviral therapy, treated 6.7 million people for TB, and distributed more than **220 million insecticide-treated bed nets** to prevent **malaria**.
- Since the start of the war, the UN has been working overtime in **Sudan**, ultimately **reaching approximately 5 million people** with assistance in 2023.