



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

Supporting the United Nations is essential for maintaining U.S. global leadership, advancing our national security, and promoting our economic and humanitarian interests. By backing the UN, we ensure that the U.S. can effectively address global challenges through cooperation and cost-effective solutions.

The House of Representatives has recently voted to eliminate most FY'25 U.S. funding for the UN. By removing funding for the UN, the bill will 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.

It's not too late to course correct, which is why I am asking you to support the funding levels outlined in the Senate's common-sense bipartisan budget proposal and ensure we fully fund our UN Regular Budget and Peacekeeping dues. I also ask that you oppose any efforts to slash or eliminate funding from the UN.

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.

In July, the House FY'25 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 that 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 assist around the planting season. 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. UNITED NATIONS DAY

If the office seems supportive, ask if the communications staffer will post about **United Nations Day on Thursday, October 24th**. UNA-USA will send their office and communications staffer a toolkit at the end of September.

8. THANK YOU & REQUEST A PHOTO

Thank your Member of Congress/Staffer for meeting with you. If possible, politely request a screenshot 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 Microsoft feedback form](#).**



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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 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.
- 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.
- 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.