

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3030

AN ACT

To help prevent acts of genocide and other atrocity crimes, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States Government capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to such crises.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Elie Wiesel Genocide
3 and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that the United States
6 affirms the critical importance of strengthening the
7 United States Government’s efforts at atrocity prevention
8 and response through interagency coordination such as the
9 Atrocities Prevention Board (referred to in this section as
10 the “Board”) or successor entity. In carrying out the work
11 of the Board or successor entity, appropriate officials of
12 the United States Government should—

13 (1) meet regularly to monitor developments
14 throughout the world that heighten the risk of atroc-
15 ities;

16 (2) identify any gaps in United States foreign
17 policy concerning regions or particular countries re-
18 lated to atrocity prevention and response;

19 (3) facilitate the development and implementa-
20 tion of policies to enhance the capacity of the United
21 States to prevent and respond to atrocities world-
22 wide;

23 (4) provide the President with recommendations
24 to improve policies, programs, resources, and tools
25 related to atrocity prevention and response;

1 (5) conduct outreach, including consultations,
2 not less frequently than biannually, with representa-
3 tives of nongovernmental organizations and civil so-
4 ciety dedicated to atrocity prevention and response;

5 (6) operate with regular consultation and par-
6 ticipation of designated interagency representatives
7 of relevant Federal agencies, executive departments,
8 or offices; and

9 (7) ensure funds are made available for the
10 policies, programs, resources, and tools related to
11 atrocity prevention and response, including through
12 mechanisms such as the Complex Crises Fund or
13 other related accounts.

14 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

15 It shall be the policy of the United States to—

16 (1) regard the prevention of genocide and other
17 atrocities as in its national security interests;

18 (2) mitigate threats to United States security
19 by addressing the root causes of insecurity and vio-
20 lent conflict to prevent—

21 (A) the mass slaughter of civilians;

22 (B) conditions that prompt internal dis-
23 placement and the flow of refugees across bor-
24 ders; and

1 (C) other violence that wreaks havoc on re-
2 gional stability and livelihoods;

3 (3) enhance the capacity of the United States
4 to identify, prevent, address, and respond to the
5 drivers of atrocities and violent conflict as part of
6 the United States' humanitarian, development, and
7 strategic interests; and

8 (4) pursue a Government-wide strategy to pre-
9 vent and respond to the risk of genocide and other
10 atrocities by—

11 (A) strengthening the diplomatic, risk
12 analysis and monitoring, strategic planning,
13 early warning, and response capacities of the
14 Government;

15 (B) improving the use of foreign assistance
16 to respond early, effectively, and urgently in
17 order to address the root causes and drivers of
18 violence, and systemic patterns of human rights
19 abuses and atrocities;

20 (C) strengthening diplomatic response and
21 the use of foreign assistance to support transi-
22 tional justice measures, including criminal ac-
23 countability, for past atrocities;

24 (D) supporting and strengthening local
25 civil society, including human rights defenders

1 and others working to help prevent and respond
2 to atrocities, and protecting their ability to re-
3 ceive support from and partner with civil soci-
4 ety at large;

5 (E) promoting financial transparency and
6 enhancing anti-corruption initiatives as part of
7 addressing a root cause of insecurity; and

8 (F) employing a variety of unilateral, bilat-
9 eral, and multilateral means to prevent and re-
10 spond to conflicts and atrocities by—

11 (i) placing a high priority on timely,
12 preventive diplomatic efforts; and

13 (ii) exercising a leadership role in pro-
14 moting international efforts to end crises
15 peacefully.

16 **SEC. 4. TRAINING OF FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS IN CON-**
17 **FLICT AND ATROCITIES PREVENTION.**

18 Section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
19 U.S.C. 4028) is amended—

20 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

21 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
22 “and” at the end;

23 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
24 period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following new
2 subparagraph:

3 “(D) instruction on recognizing patterns of
4 escalation and early warning signs of potential
5 atrocities or violence, including gender-based vi-
6 olence, and methods of conflict assessment,
7 peacebuilding, mediation for prevention, early
8 action and response, and transitional justice
9 measures to address atrocities.”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
11 section:

12 “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term
13 ‘peacebuilding’ means nonviolent activities designed to
14 prevent conflict through—

15 “(1) addressing root causes of violence;

16 “(2) promoting sustainable peace;

17 “(3) delegitimizing violence as a dispute resolu-
18 tion strategy;

19 “(4) building capacity within society to peace-
20 fully manage disputes, including the capacity of gov-
21 ernments to address citizen grievances; and

22 “(5) reducing vulnerability to triggers that may
23 spark violence.”.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORTS.**

2 Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this Act and annually thereafter for the following
4 6 years, the President shall transmit to the Committee on
5 Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Select Committee on
6 Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Com-
7 mittee on Foreign Relations and the Select Committee on
8 Intelligence of the Senate a report, with a classified annex
9 if necessary, that includes—

10 (1) a review, in consultation with appropriate
11 interagency representatives, consisting of a detailed
12 description of—

13 (A) current efforts based on United States
14 and locally identified indicators, including ca-
15 pacities and constraints for Government-wide
16 detection, early warning and response, informa-
17 tion-sharing, contingency planning, and coordi-
18 nation of efforts to prevent and respond to situ-
19 ations of genocide and atrocities and other
20 mass violence, such as gender-based violence
21 and violence against religious minorities;

22 (B) recommendations to further strengthen
23 United States capabilities described in subpara-
24 graph (A);

25 (C) funding expended by relevant Federal
26 departments and agencies on atrocities preven-

tion activities, including transitional justice measures and the legal, procedural, and resource constraints faced by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development throughout respective budgeting, strategic planning, and management cycles to support conflict and atrocities prevention activities in countries identified to be at risk of atrocities;

(D) current annual Government global assessments of sources of instability, conflict, and atrocities, the outcomes and findings of such assessments, and, where relevant, a review of activities, and the efficacy of such activities, that the Atrocities Prevention Board or successor entity undertook to respond to sources of instability, conflict, and atrocities;

(E) consideration of analysis, reporting, and policy recommendations to prevent and respond to atrocities produced by civil society, academic, and other nongovernmental organizations and institutions;

(F) countries and regions at risk of atrocities, including a description of most likely pathways to violence, specific risk factors, po-

1 tential groups of perpetrators, and at-risk tar-
2 get groups; and

3 (G) instruction on recognizing patterns of
4 escalation and early warning signs of potential
5 atrocities and methods of conflict assessment,
6 peace-building, mediation for prevention, early
7 action and response, and transitional justice
8 measures to address atrocities in the Federal
9 training programs for Foreign Service officers;
10 (2) recommendations to ensure shared responsi-
11 bility by—

12 (A) enhancing multilateral mechanisms for
13 preventing atrocities, including strengthening
14 the role of international organizations and
15 international financial institutions in conflict
16 prevention, mitigation, and response; and

17 (B) strengthening regional organizations;
18 (3) implementation status of the recommenda-
19 tions contained in such review; and

20 (4) identification of the Federal departments
21 and agencies and civil society, academic, and non-
22 governmental organizations and institutions con-
23 sulted for preparation of such report.

1 **SEC. 6. DEFINITION.**

2 In this Act, the term “genocide” means an offense
3 under subsection (a) of section 1091 of title 18, United
4 States Code, or any substantially similar conduct.

Passed the House of Representatives July 17, 2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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