

they were forced to restore the internet, and the world has now seen hundreds of videos documenting this heinous crime.

On Saturday, thousands demonstrated to mark the 40 days since the deadly crackdown. Right now, African mediators are attempting to broker the details of a power-sharing agreement between the forces of freedom and change people's alliance in the Transitional Military Council.

I hope that they are successful in reaching a deal that guarantees a genuine civilian-led transition and democratic governance, but I don't want to see the civilian-led democratic reform movement undermined and forced to accept a bad deal, one where power and the corrupt and brutal structures of the former regime remain under military control.

Mr. Speaker, like so many of my colleagues, I have been engaged on the issue of Sudan for nearly 15 years. On April 28, 2006, I led Members of Congress, religious, and NGO leaders in an act of civil disobedience at the Sudanese Embassy to highlight the atrocities taking place in Darfur. It was my first of three such direct actions.

On May 1 of that year, I joined over 50 of those people on The National Mall to protest the genocide in Darfur. I took my young son and daughter to see how people from all walks of life came together in solidarity with the people of Sudan and demanded action.

Mr. Speaker, my children are now grown and in college, so I am not exaggerating when I say that what we are seeing happening today in Sudan is a once-in-a-generation moment for the people of Sudan. We cannot be silent.

Along with all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I want the people of Sudan to know that we stand with them, that we have always stood with them, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL), the co-chair of the Progressive Caucus.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 432, a very important resolution that condemns the attacks on peaceful protesters and supports an immediate, peaceful transition to a civilian-led democratic government in Sudan.

I am so incredibly inspired by the people of Sudan who organized peacefully and adhered consistently to a nonviolent strategy of protest in order to achieve a democratic future for their country.

I especially want to call attention to the Sudanese women, who played an outsized role in holding strong in the face of violence, danger, and even death. In the words of Andrew Gilmour, the Assistant Secretary-General for human rights at OHCHR:

What the world has seen in the past month and still now will go down in history as the greatest mass non-violent movement of our generation.

Because of this nonviolent people's movement that refused to accept no for an answer, even in the face of brutal and barbaric violence from government-linked militias, the people of Sudan have achieved a real opportunity for peace. Just last week, civilian leaders and the Transitional Military Council reached an agreement where they will share power to pursue a democratic future.

In order for that peaceful transition to work, there must also be justice for those who were killed in the June 3 massacre through an independent investigation with real consequences for the perpetrators, along with true civilian oversight of the security forces.

I am heartbroken for every life that was lost, but I am also deeply hopeful because we have seen the shining light of courage, resilience, and commitment to nonviolent resistance movements and to the possibilities they bring for lasting peace. The United States must stand with the people of Sudan and do everything in our power to help achieve that peace and stability.

And, finally, Mr. Speaker, I just want to recognize a very important person in my home State of Washington, Mubarak Elamin, who has been with me on this issue of Sudan, his birth country, in making sure that we have all the information we need.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank my colleagues for offering this timely resolution to condemn the brutal attacks on peaceful protesters and stand in solidarity with the people of Sudan.

The United States must continue our efforts to support a civilian-led democratic government in Sudan and take action against those who wish to undermine the will of the Sudanese people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and, of course the Speaker pro tempore, Mr. MCGOVERN.

What happens in Sudan in the coming weeks and months is a high priority for the United States. It is in our national security interest to support a peaceful, civilian-led political transition in Sudan and is consistent with our values to support the democratic aspirations of a people who have suffered under a brutal, violent rule for so long.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 432, a resolution

"Condemning the attacks on peaceful protesters and supporting an immediate peaceful transition to a civilian-led democratic government in Sudan."

H. Res. 432 is a bipartisan resolution calling on the Sudanese government to transition power to a civilian led government, to respect democratic principles, and to end all violence against its citizens.

Since the ousting of President Al-Bashir on April 11, 2019 the Transitional Military Council (TMC) has seized power halting the proposed transition to a representative democracy.

On June 3, 2019 multiple peaceful protesters were killed in Sudan as the Sudanese government continues to perpetuate violence against its own people.

Protests in Sudan continue, however, as the Sudanese people call for a transition from a military ruling council to true democratic governance.

It is critical for the United States Congress to stand with the women and men advocating and speaking up for the Sudanese people.

I applaud the efforts and sacrifices pro-democracy activists have made and they ought to know that the United States fully supports their desire for freedom and peace, and strongly condemns the violent and oppressive tactics of the Transitional Military Council.

When enacted, H. Res. 432 will lay out areas where the Sudanese government must improve if it wants to continue a productive engagement with the United States, including political reform and a respect for human rights.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 432 to confront these atrocities we have seen in Sudan which pose a strong threat the democratic values we work to protect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCGOVERN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 432, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING WIDENING THREATS TO FREEDOMS OF THE PRESS AND EXPRESSION AROUND THE WORLD

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 345) recognizing widening threats to freedoms of the press and expression around the world, reaffirming the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2019, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 345

Whereas Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted at Paris, December 10, 1948, states, “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”;

Whereas, in 1993, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed May 3 of each year as “World Press Freedom Day”—

(1) to celebrate the fundamental principles of freedom of the press;

(2) to evaluate freedom of the press around the world;

(3) to defend the media against attacks on its independence; and

(4) to pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives while working in their profession;

Whereas, on December 18, 2013, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 68/163 on the safety of journalists and the problem of impunity, which unequivocally condemns all attacks on, and violence against, journalists and media workers, including torture, extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention, and intimidation and harassment in conflict and nonconflict situations;

Whereas the theme for World Press Freedom Day 2019, is “Media for Democracy: Journalism and Democracy in Times of Disinformation”;

Whereas Thomas Jefferson, who recognized the importance of the press in a constitutional republic, wisely declared, “. . . were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.”;

Whereas the Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-166; 22 U.S.C. 2151 note), signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2010, expanded the examination of the freedom of the press around the world in the annual country reports on human rights practices of the Department of State;

Whereas the 2019 World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders, warns, “The number of countries regarded as safe, where journalists can work in complete security, continues to decline, while authoritarian regimes tighten their grip on the media.”;

Whereas, Freedom House’s publication “Freedom in the World 2019” noted that global freedom of expression has declined each year for the past 13 years;

Whereas, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, in 2018—

(1) at least 54 journalists were killed around the world for their work, of which at least 34 were singled out for murder;

(2) the 2 deadliest countries for journalists on assignment were Afghanistan and Syria;

(3) the most dangerous subject for a journalist to report on was politics, followed by war;

(4) 251 journalists worldwide were in prison, with Turkey, China, and Egypt responsible for more than half of the jailed journalists;

(5) 13 percent of the journalists in jail were female, an increase from 8 percent in 2017;

(6) 70 percent of the journalists who were imprisoned around the world faced antistate charges, such as belonging to or aiding groups deemed by authorities as terrorist organizations; and

(7) the number of journalists imprisoned on charges of false news rose to 28 globally, compared with 9 such imprisonments in 2016;

Whereas the People’s Republic of China maintains one of the worst media environments in the world and seeks to curtail political speech inside and outside the country including by—

(1) targeting independent and foreign media in China through systematic harassment including the denial of visas to foreign journalists, imprisonment, the denial of medical care to imprisoned journalists, and curtailing access to legal representation;

(2) pervasively monitoring and censoring online and social media content, including through the banning of virtual private networks;

(3) using the full force of the State to stifle internal dissent including dissent online, particularly dissent that could lead to political change and content that criticizes China’s leaders, however trivial, reportedly even to the point of censoring comparisons of Xi Jinping’s looks with Winnie the Pooh;

(4) spreading propaganda to foreign audiences through the United Front Work Department and related activities;

(5) seeking to intimidate American-based journalists working for Radio Free Asia and reporting on gross human rights violations in China’s Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region by jailing or otherwise harassing members of their families; and

(6) championing a “sovereign Internet” model and exporting technology to enhance the ability of like-minded authoritarian regimes to suppress dissent online and monitor the activity of their people;

Whereas, Reuters journalists Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo, recipients of the 2018 PEN/Barbey Freedom to Write Award were arrested in December 2017 for investigating the murder by the Burmese military of 10 Rohingya men in the village of Inn Dinn in Rakhine State and were unjustly detained for 500 days before they were released on May 7, 2019, as part of a mass amnesty of 6,520 prisoners;

Whereas freedom of the press has been under considerable pressure in recent years throughout Southeast Asia, including in the Philippines, where the Government has waged a campaign of judicial harassment against the news website Rappler and its editor, Maria Ressa;

Whereas, Nouf Abdulaziz, Loujain Al-Hathloul, and Eman Al-Nafjan, recipients of the 2019 PEN/Barbey Freedom to Write Award, who wrote in opposition to Saudi Arabia’s repressive Guardianship system, have been subjected to imprisonment, solitary confinement, and torture by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since May 2018 in an apparent effort to suppress dissent and silence the voices of women;

Whereas, Washington Post journalist and United States resident Jamal Khashoggi was murdered by a team of Saudi operatives while visiting the Saudi Arabian consulate in Istanbul, Turkey;

Whereas the Senate unanimously approved a resolution stating that Mr. Khashoggi’s murder was carried out at the behest of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman;

Whereas journalist Mimi Mefo Takambou was jailed for 4 days in Cameroon in November 2018 on charges of spreading false news while investigating the death of an American missionary, where 4 out of the 7 total journalists imprisoned in Cameroon were jailed for spreading false news, which is a rising trend in Cameroon and elsewhere around the world;

Whereas according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, at least 26 journalists were killed in Honduras since 2007, making it one of the most deadly countries for journalists in the Americas, and where journalist Leonardo Gabriel Hernandez was murdered

in March 2019 after receiving threats related to his work;

Whereas in Nicaragua, Miguel Mora and Lucía Pineda Ubau, the directors of the country’s only 24-hour cable news network, have been jailed since December 2018 on charges of fomenting hate, spreading fake news, and terrorism, and prominent journalist Carlos Fernando Chamorro has fled the country as President Daniel Ortega cracks down on free expression in a bid to silence dissent and end the protests against him;

Whereas in Mexico, which remains the most dangerous country in the Western Hemisphere for journalists—

(1) murders, death threats, and legal impunity cause journalists to self-censor their reporting out of fear;

(2) investigative journalist Carlos Dominguez Ramirez, who wrote frequently on local politics and corruption, was brutally murdered in front of family members on January 13, 2018, in Nuevo Laredo, and a politician he was investigating was subsequently arrested in connection with this heinous act; and

(3) Rafael Murúa Manríquez was abducted and murdered in January 2019 after reporting threats from an official in the municipal government for critical reporting;

Whereas Slovakian journalist Ján Kuciak and his partner Martina Kušnírová were murdered in February 2018, allegedly in retaliation for his investigative reporting of tax fraud in connection to a businessman with close ties to Slovakia’s ruling party, where the perpetrator awaits trial, just 4 months after the murder of another European journalist, Malta’s Daphne Caruana Galizia, for her reporting on corruption;

Whereas the world’s growing cadre of ethical and hard-hitting investigative journalists, including those contributing to the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project—

(1) adhere to the highest professional standards;

(2) uncover abuses and corruption being committed in their own countries; and

(3) deserve the international community’s support and praise for taking on the risky job of fostering accountability and transparency in their respective countries;

Whereas, under the auspices of the United States Agency for Global Media, the United States Government provides financial assistance to several editorially independent media outlets, including Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, Radio y Television Marti, and the Middle East Broadcast Networks—

(1) which report and broadcast news, information, and analysis in critical regions around the world; and

(2) whose journalists regularly face harassment, fines, and imprisonment for their work; and

Whereas freedom of the press—

(1) is a key component of democratic governance, activism in civil society, and socioeconomic development; and

(2) enhances public accountability, transparency, and participation in civil society and democratic governance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns threats to freedom of the press and free expression around the world;

(2) remembers the bravery of journalists and media workers around the world who, despite threats to their safety, play an essential role in—

(A) promoting government accountability;

(B) defending democratic activity; and

(C) strengthening civil society;

(3) remembers journalists who have lost their lives carrying out their work;

(4) calls on governments abroad to implement United Nations General Assembly Resolution 163 (2013) by thoroughly investigating and seeking to resolve outstanding cases of violence against journalists, including murders and kidnappings, while ensuring the protection of witnesses;

(5) condemns all actions around the world that suppress freedom of the press;

(6) reaffirms the centrality of freedom of the press to efforts of the United States Government to support democracy, mitigate conflict, and promote good governance around the world; and

(7) calls on the President and the Secretary of State—

(A) to preserve and build upon the leadership of the United States on issues relating to freedom of the press, on the basis of the protections afforded the American people under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

(B) to improve the rapid identification, publication, and response by the United States Government to threats against freedom of the press around the world;

(C) to urge foreign governments to transparently investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of attacks against journalists; and

(D) to highlight the issue of threats against freedom of the press in the annual country reports on human rights practices of the Department of State and through diplomatic channels.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 345.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to thank Representative SCHIFF and Representative CHABOT for introducing this resolution which recognizes that the freedoms of the press and expression are being threatened globally.

A free press is an essential pillar in every democracy. It shines light on corruption, speaks truth to power, and holds the government accountable. However, in recent years, there has been a growing assault on a free press.

Mr. Speaker, there are far too many shocking examples of journalists being silenced, imprisoned, tortured, and even murdered around the world, with each abuse only furthering a 13-year decline in the freedom of expression.

The price of protecting these rights has become extremely high. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, in 2018, 54 journalists were killed and 64 went missing.

At a time when the world looks to the United States to be champions for a free press, some call our journalists the enemy of the people. This adminis-

tration's attack on the media undermines the First Amendment and creates a culture of intimidation and hostility towards journalists.

By accusing media outlets of producing fake news, journalists find themselves less safe, and our country is less informed. So H. Res. 345 condemns threats to independent media and calls on governments to continue to address journalists' safety. It also reiterates the vital importance of a free press in the U.S. and to well-functioning democracies abroad, as well.

It is our duty now, more than ever, to protect the freedom of the press and the public's right to information. I ask all Members to support this bipartisan resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to condemn dangerous threats to freedom of the press and freedom of expression around the world, understanding that the media has a responsibility of fairness without bias and an independent media is a cornerstone of an educated society and a necessary pillar to a healthy democracy.

Unfortunately, freedom of the press and freedom of expression are not protected in many countries.

Dictators fear anything that challenges their power. They go to great lengths to restrict the rights of their citizens and control their own people. They attack human rights activists and protesters who march in the street.

The last thing that a tyrant wants is to be exposed as a corrupt and immoral leader. As a result, they intimidate, arrest, and sometimes kill members of the media for doing their jobs.

According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, 251 reporters worldwide were being held in prison in 2018. More than half of them were being held in Turkey, China, and Egypt.

Last year, over 54 journalists were killed in the line of duty. Thirty-four of them were murder victims.

Of course, sadly, we are all familiar with the heinous killing of Jamal Khashoggi, a columnist for The Washington Post who was murdered by Saudi agents.

These crimes are completely unacceptable. Republicans and Democrats stand together as Americans in condemning foreign governments that attack journalists and crack down on press freedoms.

This resolution allows us to speak in a unified voice to express our support for those who want to report the news without fearing for their lives. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Cali-

fornia (Mr. SCHIFF), who is the author of this bill and the chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 345, a resolution to recognize the central importance of press freedom in a democratic society and calling attention to threats to press freedom around the globe.

I am proud to sponsor this bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleague, Congressman STEVE CHABOT, with whom I co-chair the Press Freedom Caucus. I thank, as well, Mr. ENGEL and Ranking Member MCCAUL for moving forward this resolution.

Every day, journalists around the world bring forward vital information and stories, sometimes from behind the curtain of the world's most repressive regimes and amid war zones. Journalists expose corruption, malfeasance, and abuse that the wealthy and powerful may seek to conceal. For that, they face harassment, threats, persecution, assaults, and even death.

The purpose of this resolution today is to call attention to those threats and to make clear that Congress supports press freedoms here and around the world.

Recent years have been some of the most dangerous and deadly in memory for journalists. As we confront a rising tide of authoritarianism around the world, threats to press freedom are proliferating in many countries from repressive governments. Elsewhere, inadequate security and a lack of accountability have made journalists vulnerable to criminal or terrorist actors.

The resolution before the House today lists just a small sample of the cases in which journalists around the world have been killed or imprisoned for their work. I would like to speak to just a few of these cases and those that have occurred in the short months since the resolution's introduction.

Among them, of course, is the case of Jamal Khashoggi, the Saudi human rights advocate, U.S. resident, and Washington Post columnist who last year was brutally murdered and dismembered at the orders of the highest reaches of the Saudi Government.

Jamal's murder has been a rallying cry of sorts, but it stands alone in the worldwide attention it has received. All the same, it is tragically far from unique.

Fewer are aware of the cases involving Loujain Al-Hathloul, Nouf Abdulaziz, and Eman Al-Nafjan, three Saudi women who wrote critically of the kingdom's treatment of women and who have been imprisoned for more than a year; or of the acute threat to journalists in the Philippines where the regime of Rodrigo Duterte has attacked independent media with a campaign of judicial harassment and investigation, including the online media outlet Rappler lead and its editor, Maria Ressa; or in China, where authorities target independent and foreign media for harassment and detention, including the labor reporter Wei

Zhili, who was arrested in March. Authorities also block American-based journalists and others who have sought to report on human rights violations and mass detention of Uighurs in Xinjiang province.

Turkey has become the leading jailer of journalists under the rule of President Erdogan, where, just last month, Turkish authorities charged two Bloomberg journalists who reported on the economic crisis in Turkey with undermining the Turkish economy and sought to imprison them.

In Iran, economics reporter Marzieh Amiri was arrested covering May Day demonstrations and has been held since, with little information about her well-being or the status of the charges against her.

In Mexico, reporters can pay with their lives for reporting on the crimes of drug cartels or corrupt local officials, including investigative journalists like Carlos Rodriguez, who was murdered in front of his family, or, more recently, Norma Sarabia, who was murdered in her home in Tabasco state and whose killers remain at large.

Of course, many Americans are all too well aware of the case of Austin Tice, an American working as an independent journalist in Syria who was kidnapped by forces aligned with the Syrian regime in 2012 and today is believed to still remain a hostage nearly 7 years later. We continue to do all we can to obtain information about his whereabouts and to secure his safe return.

Mr. Speaker, today, by passing this legislation, the House can send a message to journalists who face persecution for their work that we stand with them and value their contributions. For those who seek to intimidate and silence them, we send the message that we are watching.

The voice of people seeking justice cannot be silenced forever. We will stand strongly with all those around the world fighting for accountability and truth.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank Chairman SCHIFF and Congressman CHABOT for their bipartisan work on this issue. The United States must continue to provide a strong voice for a free press and independent media across the globe emphasizing fairness. Supporting a free press must remain an essential part of America's foreign policy, and I urge all Members to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 345 is an important resolution that honors journalists and calls on the United States and governments abroad to protect the freedom of the press. I commend Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. CHABOT for this.

Press freedom is fundamental in democracies and enhances public accountability, transparency, and participation in governance. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Committee on the Judiciary, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 345, in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day.

This resolution recognizes widening threats to freedoms of the press and expression around the world, affirms the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and holds freedom of the press as a central principle in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2019.

In this resolution, the House of Representatives:

Expresses concern about threats to freedom of the press and free expression around the world on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day;

commends journalists and media workers around the world, despite threats to their safety, for their essential role in—

promoting government accountability;

defending democratic activity; and

strengthening civil society;

pays tribute to journalists who have lost their lives carrying out their work;

calls on governments abroad to implement United Nations General Assembly Resolution 163 (2013), by thoroughly investigating and seeking to resolve outstanding cases of violence against journalists, including murders and kidnappings, while ensuring the protection of witnesses.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 345 also condemns all actions around the world which suppress freedom of the press; and recognizes the importance of a free and independent press in supporting democracy, mitigating conflict, and promoting good governance around the world.

Finally, the resolution calls on the President and the Secretary of State:

To preserve and build upon the leadership of the United States on issues relating to freedom of the press, on the basis of the protections afforded the American people under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

to improve the rapid identification, publication, and response by the United States Government to threats against freedom of the press around the world;

to urge foreign governments to transparently investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of attacks against journalists; and

to highlight the issue of threats against freedom of the press in the annual country reports on human rights practices of the Department of State and through diplomatic channels.

I stand in strong support of this resolution and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting to pass H. Res. 345, to commemorate the importance of World Press Freedom Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 345, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: "A resolution responding to widening threats to freedoms of the press and expression around the world, reaffirming the centrality of a free and independent press to the health of democracy, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance on World Press Freedom Day."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SAUDI ARABIA HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2037) to encourage accountability for the murder of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2037

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Saudi Arabia Human Rights and Accountability Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT RELATING TO THE KILLING OF WASHINGTON POST COLUMNIST JAMAL KHASHOGGI.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report consisting of—

(1) a determination and presentation of evidence with respect to the advance knowledge and role of any current or former official of the Government of Saudi Arabia or any current or former senior Saudi political figure over the directing, ordering, or tampering of evidence in the killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi; and

(2) a list of foreign persons that the Director of National Intelligence has high confidence—

(A) were responsible for, or complicit in, ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing an act or acts contributing to or causing the death of Jamal Khashoggi;

(B) knowingly and materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, an activity described in subparagraph (A); or

(C) impeded the impartial investigation of the killing of Jamal Khashoggi, including through the tampering of evidence relating to the investigation.

(b) FORM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(2) NAMES OF FOREIGN PERSONS LISTED.—The name of each foreign person listed in the report described in subsection (a)(2) shall be included in the unclassified portion of the report unless the Director of National Intelligence determines that such disclosure would undermine United States intelligence sources and methods or threaten the national security interests of the United States.