

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7311

To direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2022

Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, Ms. BASS, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Countering Malign  
5 Russian Activities in Africa Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that the United States—

1           (1) should regularly assess the scale and scope  
2           of the Russian Federation’s influence and activities  
3           in Africa that undermine United States objectives  
4           and interests; and

5           (2) determine how—

6                   (A) to address and counter such influence  
7                   and activities effectively, including through ap-  
8                   propriate United States foreign assistance pro-  
9                   grams; and

10                   (B) to hold accountable the Russian Fed-  
11                   eration and African governments and their offi-  
12                   cials who are complicit in aiding such malign  
13                   influence and activities.

14 **SEC. 3. STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN; REPORT.**

15           (a) STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not  
16 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this  
17 Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to  
18 the appropriate congressional committees a strategy and  
19 implementation plan outlining United States efforts to  
20 counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian  
21 Federation and its proxies in Africa, including programs  
22 and other initiatives designed to—

23                   (1) strengthen democratic institutions, improve  
24                   government transparency and accountability, im-  
25                   prove standards related to human rights, labor, anti-

1 corruption initiatives, fiscal transparency, monitor  
2 natural resources and extractive industries, and  
3 other tenets of good governance; and

4 (2) monitor and report on Russian political in-  
5 fluence and disinformation operations and the activi-  
6 ties of Russian, Russia-connected, or Russian-funded  
7 private military contractors in Africa.

8 (b) REPORT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-  
11 nually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State,  
12 in consultation with the heads of other relevant Fed-  
13 eral departments and agencies as appropriate, shall  
14 submit to the appropriate congressional committees  
15 a report on the strategy and implementation plan re-  
16 quired by subsection (a) and related efforts to  
17 counter the malign influence and activities of the  
18 Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa.

19 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-  
20 graph (1) shall include the following:

21 (A) An assessment of the scope and nature  
22 of the Russian Federation's malign influence  
23 and activities and related diplomatic, economic,  
24 and security priorities and strategic objectives  
25 of such engagement in Africa, including influ-

1           ence and activities that involve Russian proxies,  
2           such as Russian oligarchs, Russian-funded pri-  
3           vate military contractors, and other individuals  
4           and entities directly or indirectly employed by  
5           or financially or politically associated with Rus-  
6           sia and its officials, who are involved in or aid  
7           activities to, among other things—

8                   (i) manipulate African governments  
9                   and their policies, as well as the public  
10                  opinions and voting preferences of African  
11                  populations and diaspora groups, including  
12                  those in the United States; and

13                  (ii) invest in, engage, or otherwise  
14                  control strategic sectors in Africa, such as  
15                  mining and other forms of natural resource  
16                  extraction and exploitation, military basing  
17                  and other security cooperation agreements,  
18                  and information and communications tech-  
19                  nology.

20           (B) A detailed account of United States  
21           foreign assistance and other initiatives devel-  
22           oped and implemented during the preceding 3  
23           fiscal years to address Russia’s malign influence  
24           and activities in Africa, including the objectives  
25           and details of planned programs and initiatives

1 set out in the strategy required by subsection  
2 (a).

3 (C) An analysis of policy and pro-  
4 grammatic limitations, gaps, and resource re-  
5 quirements to effectively counter Russia’s ma-  
6 lign influence and activities in Africa.

7 (D) An overview of other initiatives and  
8 assistance programs funded by other inter-  
9 national donors and partner countries to  
10 counter Russia’s malign influence and activities  
11 in Africa.

12 (E) An identification of African govern-  
13 ments and government officials, Russian gov-  
14 ernment officials, and other individuals and en-  
15 tities that have facilitated payments and other  
16 prohibited activities that benefit United States-  
17 sanctioned individuals and entities tied to Rus-  
18 sia, including in violation of the Global  
19 Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act  
20 (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328;  
21 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), the Countering Amer-  
22 ica’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Pub-  
23 lic Law 115–44; 22 U.S.C. 9401 et seq.), Exec-  
24 utive Order 14024 (86 Fed. Reg. 20249; relat-  
25 ing to blocking property with respect to speci-

1           fied harmful foreign activities of the Govern-  
2           ment of the Russian Federation), and Executive  
3           Order 13848 (83 Fed. Reg. 46843; relating to  
4           imposing certain sanctions in the event of for-  
5           eign interference in a United States election),  
6           and a detailed overview of United States efforts  
7           to hold such governments, officials, and other  
8           individuals and entities complicit in violating or  
9           facilitating the evasion of United States sanc-  
10          tions against Russia and its proxies accountable  
11          through sanctions or other restrictions.

12           (3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph  
13          (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may  
14          include a classified annex.

15 **SEC. 4. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**  
16 **FINED.**

17          In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
18          mittees” means—

19           (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
20          House of Representatives; and

21           (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the  
22          Senate.

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