

Madam Speaker, many of our colleagues on the Committee on International Relations will remember as long as they live meeting, about a year ago, with Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh. We had an extraordinarily sophisticated and lively discussion on the broader spectrum of international issues. We disagreed on some matters and agreed on others, but I know all of us found her to be extremely impressive, charming and intelligent as the top foreign policy person, as our friend, Sweden.

Less than a year ago at the NATO summit in Prague, by chance my wife, Annette, and I were seated next to Foreign Minister Lindh at the banquet given in Prague Castle by the distinguished President of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Havel. I simply cannot tell you how much I enjoyed the lively conversation these two extraordinary women had, both of them passionately committed to human rights and public service.

Madam Speaker, as my colleagues painfully know, just recently Anna Lindh was murdered by an assailant in a Stockholm department store. Her inexplicable and untimely tragic death was a shock to all of her countrymen in Sweden and to all of us who knew her and admired her and who have worked with her ever since she began her service as Foreign Minister of Sweden.

Her death was a blow to the peace-loving people of Sweden. The shock had an even greater impact, Madam Speaker, because former Swedish Prime Minister Olaf Palme, who had been Anna's role model, was murdered on a Stockholm street in 1986 under similar and still-unresolved circumstances.

Madam Speaker, House Resolution 372 expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives and of the American people to the family of Foreign Minister Anna Lindh. We condemn all such senseless acts of violence against public officials, and we express our solidarity with the people of Sweden at this difficult time.

Madam Speaker, Anna was very young. She was a brilliant lawyer, who at age 37 became Minister for the Environment in Sweden, one of the most important cabinet posts in the Swedish Government, and at age 41 she became Sweden's Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Madam Speaker, the distinguished Prime Minister of Sweden, Goran Persson made very poignant remarks at the memorial service for Anna which characterized her many gifts and talents.

I would like to share a few of Prime Minister Goran Persson's remarks during her eulogy.

"Anna Lindh lived out her vision for the world in her everyday life. She knew that good political leadership is about more than just lofty words. Anna Lindh believed in people. She believed in people as the remarkable beings they are, with an almost unlimited capacity to grow and to develop. She be-

lieved in people's inner-strength and potential, but she also knew how easily that strength can be lost. For Anna, people were at the core of every issue. Human rights were always her driving force. Violations and oppression were the opponents in the fight. Democracy was always the means and people were always the answer. That is the way she was, in big issues and small alike. She cared."

Madam Speaker, I humbly ask for strong support of H. Res. 372, which sends our deepest condolences to Anna Lindh's family and to the people of Sweden, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in this effort.

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today as an original cosponsor of this resolution expressing the House's condolences to the family of Foreign Minister Anna Lindh, to her many friends, and to the people of a country left a sadder place for her absence.

While her brutal murder shook the foundation of that proud and peaceful nation, it is her life—not her death—that is her legacy.

In only 46 years of life, Anna Lindh rapidly ascended the European political community to become one of its most capable, competent, and respected members. She was a singularly instrumental figure during the Swedish presidency of the European Union in 2001.

From joining the Swedish Social Democratic League at age 12, Ms. Lindh was destined for a career in public service. She was elected to the Swedish parliament the year she graduated from law school. She later became the Deputy Mayor of Stockholm, Minister of the Environment, and eventually, Foreign Minister.

The impact of her political skill and achievements touched people worldwide, most notably in the Balkans, where her remarkable talents helped prevent war in Macedonia.

Building coalitions was her calling, and her success in this critically important area earned the respect of leaders from around the globe. When asked once what he appreciated most about Sweden, our own Secretary Colin Powell once replied "Abba, Volvo, and Anna."

Anna Lindh truly epitomized a new generation of internationally-minded politicians. Her murder was a tragedy that cannot be forgotten, but it will not overshadow her achievements and her lasting contributions to the international community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this important resolution. On behalf of more than 12,000 of my constituents of Swedish descent, I offer my sincere condolences.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 372.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam 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 and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE WORLD ON THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res 274) commending the National Endowment for Democracy for its contributions to democratic development around the world on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the National Endowment for Democracy.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 274

Whereas November 22, 2003, marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the National Endowment for Democracy (hereinafter the "Endowment"), a bipartisan nongovernmental institution that promotes democracy around the world;

Whereas through the National Endowment for Democracy Act (22 U.S.C. 4411 et seq.), signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on November 22, 1983, Congress has made possible the funding of the Endowment's worldwide grant programs;

Whereas 2003 also marks the 20th anniversary of the National Republican Institute for International Affairs (which was subsequently renamed the International Republican Institute (IRI)), the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), and the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), all of which joined the Free Trade Union Institute (which was subsequently renamed as the American Center for International Labor Solidarity) to form the four affiliated institutions of the Endowment;

Whereas the Endowment and the affiliated institutes have supported grassroots programs to build democratic institutions, spread democratic values, encourage free market institutions, and promote political parties, worker rights, independent media, human rights, the rule of law, civic education, conflict resolution, political participation by women, and many other essential components of civil society and democratic governance in emerging and transitional democracies, nondemocracies, and war-torn societies;

Whereas the programs carried out or funded by the Endowment have made significant contributions to the efforts of democratic activists to achieve freedom and self-governance around the world;

Whereas the Endowment, through the Journal of Democracy, the International Forum for Democratic Studies, the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program, and the World Movement for Democracy, has served as a key center of democratic research, exchange, and networking, bringing together thousands of democracy activists, scholars, and practitioners from around the world; and

Whereas the spread of democracy throughout the world, to which the work of the Endowment has contributed significantly, has enhanced the national security interests of the United States and advanced democratic ideals and values throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) commends the National Endowment for Democracy for its major contributions to the strengthening of democracy around the world on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Endowment; and

(2) endeavors to continue to support the vital work of the National Endowment for Democracy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Con. Res. 274.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution commending the National Endowment for Democracy. I am a sponsor of this measure, and I appreciate the strong support expressed on a bipartisan basis for this measure. I appreciate the numerous cosponsors, and I would like to thank the chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), for introducing the original resolution.

Madam Speaker, this resolution recognizes the National Endowment for Democracy for its work, which has served to strengthen democracies and give hope to many who are shaping a system of governance in their countries that is based on the free participation of the people. Furthermore, the measure expresses the Congress's commendation of 20 years of working to build grassroots institutions and establishing electoral systems, building political parties and opening opportunities for broad-based governance.

During the years of the Cold War, various groups and various individuals were seeking a creative way to support democracy. And as a result of this, it led to President Reagan giving a speech in 1983. In that speech, he proposed an initiative, in his words, "to foster the infrastructure of democracy, the system of a free press, unions, political parties, universities, which allows a people to choose their own way, to develop their own culture, to reconcile their own differences through peaceful means."

Those were Reagan's words at the time. He noted that the American Political Foundation would soon begin a study "to determine how the U.S. can best contribute as a Nation to the global campaign for democracy now gathering force."

Well, soon thereafter, the National Endowment for Democracy was created

as a nongovernmental organization that is supported by annual appropriations and subject to congressional oversight. The ideas that spurred the creation of the NED, as we call it, is that U.S. assistance on behalf of democracy efforts around the world would be good for the U.S. and would be good for those struggling for freedom and for self-government. And that is still true today.

Their success is captured in their mission statements, and the NED's mission statement says that the Endowment is "guided by the belief that freedom is a universal human aspiration that can be realized through the development of democratic institutions, procedures and values." Democracies cannot be achieved through a single election and need not be based upon the model of the U.S. or any other particular country. Rather, it evolves according to the needs and traditions of diverse political cultures. By supporting this process, the endowment helps strengthen the bond between indigenous, democratic movements abroad and the people of the U.S., a bond based on a common commitment to representative government and a common commitment to freedom as a way of life.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. I would first like to commend my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) for introducing this important resolution and my good friend and fellow Californian, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) for being such a leader on this important issue. I am proud to have joined them in introducing this initiative.

Madam Speaker, over the past two decades, the world has witnessed a democratic revolution. Russia has broken from its totalitarian past and held free and open elections. The Indonesian people have freely elected their new leaders for the first time in decades, and all South Africans have finally been granted the franchise.

Madam Speaker, the National Endowment for Democracy played a critical role in supporting this Democratic revolution across the globe. With each new wave of democracy since its establishment, the endowment and its partners, the National Democratic Institute and the International Republican Institute, have been at the forefront of our struggle to expand the arena of democracy across the globe.

This is such a quintessential bipartisan American undertaking that all of us in this House must be very proud of. Together, the National Democratic Institute and the International Republican Institute have seeded the new fertile soil in Eastern Europe and Latin America which have bloomed into regions where democracy and not tyranny now dominate.

Democracy is often the precursor of the development of human rights and personal freedom, causes that we have championed our entire political lives. Recognizing this, NED has not only pushed forward democracy, but has supported human rights activists on every continent with financial grants, with personal awards, and with tremendous moral support.

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All of us should express our profoundest gratitude for the men and women who have worked tirelessly to support these goals which are so central to the success of U.S. foreign policy in this fast-moving era of change.

I am delighted to have had the opportunity to cosponsor this resolution with the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), my good friend, the chairman of our committee. I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 274.

Madam Speaker, we have no further requests for time, and we yield back the balance of our time.

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

I think we all want to congratulate the National Endowment for Democracy for the last 20 years of service, and I think we all wish NED continued success. I think the ranking member of the Committee on International Relations well summed up the values and successes of the NED. I urge my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 274.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAPITO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 274.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam 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 and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGO BASIN FOREST
PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2003

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2264) to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004 and 2005 to carry out the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2264

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 "Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act of 2003".