

We have known about the violence. We have known about the detainment because folks just expressed their legitimate dissatisfaction with Yanukovich's government.

However, the current crisis in Ukraine had deeper roots. Almost a decade ago, the Orange Revolution led to the annulment of a fraudulent election which would have brought Viktor Yanukovich to power. In the wake of protests and civil disobedience on a massive scale, the Ukrainian people, instead, chose President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. She is in jail. She is in jail right now, as we speak, still. Now the democratic gains made as a result of that Orange Revolution are at risk. Viktor Yanukovich has gained the presidency, and former Prime Minister Tymoshenko, as I said, is still in jail.

The use of force to suppress open expression by political opponents or popular protests could never be tolerated in a free and democratic society, and those within the Ukrainian Government who authorized these brutal crackdowns should be held accountable for their egregious abuse of power.

There has been a strong outpouring of support for the protesters from the large and active Ukrainian American community, many of whom live in my district, the Ninth Congressional District of New Jersey.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ENGEL. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. PASCRELL. Ukrainian Americans deeply desire a solution to this crisis which respects the fundamental rights of their sisters and brothers in Ukraine to free speech, press, and peaceful assembly. It is my sincere hope that the United States can facilitate a peaceful resolution to the crisis in Ukraine which respects the will of the Ukrainian people and brings justice to those who have been harmed through wrongful arrests and violence.

As we saw in Syria, crackdowns on nonviolent protests can lead to an all-out civil war, and we still do not do what we should be doing with those refugees from Syria. That is a disgrace.

We need to act now to help the people of Ukraine before the violence escalates further. I urge my colleagues to join this vital show of support from the American people to the people of Ukraine.

I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for yielding.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I want to continue to urge my colleagues to support the resolution. As anyone can see, this is a very bipartisan resolution. It is very important.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time. I, again, thank my good friend and colleague from New York, ELIOT

ENGEL, for his sponsorship of this important resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong support for H. Res. 447, a resolution supporting the democratic and European aspirations of the Ukrainian people and their right to choose their own future free of intimidation and fear.

As an original co-sponsor and as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, I believe it is essential for Congress to continue to show its strong support for the Ukrainian people. In the two decades since Ukraine gained its independence from the Soviet Union, Congress has been at the forefront of efforts to foster democratic and economic reform in Ukraine.

I have been deeply troubled by developments in Ukraine since President Yanukovich's surprising announcement last November that his government would not sign an Association Agreement with the European Union. I remain concerned that Mr. Yanukovich and his government were unduly pressured by outside forces to take a decision at odds with the long-term interests of the Ukrainian people and that the government's decision was not taken in consultation with other political stakeholders.

Since November, I have watched Ukraine's unfolding political crisis with growing concern, especially authorities' use of violence against peaceful protestors. I have been deeply dismayed by the deaths and injuries sustained on all sides. I applaud the Administration's decision to revoke the visas of the Ukrainian government officials who were responsible for ordering or committing acts of violence against peaceful protestors. I believe additional sanctions should be considered in the event of further violence, but hope they will not be necessary.

In the past few weeks, we have started to see signs of progress toward a resolution, including the repeal of repressive measures adopted by parliament in mid-January and the resignation of the prime minister and his cabinet on January 28. Both developments created an opening for serious dialogue between the government and the opposition. I urge all parties to seize this important opportunity.

This resolution does not take sides in what is quite rightly a matter that Ukrainians must decide for themselves. Instead, it urges all parties to refrain from violence and to engage in constructive, sustained dialogue in order to find a peaceful solution to the current crisis.

To facilitate that process, this resolution underscores to protestors, to the government, and to all Ukrainians that the United States will continue to defend Ukraine's sovereign right to chart its own course and build its own future.

It also makes clear, not just to the protestors, but to President Yanukovich as well, that the United States will continue to support the Ukrainian people's aspirations to build a strong and prosperous democracy—one that is firmly rooted in Europe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 447, 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. SMITH of New Jersey. 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, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules on H.R. 2431 and H. Res. 447, in each case by the yeas and nays, and the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION SYSTEM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2431) to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 365, nays 21, not voting 45, as follows:

[Roll No. 55]

YEAS—365

Andrews	Camp	Crowley
Bachmann	Cantor	Cuellar
Bachus	Capito	Culberson
Barber	Capps	Cummings
Barletta	Carney	Daines
Barr	Carson (IN)	Davis (CA)
Barrow (GA)	Carter	Davis, Rodney
Barton	Cartwright	Delaney
Bass	Castor (FL)	DeLauro
Beatty	Castro (TX)	DelBene
Becerra	Chabot	Denham
Benishek	Chaffetz	Dent
Bentivolio	Chu	DeSantis
Bera (CA)	Cicilline	Deutch
Bilirakis	Clark (MA)	Diaz-Balart
Bishop (GA)	Clarke (NY)	Dingell
Bishop (NY)	Clay	Doggett
Black	Cleaver	Doyle
Blackburn	Clyburn	Duckworth
Blumenauer	Coble	Duffy
Bonamici	Coffman	Duncan (SC)
Boustany	Cohen	Edwards
Brady (PA)	Cole	Ellison
Brady (TX)	Collins (GA)	Ellmers
Brooks (AL)	Collins (NY)	Engel
Brooks (IN)	Conaway	Enyart
Brownley (CA)	Conyers	Eshoo
Buchanan	Cook	Esty
Bucshon	Cooper	Farenthold
Burgess	Costa	Farr
Bustos	Cotton	Fattah
Butterfield	Courtney	Fincher
Byrne	Crawford	Fitzpatrick
Calvert	Crenshaw	Fleischmann