

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 9374

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, Latin America, the Middle East, and other regions as appropriate, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 1, 2022

Mr. MEEKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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, Latin America, the Middle East, and other regions as appropriate, 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 Globally Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

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

3 (1) should regularly assess the scale and scope
4 of the Russian Federation’s influence and activities
5 that undermine United States objectives and inter-
6 ests in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East,
7 each of which is experiencing such influence and ac-
8 tivities to varying degrees, and other regions as ap-
9 propriate; and

10 (2) determine how—

11 (A) to address and counter such influence
12 and activities effectively, including through ap-
13 propriate United States foreign assistance pro-
14 grams; and

15 (B) to hold accountable the Russian Fed-
16 eration and other foreign governments and their
17 officials who are complicit in aiding such malign
18 influence and activities.

19 **SEC. 3. REGIONAL STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION**
20 **PLAN; ANNUAL REPORT.**

21 (a) STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not
22 later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of
23 this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit
24 to the appropriate congressional committees a regional
25 strategy and implementation plan outlining United States
26 efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of

1 the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, Latin
2 America, the Middle East, and other regions as appro-
3 priate, including programs and other initiatives designed
4 to—

5 (1) strengthen democratic institutions, improve
6 government transparency and accountability, im-
7 prove standards related to human rights, labor, anti-
8 corruption initiatives, fiscal transparency, monitor
9 the use and beneficiaries of natural resources and
10 extractive industries, and other tenets of good gov-
11 ernance; and

12 (2) monitor and report on Russian political in-
13 fluence and disinformation operations and the activi-
14 ties of Russian, Russia-connected, or Russian-funded
15 private military contractors.

16 (b) REPORT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and an-
19 nually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State,
20 in consultation with the heads of other relevant Fed-
21 eral departments and agencies as appropriate, shall
22 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
23 a report on the regional strategy and implementa-
24 tion plan required by subsection (a) and related ef-
25 forts to counter the malign influence and activities

1 of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa,
2 Latin America, the Middle East, and other regions
3 as appropriate.

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

6 (A) An assessment of the scope and nature
7 of the Russian Federation’s malign influence
8 and activities and related diplomatic, economic,
9 and security priorities and strategic objectives
10 of such engagement in Africa, Latin America,
11 the Middle East, and other regions as appro-
12 priate, including influence and activities that in-
13 volve Russian proxies, such as Russian
14 oligarchs, Russian-funded private military con-
15 tractors, and other individuals and entities di-
16 rectly or indirectly employed by or financially or
17 politically associated with Russia and its offi-
18 cials, who are involved in or aid activities to,
19 among other things—

20 (i) manipulate foreign governments
21 and their policies, as well as the public
22 opinions and voting preferences of their re-
23 spective populations and diaspora groups,
24 including those in the United States; and

1 (ii) invest in, engage, or otherwise
2 control strategic sectors in identified re-
3 gions, including mining and other forms of
4 natural resource extraction and exploi-
5 tation, military basing and other security
6 cooperation agreements, and information
7 and communications technology.

8 (B) A detailed account of United States
9 foreign assistance and other initiatives devel-
10 oped and implemented during the preceding 3
11 fiscal years to address Russia’s malign influence
12 and activities in Africa, Latin America, the
13 Middle East, and other regions as appropriate,
14 including the objectives and details of planned
15 programs and initiatives set out in the strategy
16 required by subsection (a).

17 (C) An analysis of policy and pro-
18 grammatic limitations, gaps, and resource re-
19 quirements to effectively counter Russia’s ma-
20 lign influence and activities in Africa, Latin
21 America, the Middle East, and other regions as
22 appropriate.

23 (D) An overview of other initiatives and
24 assistance programs funded by other inter-
25 national donors and partner countries to

1 counter Russia’s malign influence and activities
2 in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and
3 other regions as appropriate.

4 (E) An identification of governments and
5 government officials in Africa, Latin America,
6 the Middle East, and other regions as appro-
7 priate, Russian government officials, and other
8 individuals and entities that have facilitated
9 payments and other prohibited activities that
10 benefit United States-sanctioned individuals
11 and entities tied to Russia, including in viola-
12 tion of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights
13 Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of
14 Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note),
15 the Countering America’s Adversaries Through
16 Sanctions Act (Public Law 115–44; 22 U.S.C.
17 9401 et seq.), Executive Order 14024 (86 Fed.
18 Reg. 20249; relating to blocking property with
19 respect to specified harmful foreign activities of
20 the Government of the Russian Federation),
21 and Executive Order 13848 (83 Fed. Reg.
22 46843; relating to imposing certain sanctions in
23 the event of foreign interference in a United
24 States election), and a detailed overview of
25 United States efforts to hold such governments,

1 officials, and other individuals and entities
2 complicit in violating or facilitating the evasion
3 of United States sanctions against Russia and
4 its proxies accountable through sanctions or
5 other restrictions.

6 (F) An identification of foreign companies
7 and persons that have provided transportation,
8 logistical, administrative, border crossing, or
9 money transfer services to Russian mercenaries
10 or armed forces operating on behalf of the Rus-
11 sian Government in Libya, and an analysis of
12 whether such entities meet the criteria for im-
13 position of sanctions under section 1(a) of Ex-
14 ecutive Order 13726 (81 Fed. Reg. 23559; re-
15 lating to blocking property and suspending
16 entry into the United States of persons contrib-
17 uting to the situation in Libya).

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

21 **SEC. 4. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**
22 **FINED.**

23 In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional com-
24 mittees” means—

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

3 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
4 Senate.

○