

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1619

To prohibit assistance, including assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to foreign governments that abridge the right to free speech that would be speech protected by the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 26, 2025

Ms. MACE (for herself and Ms. SALAZAR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To prohibit assistance, including assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to foreign governments that abridge the right to free speech that would be speech protected by the Constitution of the United States, 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 “No Funds for Fascists
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN FOR-**
2 **EIGN GOVERNMENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds authorized to
4 be appropriated or otherwise made available for assist-
5 ance, including assistance under the Foreign Assistance
6 Act of 1961, for any fiscal year that begins on or after
7 the date of the enactment of this Act may be obligated
8 or expended to provide assistance to the government of
9 any foreign country if the Secretary of State determines
10 that—

11 (1) such government, or any employee acting
12 under official authority or influence—

13 (A) abridges the right to free speech that
14 would be speech protected by the Constitution
15 of the United States; or

16 (B) censors speech that would be speech
17 protected by the Constitution of the United
18 States; and

19 (2) such government, or any employee acting
20 under official authority or influence, uses any form
21 of communication (without regard to whether the
22 communication is visible to members of the public)
23 to direct, coerce, compel, or encourage a provider of
24 a covered platform to take, suggest or imply that a
25 provider of a covered platform should take, or re-
26 quest that a provider of a covered platform take, any

1 action to censor speech that would be speech pro-
2 tected by the Constitution of the United States.

3 (b) PUBLICATION IN FEDERAL REGISTER.—The Sec-
4 retary of State shall publish in the Federal Register each
5 determination made under subsection (a).

6 (c) WAIVER.—Assistance prohibited by subsection (a)
7 may be provided to a country described in that subsection
8 if—

9 (1) the President determines that national secu-
10 rity interests justify a waiver of subsection (a) with
11 respect to the country; and

12 (2) at least 15 days before the waiver takes ef-
13 fect, the President—

14 (A) consults with the Committee on For-
15 eign Affairs of the House of Representatives
16 and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the
17 Senate regarding the proposed waiver; and

18 (B) submits to the Speaker of the House
19 of Representatives and the chairman of the
20 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate
21 a report containing—

22 (i) the name of the recipient country;

23 (ii) a description of the national secu-
24 rity interests which require the waiver;

1 (iii) the type and amount of and the
2 justification for the assistance to be pro-
3 vided pursuant to the waiver; and

4 (iv) the period of time during which
5 such waiver will be effective.

6 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

7 (1) the term “covered platform” means—

8 (A) an interactive computer service, as
9 that term is defined in section 230(f) of the
10 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
11 230(f)); and

12 (B) any platform through which a media
13 organization disseminates information, without
14 regard to whether the organization disseminates
15 that information—

16 (i) through broadcast or print;

17 (ii) online; or

18 (iii) through any other channel; and

19 (2) the term “employee acting under official au-
20 thority or influence”, with respect to a foreign gov-
21 ernment, means—

22 (A) any employee of such government; and

23 (B) includes—

24 (i) a head of state or head of such
25 government; and

- 1 (ii) an individual working under con-
- 2 tract with such government.

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