

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6219

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 13, 2018

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

AN ACT

To support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial
integrity of Georgia, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Georgia Support Act”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
5 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

Sec. 2. United States policy.

TITLE I—ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. United States-Georgia security assistance.

Sec. 102. United States cybersecurity cooperation with Georgia.

Sec. 103. Enhanced assistance to combat Russian disinformation and propa-
ganda.

Sec. 104. Sense of Congress on free trade agreement with Georgia.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Imposition of sanctions on persons complicit in or responsible for se-
rious human rights abuses, including right to life in Georgian
regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia occu-
pied by Russia.

6 **SEC. 2. UNITED STATES POLICY.**

7 It is the policy of the United States to—

8 (1) support Georgia’s sovereignty, independ-
9 ence, and territorial integrity within its internation-
10 ally recognized borders;

11 (2) support the right of the people of Georgia
12 to freely determine their future and make inde-
13 pendent and sovereign choices on foreign and secu-
14 rity policy, including regarding their country’s rela-
15 tionship with other nations and international organi-
16 zations, without interference, intimidation, or coer-
17 cion by other countries;

1 (3) support Georgia’s Euro-Atlantic and Euro-
2 pean integration;

3 (4) not recognize territorial changes effected by
4 force, including the illegal invasions and occupations
5 of Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Re-
6 gion/South Ossetia by the Russian Federation;

7 (5) condemn ongoing detentions, kidnappings,
8 and other human rights violations committed in the
9 Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Re-
10 gion/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian
11 Federation, including the recent killings of Georgian
12 citizens Archil Tatunashvili, Giga Otkhozoria, and
13 Davit Basharuli;

14 (6) support peaceful conflict resolution in Geor-
15 gia, including by urging the Russian Federation to
16 fully implement the European Union-mediated
17 ceasefire agreement of August 12, 2008, and sup-
18 porting the establishment of international security
19 mechanisms in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia
20 and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia and the safe
21 and dignified return of internally displaced persons
22 (IDPs) and refugees, all of which are important for
23 lasting peace and security on the ground; and

24 (7) support continued development of demo-
25 cratic values in Georgia, including public sector

1 transparency and accountability, as well as
2 anticorruption efforts.

3 **TITLE I—ASSISTANCE** 4 **PROVISIONS**

5 **SEC. 101. UNITED STATES-GEORGIA SECURITY ASSISTANCE.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) In fiscal year 2018, the United States pro-
8 vided Georgia with \$2,200,000 in assistance under
9 chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act
10 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2347 et seq.; relating to inter-
11 national military education and training) and
12 \$35,000,000 in assistance under section 23 of the
13 Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763; relating
14 to the Foreign Military Financing Program).

15 (2) Georgia has been a longstanding NATO-as-
16 pirant country.

17 (3) Georgia has contributed substantially to the
18 Euro-Atlantic peace and security through participa-
19 tion in the International Security Assistance Force
20 (ISAF) and Resolute Support Missions in Afghani-
21 stan as one of the largest troop contributors.

22 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
23 gress that United States assistance to Georgia under
24 chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961

1 and section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act should
2 be increased.

3 (c) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
4 of the United States, in consultation with the Government
5 of Georgia, to enhance Georgia’s deterrence, resilience,
6 and self-defense, including through appropriate assistance
7 to improve the capabilities of Georgia’s armed forces.

8 (d) REVIEW OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO GEOR-
9 GIA.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
11 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
12 retary of State, in consultation with the heads of
13 other appropriate United States departments and
14 agencies, shall submit to Congress a report review-
15 ing United States security assistance to the Govern-
16 ment of Georgia.

17 (2) COMPONENTS.—The report required under
18 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

19 (A) A detailed review of all United States
20 security assistance programs to the Government
21 of Georgia from fiscal year 2008 to the present.

22 (B) An assessment of threats to Georgian
23 independence, sovereignty, and territorial integ-
24 rity.

1 (C) An assessment of Georgia’s capabilities
2 to defend itself, including a five-year strategy to
3 enhance the country’s deterrence, resilience,
4 and self-defense capabilities.

5 (3) FORM.—The report required under para-
6 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but
7 may contain a classified annex.

8 **SEC. 102. UNITED STATES CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION**
9 **WITH GEORGIA.**

10 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
11 gress that the Secretary of State should take the following
12 actions, commensurate with United States interests, to as-
13 sist Georgia to improve its cybersecurity:

14 (1) Provide Georgia such support as may be
15 necessary to secure government computer networks
16 from malicious cyber intrusions, particularly such
17 networks that defend the critical infrastructure of
18 Georgia.

19 (2) Provide Georgia support in reducing reli-
20 ance on Russian information and communications
21 technology.

22 (3) Assist Georgia to build its capacity, expand
23 cybersecurity information sharing, and cooperate on
24 international cyberspace efforts.

1 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
2 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall
3 submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House
4 of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Rela-
5 tions of the Senate a report on United States cybersecu-
6 rity cooperation with Georgia. Such report shall also in-
7 clude information relating to the following:

8 (1) United States efforts to strengthen Geor-
9 gia’s ability to prevent, mitigate, and respond to
10 cyber incidents, including through training, edu-
11 cation, technical assistance, capacity building, and
12 cybersecurity risk management strategies.

13 (2) The potential for new areas of collaboration
14 and mutual assistance between the United States
15 and Georgia in addressing shared cyber challenges,
16 including cybercrime, critical infrastructure protec-
17 tion, and resilience against automated, distributed
18 threats.

19 (3) NATO’s efforts to help Georgia develop
20 technical capabilities to counter cyber threats.

21 **SEC. 103. ENHANCED ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT RUSSIAN**
22 **DISINFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA.**

23 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy
24 of the United States to enhance the capabilities of Georgia
25 to combat Russian disinformation and propaganda cam-

1 paigns intended to undermine the sovereignty and demo-
2 cratic institutions of the country, while promoting the
3 freedom of the press.

4 (b) REQUIRED STRATEGY.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7 retary of State, in consultation with the heads of
8 other appropriate United States departments and
9 agencies, shall submit to Congress a report outlining
10 a strategy to implement the policy described in sub-
11 section (a).

12 (2) COMPONENTS.—The report required under
13 paragraph (1) shall include the following:

14 (A) A detailed assessment of Russian
15 disinformation and propaganda efforts across
16 all media platforms targeting Georgia.

17 (B) An assessment of the Government of
18 Georgia’s capabilities to deter and combat such
19 Russian efforts and to support the freedom of
20 the press.

21 (C) A detailed strategy coordinated across
22 all relevant United States departments and
23 agencies to enhance the Government of Geor-
24 gia’s capabilities to deter and combat such Rus-
25 sian efforts.

1 (3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph
 2 (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may
 3 contain a classified annex.

4 **SEC. 104. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON FREE TRADE AGREE-**
 5 **MENT WITH GEORGIA.**

6 It is the sense of Congress that the United States
 7 Trade Representative should make progress toward nego-
 8 tiations with the Government of Georgia to enter a bilat-
 9 eral free trade agreement with Georgia.

10 **TITLE II—SANCTIONS**
 11 **PROVISIONS**

12 **SEC. 201. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON PERSONS**
 13 **COMPLICIT IN OR RESPONSIBLE FOR SERI-**
 14 **OUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, INCLUDING**
 15 **RIGHT TO LIFE IN GEORGIAN REGIONS OF**
 16 **ABKHAZIA AND TSKHINVALI REGION/SOUTH**
 17 **OSSETIA OCCUPIED BY RUSSIA.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose with
 19 respect to a foreign person the sanctions described in sub-
 20 section (b) if the President determines, based on credible
 21 information, that such foreign person, on or after the date
 22 of enactment of this Act—

23 (1) is responsible for, complicit in, or respon-
 24 sible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing
 25 the commission of serious human rights abuses in

1 Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Re-
2 gion/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian
3 Federation;

4 (2) is materially assisting, sponsoring, or pro-
5 viding significant financial, material, or technological
6 support for, or goods or services to, a foreign person
7 described in paragraph (1); or

8 (3) is owned or controlled by a foreign person,
9 or is acting on behalf of a foreign person described
10 in paragraph (1).

11 (b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
12 scribed in this subsection are the following:

13 (1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all pow-
14 ers granted to the President by the International
15 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701
16 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit
17 all transactions in all property and interests in prop-
18 erty of a person determined by the President to be
19 a person described in subsection (a) if such property
20 and interests in property are in the United States,
21 come within the United States, or are or come with-
22 in the possession or control of a United States per-
23 son, including by taking any of the actions described
24 in paragraph (1) of section 203(a) of such Act (50
25 U.S.C. 1702(a)) with respect to regions of Abkhazia

1 and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia forcibly occu-
2 pied by the Russian Federation.

3 (2) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES
4 AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTA-
5 TION.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an alien
7 determined by the President to be a person de-
8 scribed in subsection (a), denial of a visa to,
9 and exclusion from the United States of, such
10 alien, and revocation in accordance with section
11 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
12 (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), of any visa or other docu-
13 mentation of such alien.

14 (B) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED
15 NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT AND
16 LAW ENFORCEMENT OBJECTIVES.—Sanctions
17 under subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an
18 individual if admitting the individual into the
19 United States would further important law en-
20 forcement objectives or is necessary to permit
21 the United States to comply with the Agree-
22 ment regarding the Headquarters of the United
23 Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26,
24 1947, and entered into force November 21,
25 1947, between the United Nations and the

1 United States, or other applicable international
2 obligations of the United States.

3 (c) WAIVER.—The President may waive the applica-
4 tion of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a
5 person if the President determines that such a waiver is
6 important to the national interests of the United States.

7 (d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

8 (1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may ex-
9 ercise all authorities provided to the President under
10 sections 203 and 205 of the International Emer-
11 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and
12 1704) to carry out subsection (b)(1).

13 (2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-
14 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
15 violation of subsection (b)(1) or any regulation, li-
16 cense, or order issued to carry out such subsection
17 shall be subject to the penalties specified in sub-
18 sections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the Inter-
19 national Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
20 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that
21 commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a)
22 of such section.

23 (e) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act and at least
25 once every 180 days thereafter for a period not to exceed

1 two years, the President, in consultation with the Sec-
2 retary of the Treasury, shall transmit to Congress a de-
3 tailed report with respect to persons that have been deter-
4 mined to have engaged in activities described in subsection
5 (a).

Passed the House of Representatives December 12,
2018.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.