

Mr. LAWLER. Madam Speaker, last year, New York Democrats tried to corrupt our redistricting process by gerrymandering New York's maps to favor 22 Democrats and 4 Republicans.

They were summarily thrown out in court, with the court ruling that they not only violated the State constitution, they violated the process, and they gerrymandered the maps.

A special master appointed by the court drew a fair set of maps that resulted in 15 Democrats and 11 Republicans being elected. However, that didn't serve the purpose of New York Democrats, so they filed another lawsuit.

Today, the court of appeals, in a shameful episode, was stacked and made a decision to redraw New York's congressional maps for the sole purpose of trying to favor New York Democrats.

It is pathetic, it is shameful, and it serves only one person, the leader of the Democratic Conference. He should be embarrassed.

#### DENYING WOMEN LIFESAVING CARE

(Ms. BALINT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BALINT. Madam Speaker, no one should need permission from a judge or a Governor to make a personal choice for their family and for their health.

This week, the Texas Supreme Court ruled that 31-year-old mother of two, Kate Cox, was not entitled to a medically necessary abortion despite her doctor's concerns for her health. She had to make the decision to leave her State to access the care she needed and deserved, a choice that is not available to everyone.

Ms. Cox is not the first woman to be denied lifesaving care, and she will certainly not be the last.

Women across this country in States like Texas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Idaho, and others have been stripped of their most basic rights.

It is disturbing. It is dangerous.

We know that these extreme laws are going to cost lives, and they disproportionately impact women of color and low-income women. Republicans are literally denying women the lifesaving care they need.

The Dobbs decision did exactly what it was intended to do: to strip women of their bodily autonomy. It is inhumane, it is cruel, and it is clearly against the will of the American people.

We cannot let them win.

#### FUTURE FUNDING OF UKRAINE

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, there is going to be a lot of talk around this building as far as what goes on

with the future funding of Ukraine. I have voted for funding for Ukraine in the past. I think it is important that the United States appear united as we work towards peace in Ukraine.

The thing that concerns me, and I wish more people would mention it, is the degree to which I believe we are not working towards a settlement there.

Every war must end sooner or later. The other day I spoke a little bit about the Korean war in which tens of thousands of people died. Ultimately, the United States negotiated with two of the most horrific governments in existence in the last century: the Communist Chinese Government and the Government of North Korea.

Nevertheless, a resolution was reached. Tens of thousands of lives were saved, and we still have the same border that the negotiation reached in 1953.

I would remind the belligerents that ultimately the war will end. If we do not want to drive Russia closer and closer with China and Iran, it would probably be better if the war ends sooner rather than later.

Sadly, I haven't seen a lot of commentary showing that at this point anybody is working towards peace, at least not the Biden administration.

#### REINSTATE REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, the people of Texas have been on an emotional roller coaster, and they have been on an emotional roller coaster with our fellow Texan Kate Cox, her husband, and her family.

This young woman wanted nothing more than to have a healthy baby and to expand their family. It was that love and deep desire that caused her to go public on an absolutely abusive law that tells her what kind of medical care she can get.

In addition, it should be made clear that a judge did give her permission to make the decision with her doctor, her faith, and her family. However, political intervention to the State supreme court caused them to stop her in her tracks. This young woman had to leave Texas.

Madam Speaker, that is why I am back here, to reintroduce, if you will, my legislation, that creates a criminal offense for anyone to stalk someone who is attempting to get good healthcare in the State of Texas.

That is all Kate Cox wanted.

I will be standing by her and her family, as many Texans will. We must stop this now, and we must reinstate reproductive freedom in this Nation.

#### ENDANGERING OUR NATION'S SECURITY

(Mr. HARRIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, one of the greatest threats to our national security is a woke military.

Nothing exemplifies a woke military as much as the National Defense Authorization Act that is going to come before this body out of a Conference Report that allows transgender surgery to continue to be funded in the U.S. military.

I can guarantee you that Russia and China aren't using their military dollars to pay for transgender surgery.

Here in the United States, we are, and we will. If this House and the Senate passes the Conference Report, that will be the official U.S. policy.

Madam Speaker, that is not defense of the Nation. That is a woke military that endangers our Nation's security.

□ 1730

#### UKRAINE IS THE SCRIMMAGE LINE FOR LIBERTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEE of Florida). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight as co-chair and a founding member of the bipartisan, 94-member Congressional Ukraine Caucus. Our caucus supports the immediate consideration of legislation that will provide further supplemental funding for Ukraine to support our partner in liberty against the aggression of Putin's tyranny.

This is a moral struggle for liberty in our era. Liberty faces a new era of conflict being forced upon the free world by a burgeoning axis of tyranny and terrorism, including the likes of Russia, China, Iran, Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis. Ukraine is the scrimmage line of that conflict for liberty. Their fight is our fight. The America I know does not cower in the face of tyranny.

Many Americans believe that the history of the struggle against global tyranny ended with the defeat of Nazi Germany and the fall of the Soviet Union. I am here today to tell them that liberty's history is still being written. We face not a new enemy but an old one. This is not a new struggle but one which America and our alliances of free nations have fought for nearly a century. Ukraine has fought for its liberty for centuries.

Let us not forget a key reason why there is a war in Ukraine. When the Soviet Union collapsed, as a newly independent nation in 1991, it became the third largest nuclear power in the world. However, as a responsible nation, Ukraine signed the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the behest of the United States and the demand of Russia and gave up its stockpile of nuclear weapons.

In exchange, Ukraine's security was to be guaranteed under the 1994 Budapest Memorandum signed by the United States, Russia, and the United Kingdom. However, Russia, even though it was the recipient of Ukraine's nuclear arsenal, betrayed its commitments when it invaded Ukraine in 2014. We must not betray ours.

Ukraine has been building her fledgling democracy since 1991 following the collapse of the Soviet Union's tyranny that President Ronald Reagan called the "evil empire." That remains one of the most consequential moments in world history. Liberty won. Ukraine has faced many challenges in her endeavor for liberty as it steadfastly moves to join the European Union of free nations, America's closest allies.

To thwart Ukraine's desire for liberty and independence from Russia's malevolent influence, Putin first invaded Ukraine in 2014, 4 days after Russia's hosting the international Sochi Olympics with all of that fancy publicity. Now, 8 years later, Putin launched his war of unprovoked aggression on Ukraine in 2022. Much of the world was convinced there was no way the Ukrainian David could defeat a Russian Goliath. Ukraine's entire territory encompasses only 3 percent of the territory of Russia and its population is only 25 percent of Russia's, and yet Ukraine fights and fights hard. She has never asked us to fight for her, only for global allies to arm her so she can defend herself. So far, we have done so, and to great effect. We must stay the course, not waiver.

President Zelenskyy, who is again visiting Washington today, and the Ukrainian people have stood up to Putin. Ukraine's valiant soldiers have actually moved their military to liberate 50 percent of all the territory that was once occupied by Russian tyranny and decimated as much as 40 percent of Russia's military capacity.

It is important to put the resources that we have provided for Ukraine's defense against Russia into perspective. To date, Congress, in a repeated bipartisan fashion, has appropriated roughly \$113 billion for Ukraine, of which every penny has been accounted for.

Furthermore, we know that at least 60 percent of the money that is appropriated for Ukraine is spent right here in the United States, not in Ukraine, to purchase important commodities. It is funding that is going directly toward bolstering our diminished military industrial base, and our American workforce benefits, including those in Lima, Ohio, which produces the greatest tank

in the world, the Abrams tank. Every dollar spent is closely and appropriately accounted for to ensure none of the funds fall into the wrong hands.

During the Cold War, we spent \$13 trillion measured in 1996 dollars to combat Russian aggression, equivalent to \$26 trillion today. The sum per year that we provide supporting Ukraine is no more than 20 percent of what we spent each year for four decades to contain Russia.

America's alliance with our NATO partners has helped ensure European nations have bolstered our support to Ukraine with their own. As a percent of GDP, 15 European countries have so far provided a higher level to Ukraine than the United States.

This is the costliest war in human casualties and plunder since World War II in Europe, the continent on which over 500,000 U.S. soldiers are buried from World War I and World War II. They bequeathed liberty to us, and we must never fail their memory. The murderous dictatorships of Nazism, communism, and imperialism lay dead, and the 20th century's most consequential achievement was, in fact, that. Now, that cost in blood is being borne by Ukraine and the Ukrainian people alone.

The fact remains that if America were to end its support of Ukraine, Russia would be able to defeat it. Putin is not counting the numbers of rubles or Russian lives he is spending on this conflict. What he is counting are the number of votes for Ukraine that remain in this U.S. Congress. He knows that American support will decide the victor of this conflict. So should we.

If Putin succeeds in Ukraine or if we grow tired of a forever war we are not even fighting in, then we allow tyranny to ascend over liberty. Putin has made clear he would then test our resolve over smaller, much harder-to-defend NATO members, a move that would force the United States and our NATO allies into direct war with Russia. America and the free world have much at stake.

As one European ambassador reminded me, there is an old saying that states: If you think you are an isolationist, if you take no interest in foreign affairs, take my word, foreign affairs will find you.

We face a choice now. America can repeat the mistakes of the 1920s by withdrawing our nearly century-long support for liberty, inevitably forcing the free world to pay a higher price for freedom as tyranny deepens its roots in our world, or America must take a stand now and provide further funding for Ukraine to help secure liberty for a new generation.

I call upon the Speaker and my colleagues in the House to choose the path of liberty.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, we are rapidly approaching the 2-year anniversary of Putin's illegal and brutal invasion of Ukraine.

The American people have responded with extraordinary support for Ukraine. Millions of Americans have donated their time and money to charitable organizations helping the Ukrainian people. Some have even volunteered to fight alongside the Ukrainian defense forces.

Congress has responded by providing over \$50 billion in security assistance and billions more in humanitarian assistance. These are unprecedented numbers, and it requires unprecedented oversight by Congress.

I am here to tell my colleagues, who are concerned about where the money is going, that we are doing that oversight. The Armed Services Committee has conducted vigorous oversight of U.S. military assistance to Ukraine.

Every month since the war, the committee has held a classified briefing with DOD officials over Ukrainian aid. This morning, I was a member of a briefing that was the 12th in that series. We have also had multiple visits to sites in Europe where the aid is being staged to go into Ukraine. We have held open hearings on the topic where we have heard from the DOD Inspector General.

In the next couple days, the House will take up the conference report on the FY24 NDAA. That bill creates a special inspector general for Ukraine, dedicates \$8 million to swiftly set up the office, and provides direct hiring authority to quickly staff it.

We will continue to stay on top of this, but I want to assure my colleagues that there has been no evidence of diversion of weapons provided to Ukraine or any other assistance.

What most folks don't realize is that the money DOD is spending on Ukraine is actually going toward creating high-skilled, good-paying jobs right here at home. The DOD so far has spent \$45 billion on Ukraine-related security assistance. All of that money has been spent in the U.S. by U.S. companies, supporting thousands of highly skilled American jobs.

These include jobs in Arizona to build Stingers and Javelins; jobs in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa, and Missouri to build ammunition; and jobs in Texas, Florida, and Alabama to build Patriot missiles. It also includes over \$3 billion to expand floor space, open new lines, and hire additional workers at weapons factories in Tennessee, Florida, Virginia, Missouri, and West Virginia. This investment in retooling and revitalizing our industrial defense base is helping us get ready for potential conflict with China. That is incredibly important.

Equally important to deterring China is standing by our commitment to Ukraine. Walking away sends the wrong signals to President Xi and the Chinese Communist Party. Let's not do that. Let's quickly come to a compromise that secures our border and keeps our commitment to Ukraine.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York

(Mr. MEEKS), the esteemed ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I want to start by making clear that congressional support for Ukraine remains broad and bipartisan. We know, from previous votes on the floor amendments and the standalone bill on Ukraine funding, that assistance to Ukraine has overwhelming bipartisan support in Congress.

While I am especially proud of the work the United States has done and President Biden has done to build a global coalition in support of Ukraine, Congress' inability to pass a Ukraine supplemental is sending a dangerous message to the world that America cannot be relied upon as a partner.

The question for the Speaker now is: When will the House be allowed a vote to continue to support Ukraine?

In these times of crisis, leadership matters. Those of us who continue to stand against Vladimir Putin's aggression, who continue to stand with the brave Ukrainians fighting on the front lines defending their democracy and their people, history will judge us favorably.

How will history judge those who have cynically chosen to use aid to Ukraine as a wedge issue, to play partisan politics with assistance meant to support Ukraine's fight against Russia's aggression?

This is a critical moment for Ukraine and for this body. The administration's top national security officials have made clear that continued support is essential for Ukraine as it continues its fight. We know the consequences if we cannot agree to additional funding for the arms they need to win, to the economic and development assistance that has been critical to Ukraine's livelihood. All of this will be impacted.

I think it is also important we are all working from the same set of facts. In particular, I continue to hear from some of my colleagues who oppose Ukraine funding as they propagate misinformation regarding the management of our assistance.

The administration has instituted robust monitoring for all of the assistance we provide to Ukraine. The State Department, the Defense Department, and our Ukrainian partners are all ensuring this assistance is carefully tracked and accounted for. This misinformation both undermines Ukraine's courageous efforts while benefiting one person, Vladimir Putin.

The world is watching, and what we say in this body and what we are able to pass has consequences. Our allies, including Finland and Sweden, where I recently visited, are proudly joining NATO. They are doing their part. The EU and partners across the globe are increasing commitments to help Ukraine. What signal does it send if the United States of America, the country that has led this coalition, is the first to step back?

It is not only friends who are watching. Our foes are as well. Putin wants

us to get tired, to get distracted. The Kremlin is active in supporting anti-Ukraine candidates of any political stripe, and China is strategically hedging its bets. The only person who thought this would be a small, victorious war and a quick war was Vladimir Putin.

There is no simple, predictable end. As long as Ukraine continues to push back Russia's brutal, unprovoked assault, our commitment to Ukraine should stand. If the large bipartisan majority in this House that I know believes in standing there and believes in this commitment, if we stay united with all of our allies, we will prevail.

□ 1745

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY).

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, once again, President Zelenskyy is in Washington to make the case for the survival of his country and to show the American people and Congress why this war is so important. He shouldn't have to.

As Americans, we have experienced fighting to save democracy and oppose tyranny. That is why we fought the Second World War and why we formed the United Nations and NATO.

Right now, Ukraine is fighting for those principles. We owe it to our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents to help Ukraine defend against Putin's autocratic threat.

We simply cannot stand by while a sovereign democratic country is wiped off the face of the Earth.

Autocratic regimes around the world are watching to see how the U.S. responds to this conflict. So far, we have shown them what a united NATO, coupled with the bravery and determination of the Ukrainian people, can achieve in the face of tyranny. We must now continue to show them that that commitment is unshakeable.

When President Zelenskyy made his first visit to the U.S. last year, he emphasized the impact of this fight and what it will mean for generations to come. He said that the Ukraine struggle will define in what world our children and grandchildren will live. He was right.

This fight for freedom and democracy has never been partisan. Now should be no different.

In these months, we have seen alarming examples of a shift. This week, allies of Viktor Orban met with conservatives to push for an end to U.S. military support for Ukraine. Over the years, we have been warned of the far right's fascination with Orban and the influence he could impose on their policy. Obviously, these warnings were warranted.

Ukraine's fight is our fight. Anyone who tells you otherwise isn't paying attention. I encourage them to imagine a world in which Putin is successful.

Should we fail to aid Ukraine further, we will hand Putin a victory, and

he will expand his attacks. I have seen firsthand the devastation he has imposed in places like Bucha, with maternity hospitals in ruins and bodies piled in mass graves following the Russian army's onslaught.

Our aid has contained this bloodshed for now, but Putin has plans far beyond Ukraine. If Putin were allowed to take Ukraine, he would seek to reconstitute the former Soviet Union. He would form a federation with Belarus and Ukraine by installing puppet governments and then target Moldova, the Baltics, Georgia, and others.

Should Russia expand its attack and cross a border into one of these NATO countries, we are bound by Article 5 of the NATO charter to defend them. The aid we have delivered has helped prevent this scenario from unfolding. Rest assured, Putin is patient. He has the time that Ukraine and apparently we lack. Congress has been wasting the time that we should have spent passing a supplemental package.

Congressional dysfunction has reared its ugly head. We have fumbled several opportunities to pass this funding.

There are those who argue that we must choose to support Ukraine or Israel. Now, they argue that we must choose Ukraine or our own border. These are false choices. In the words of NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg: "We have the capability, the strength, to address different challenges at the same time. We don't have the luxury of choosing only one threat and one challenge."

The conflict in Israel and the conflict in Ukraine are linked. After October 7, Hamas and Iranian representatives met with Putin in Moscow. Just as Iran is supporting Hamas' attack on Israel, Iran is also assisting Putin in his invasion of Ukraine.

To defeat the terrorist threat in Israel, we must also help Ukraine defend itself from an evil autocrat. When it comes to our border, Congress can and will tackle immigration reform and international aid. In fact, we should be addressing both.

That means passing a clean supplemental and having a separate, broader conversation about our immigration system's needs. Rushed policy reforms are not the answer.

When it comes to Ukraine, we are running out of time. What we do or don't do with Ukraine aid will be one of the most important foreign policy votes we take in our lifetimes. We must do the right thing. The fate of the free world is hanging in the balance.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON), and I thank him for his leadership on his side of the aisle.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR for her leadership in promoting the bipartisan remarks tonight, which reinforce what former Chairman GREG MEEKS has already stated, and that is that there is

overwhelming bipartisan support, Democrats and Republicans, for the people of Ukraine as they will achieve victory over war criminal Putin.

I support the supplemental with clear consistency. There should be security for all borders—American borders, Ukrainian borders, Israeli borders, and Taiwanese borders—to achieve peace through strength to prevent global conflict.

On February 24, 2022, war criminal Putin launched a full-scale mass murderous invasion of sovereign, democratic Ukraine, claiming Ukraine does not exist. Patriotic Ukrainians, even grandmothers, raced to arm themselves and protect their land and families.

The world underestimated the resolve of Ukrainians. I was in Kyiv in December 2021, prior to war criminal Putin's murderous invasion, when the planning for resistance and guerilla warfare was anticipated to be overwhelmed. Ukraine valiantly fought back for freedom and proved the world wrong.

I visited again in May of this year and saw firsthand courageous Ukrainians led by the very courageous Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Ukrainians are the front line in a conflict we did not choose as dictators with rule of gun invade democracies with rule of law. The axis of evil fights first for the death of Ukraine and then the death of Israel, and then they chant "death to America."

All Americans should know that we have a treaty obligation to support the territorial integrity of Ukraine. In 1994, with the signing of the Budapest Memorandum between the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federation, Ukraine gave up its nuclear weapons in exchange for security guarantees and territorial integrity.

A consequence now, sadly, is that other countries will not give up nuclear weapon capabilities because Russia violates every treaty it signs.

It is not realistic to believe that any peace can be achieved without full Ukrainian victory, which is territorial integrity.

I appreciate that President Donald Trump worked to avoid the war criminal Putin invasion by providing Javelin missiles to Ukraine, placing American troops in Poland, and stopping the Nord Stream II pipeline, which financed the dictatorship in Moscow.

Just as America would fight for territorial integrity, as there is no State that we would abandon, there is no State that would abandon a county.

We know that appeasement to invaders would actually promote something warned by Speaker MIKE JOHNSON. Speaker JOHNSON states that Putin would continue his deranged dream of a resurrected Soviet Union, threatening Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, and NATO members Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland, along with all the countries of Central Asia.

The Republican tradition has been bipartisan for peace through strength

with Eisenhower-Nixon, reinforced by Barry Goldwater and: Why not victory over communism? He also explained the alternative of victory is defeat. Then there was the ultimate Ronald Reagan expression to our enemies: "We win. You lose."

This is why it is so critical that we commit today to protecting the borders of America, Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan for peace through strength.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio has 35 minutes remaining.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. HIMES).

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio for having this critical conversation today.

Just outside this Chamber, on January 20, 1961, a new young President by the name of John F. Kennedy said, "We shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty."

We would pay any price, bear any burden, and meet any hardship to ensure the survival and success of liberty.

What has happened to America that we shrink from our traditional role of standing up against tyrants, dictators, and genocidal maniacs in favor of liberty? What has happened to us?

Why did Kennedy say those words? He didn't say those words because he wanted to replicate the pain and tragedy of the world war in which he had distinguished himself as a war hero. He didn't say those words because he wanted young Americans to die in East Asia or around the globe in the service of liberty.

He said those words because he understood what he had learned in the 1930s and the 1940s, which is that brutal dictators don't stop; they are stopped. They are stopped by those with the moral fortitude and courage to stop them.

If we accede to where half of the Republican majority is today, which is that we are not going to support Ukraine in this fight, Putin will not stop. Soon, the United States will have no choice but to step in to stop Vladimir Putin.

We hear these excuses: There is not enough accounting. There is not enough oversight.

We didn't hear that when we were supporting the Afghani regime, which is profoundly corrupt. We didn't hear that about Iraq. We are only hearing that about Ukraine.

We hear that we would like to know what the plan is for victory in Ukraine. Did anybody ask Winston Churchill, the hero of World War II, what his plan for victory was? No, they did not because he wasn't sure. We stood by him because he stood for liberty and the moral clarity that this institution has now lost.

If we think for one moment that Putin is the only one who is enjoying this moment, think about what President Xi of China is learning; think about what the Iranian mullahs are seeing; and think about what the North Korean dictator is coming to understand: That this Congress, when faced with the demand that we fight for liberty and freedom, we cut and run. That is what is being learned. Anybody who reads an iota of history will understand the tragedy that is behind that.

It is time for this Chamber to find an iota of the moral courage and clarity that John F. Kennedy elaborated on just outside these doors. We do it because it is right. We do it because if we fail the Ukrainians, it may be the next generation of Americans and Frenchmen and British who have to stop Putin.

Be assured that we will have to do that later in far, far more tragic circumstances than we have right now to stop—as John F. Kennedy called us to do—the march of tyranny and stand up for liberty.

□ 1800

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), who is one of our preeminent leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, shortly after the war in Ukraine began, I attended our annual pilgrimage commemorating Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama, along with STENY HOYER. Just before our departure to return to Washington, I was approached by one of our honored foot soldiers of that march from Selma to Montgomery who asked to have a private word with me. I assumed she wanted to discuss what we might or might not be doing about voting rights which is always the major topic of that event. Instead, she shared her serious concerns about the war in Ukraine and stressed that it was Congress' responsibility to act in defense of democracy at home and abroad.

I rise today to bring the concerns of that veteran of the war against voting suppression to the attention of this body. That longtime defender of our democracy here at home said to me that if we fail to do that which is necessary to stop Putin in Ukraine, then we may soon find ourselves in need of defending our homeland.

The failure to honor President Biden's supplemental request is endangering the safety and security of our closest allies. We need to do the right thing for freedom, for democracy, and for international stability before time runs out.

The American people know that for the sake of our democracy we can't let Putin win. This delay in funding is a gift to Putin, and every day that goes by without action strengthens his position and the resolve of other autocrats.

History teaches us that there are global consequences when we allow dictators and would-be dictators to infringe on freedoms without opposition.

Today the front line is Ukraine. Tomorrow it could be one of our NATO allies requiring a higher price in treasure and American lives.

We made a commitment to our friends in Israel also. We must support their efforts to eradicate Hamas, as well as provide necessary humanitarian assistance to the innocent Palestinians impacted by this conflict. This package will help accelerate efforts to ensure Israel's security and create space for stability in the region so we can begin, in earnest, the long process towards the two-state solution when this conflict ends. None of this will or can be possible until we honor our commitments to our allies.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR). Kentucky and Ohio have sent so many soldiers to war, and we know we both benefit from their valorous service.

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Ohio for holding this bipartisan Special Order because we should in a bipartisan way support the nation of Ukraine in a multilateral way, but we must also support a strategy of victory.

Putin is evil. He is a war criminal. He kidnapped 35,000 children, killed women and children, and bombed hospitals. He views himself as a reincarnation of Peter the Great. Moldova is next, Georgia is next, and the Baltic is next. This is a conflict not just about territory, it is a confrontation between good versus evil, between the forces of democracy and the shadows of autocracy.

By standing with Ukraine, we reaffirm our commitment to the fundamental principles of freedom and self-determination. Nevertheless, we have to provide Ukraine not just with a blank check but with a strategy for victory. That is why we call on the administration not just to support more security assistance, but also to reverse course on a misguided sanctions strategy that has failed.

The G-7 oil price cap strategy is a weak approach to depriving Putin of the funding that he needs. So, yes, Congress should support security assistance, but we should also support a sanction strategy that will actually prevent Putin from selling fossil energy to China and India and other parts of the world. The price cap is not working. Russian crude is selling over the price cap. It is not enforceable. We need to eliminate the general license in the sanctions on Russian banks so that no energy-related transactions that are funding this brutal aggression against Ukraine can finance this war.

There is a lesson here that deterrence requires toughness, and when you remove sanctions like this administration removed on Nord Stream 2 and when you are not tough on sanctions, that invites further aggression.

So, yes, security assistance, and, yes, this Congress is prepared to act, but we want a strategy for victory for the

Ukrainian freedom fighters. That requires depriving Putin of the very financial support that is funding this war of aggression, and that is energy sales. That is why we want a revisiting of the sanctions strategy.

So with that, we must expedite delivery of lethal aid to Ukraine, reinforcing their ability to defend themselves and deter further aggression. In doing so, we will uphold the values of democracy and freedom while safeguarding the security and stability of our partner Ukraine.

The cost is nothing compared to what the cost would be if there was an invasion of a NATO Article V partner where U.S. troops would be on the ground. So let's take the fight to Putin now. Let's end this war by depriving him of the funding that he definitely needs to prosecute this war.

Madam Speaker, remember that weakness invites aggression. There are broader implications of this conflict. A further escalation, potentially drawing NATO into a direct ground conflict, would be highly costly. It would be much more costly than what we are talking about here. Providing Ukraine with support now is not only an investment in Ukraine but a critical step in preventing a larger and more devastating conflict that would require the involvement of U.S. troops on the ground, and it sends a signal to Beijing.

Beijing is watching. Preventing and deterring Beijing from a cross-strait invasion is a dramatic return on investment. Let's pursue a strategy of victory, and let's get tough on sanctions.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER). Our distinguished leader, Congressman STENY HOYER, has spent hours and hours and days and weeks and months working on the issues of liberty across the European Continent.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, I thank her for taking this Special Order, and I thank her for the extraordinary work she has put in over the years.

Madam Speaker, President Zelenskyy, a brave leader of a determined people who are defending their democracy and international law, warned us today that the resources we sent his people in their fight for freedom have run out. Two legislative days remain to deliver urgent aid to Ukraine and to Israel. If we leave town on Thursday, then we will have to wait 1 month until we get another opportunity. Our allies cannot afford the wait. Neither can we.

Our failure sends a dangerous message to the world about our commitment to freedom, democracy, and international law. Each week we see: reluctance over resolve. Each day: doubt over determination. Each hour: division over decisiveness. Each minute: contention over conviction.

Our allies watch in dismay and our adversaries watch in delight as the beacon of democracy that is America dims in the face of the gathering storm. Instead, we must ensure that freedom's holy light continues to burn bright. Winston Churchill understood that, Volodymyr Zelenskyy understands that, and most Members understand that.

There is also an overwhelming consensus to support Israel in its imperative mission to defeat Hamas and ensure the devastating attacks on October 7 never occur again. If we do not pay the price of freedom with money and material now, then we may well pay for it with American blood and lives later. We ought to be thankful that we have that choice. Our allies do not.

Madam Speaker, I just read a story about a Ukrainian de-miner who lost his leg while clearing Russian mines on September 22. He is now out doing the same thing on his prosthetic leg. He risked life and limb, and he volunteered to do so again. The sacrifice this Congress must make pales in comparison.

Madam Speaker, I think of the mother in western Ukraine I just read about who lost two sons. The burden we must bear does not compare to theirs.

A significant majority of this House remains, as has been said by Republicans and Democrats, united in our determination to see Ukraine prevail. We came here not as Democrats or as Republicans, but as people who recognize this threat for what it is, an existential one.

We are the majority in this House. Until the Speaker gives us a clean vote, however, we cannot act on this consensus.

Madam Speaker, the Speaker introduced a bill in the 115th Congress that said one subject per bill. The Speaker must follow that premise that he asked us to support.

I urge the Speaker not to allow an important but unrelated goal to prevent us from doing what is necessary to achieve a victory for our own national security and the security of the free world.

Politics should stop at the water's edge because this sort of partisanship emboldens the enemies of freedom to set their sights on our own shores. Rather than sending the despots and dictators of the world a signal of retreat, let's send them a clear and unambiguous message that we will not shrink from this challenge. Our inaction is not worthy of the land of the free and the home of the brave. America is better than that.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his decades of leadership.

Madam Speaker, may I ask how much time remains.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has 18 minutes remaining.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), who is the Speaker

Emerita of the United States House of Representatives.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for her tremendous leadership over a long period of time. She is a great intellectual resource in helping Ukraine. I thank MARCY KAPTUR very much for her leadership.

Madam Speaker, nearly 1 year ago, many of you will recall, in this Chamber we had a joint session of Congress. We were honored by the presence of President Zelenskyy who had come directly from the battlefield and brought us a flag signed by the soldiers. He delivered a magnificent speech.

President Zelenskyy made clear the necessity of American support by saying: Your money is not charity. It is an investment in global security and in democracy.

The fight of the Ukrainian people for democracy is just remarkable to behold, but their fight is for their democracy and ours, as well.

Being empowered by the investment we made last Congress, passed by an overwhelming bicameral vote, Ukraine has battled historically against the tide of the biggest army in Europe, the Russian Army.

It is important for the American people to know that Ukraine has reclaimed and won back 50 percent of the land previously seized by the Russians. They have won back 50 percent. More than 60 percent, close to two-thirds of the money that we have invested in military assistance for the Ukrainians has been spent in the United States. It has been spent in the United States creating jobs here as we support the Ukrainians.

Madam Speaker, nearly two-thirds of the money has been spent here, and 100 percent of the determination of victory belongs to the Ukrainian people.

Others have mentioned, Mr. HOYER included, that at the same time, our hearts break when we hear about the atrocities committed against women by Putin's forces.

Women are subjected to rape as a weapon of war. They have been murdered in front of their parents or in front of their children and raped in the same way. Tens of thousands of children have been kidnapped by the Russian soldiers.

I said to someone who knows about these things: Isn't it sad that the brutality of war has turned these soldiers into brutes?

They said: Make no mistake. The Russian soldiers do what they are ordered to do.

These rapes, these kidnappings, and these murders of families in front of family members are the direct order of Vladimir Putin, who is a very evil person.

We must put an end to this unadulterated evil. The longer we wait to get them the money, more people will die, more children will be kidnapped, more women will be raped, and more uncertainty will be injected into the situa-

tion as to whether or not we are there to protect democracy and to support it.

□ 1815

As the war wages on, the administration has repeatedly made clear: America is at the end of the supply of money we have voted and Ukraine is nearly out of time.

Today, President Zelenskyy returned to the Capitol to make a compelling case for America's continued support to help Ukraine finish the fight; because the battle for Ukraine, again, is a battle for democracy itself, and we will not let death, destruction, and dictatorship of Vladimir Putin prevail.

President Biden's supplemental funding request must be brought to the floor as soon as possible so that we honor our duty to stand with the Ukrainian people until victory is won. It has been said on both sides of the aisle, the cost of war is great. Should Putin prevail and then go on to other invasions of NATO or non-NATO countries, it will only cost more money, more lives, more families separated. That cannot be what we are about.

At the same time, this legislation calls for us to honor a commitment to peace in the Middle East by our support for Israel and the humanitarian assistance that is in the legislation for the Palestinian people as well as others.

Madam Speaker, I thank Ms. KAPTUR for her leadership during this Special Order and for yielding time.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman and I thank every Member, on both sides of the aisle, that have spent this much time today in furtherance of this very noble objective so Ukraine wins and wins soon.

Madam Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania, Congresswoman MADELEINE DEAN, a very hardworking member of our caucus.

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative KAPTUR for all her extraordinary work for Ukraine many Congresses over and especially now since the brutal invasion.

Madam Speaker, it has been more than 650 days since Putin's illegal and brutal invasion of Ukraine, the largest armed conflict in Europe since World War II. Today, President Zelenskyy visits the United States, yet again, to call upon us to continue to lead.

The United States, President Biden, has led a coalition of more than 50 nations to provide Ukraine with the resources to protect its people, its land, its democracy, its sovereignty. The United States is leading, and we cannot abandon Ukraine now.

The war has taken more than 22,000 of Ukraine's men, women, and children in the brutal, harshest ways as the Speaker Emerita just detailed. We cannot abandon Ukraine now because Ukraine's fight is our fight.

We must pass the supplemental funding package currently sitting in the Senate. It is unconscionable of us to go

home for the holidays without doing that. Without it, we impede Ukraine's ability to win. At the same time, I hope everyone understands that we weaken our own military readiness and our own national security because not only does this legislation include crucial funding for ammunition and intelligence for Ukraine, but it invests in our own military—\$43.6 billion to increase our weapons capacity, including \$24.5 billion to replenish U.S. weaponry supply.

We must not abandon Ukraine now because to do so would be a failure to protect a young democracy; to do so would be a threat to our own military readiness, to our own national security; and to do so would be a failure of the United States to lead, and that is simply unacceptable. It is un-American.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California, Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI, a leader on so many fronts here in the Congress, including Ukraine.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, Marcy, for her leadership.

Madam Speaker, I have listened to this debate, and as it has gone on, I am becoming more and more depressed that we do not have the courage to continue to support Ukraine. Why? What is going on here?

I want us just to think for a moment about the blood that has been spilled by the Ukrainians trying to protect their democracy. For more than almost 2 years now, they have fought every way to protect themselves. The women and children and men of Ukraine are dying, and we are sitting here doing nothing.

This is a disgrace. There is no other way to describe it. Holding Ukraine hostage for an unnecessary change in the asylum laws is absolutely wrong. Yes, we do need to deal with immigration, but at what price to Ukraine, at what price to the women, the children, the incoming missiles from Russia?

Putin is having a glorious day, and we are a disgrace. There is no other way to describe that the most powerful Nation in the world is unwilling to stand up to continue to support Ukraine in its hour of need. Who are we that we are unwilling to do this? Did anybody in this House actually read H.R. 2, the asylum legislation? Eighty percent of it is downright foolish.

Is there a compromise available? Absolutely. Who is working on it in this House? Show me one Member of this House that is working on a compromise on that. I don't know who they are.

Speaker JOHNSON, where are you? Where are you hiding? Where is your leadership? Ukraine is at risk. Think about it. It will be 1½ months before any legislation will pass this House. If, in fact, we get our act together over the holidays, what will happen? The Ukrainian Government depends upon the American money to pay the police, the firemen, the first responders. They



won't have that money and the military, the flow of equipment, the flow of ammunition, it will diminish.

How do they get started? How are they going to replenish? It is time for us to stand. It is time for us to act. We have 1½ days to do it. Can we do it? You are damn right we can do it; if we find the courage to do it. If we find the very same courage that President Zelenskyy has exhibited over the last 2 years and, more importantly, the men and women of Ukraine that are fighting a desperate fight for their own future.

I wonder if we have the courage. I know I have to stand down. I know the people of Ukraine will never stand down. The question is whether we will stand with them.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio has 6 minutes remaining.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Cincinnati, Ohio, Congressman GREG LANDSMAN, a distinguished Member of our Congress.

Mr. LANDSMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank my very good friend and colleague from the great State of Ohio, MARCY KAPTUR, for her leadership on this. It is remarkable.

Madam Speaker, I, too, rise today in support of Ukraine and its fight against tyranny. Imagine where we would be, the global community, had the United States and Europe joined forces in 1939 to stop Hitler when he invaded Poland?

The world is watching us now, and Russia wants nothing more than for the United States and our allies to abandon Ukraine. That is the big win for Putin.

Abandoning Ukraine would give Putin and his despots like him the green light to further their wars of imperialism and expansion, and history, as I mentioned, shows us that appeasing autocrats has devastating consequences. Doing so could draw the United States and our allies into direct conflict, putting American troops in harm's way.

Ukraine is fighting for its survival. Eastern Europe is fighting for its survival. The United States in partnership with our allies must stand firm by Ukraine's side as it fights to defend its freedom, its sovereignty, and its future.

We have to pass a budget. We have to pass this much-needed investment in our global partners. We can, if and when the Speaker realizes how serious of a moment this is and decides to be serious and bring us a bipartisan bill which will pass overwhelmingly.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. STEVE COHEN, who is such a phenomenal leader in the law and on almost every subject we deal with here.

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, it has been said that everything has been

said, but not everybody has said it. Everything really has been said. I have heard such great oratory from such passionate, patriotic speakers. What is clear is we have a duty as the leader of democracy in the world to support our friends and to fight for democracy in Ukraine where they are defending democracy and keeping us from having to go in. If Putin wins and gets into a NATO country, saving our soldiers' blood and lives—and that will happen. In Israel, where a similar foe, Hamas like Russia, knows no limits, is threatening the existence of Israel.

I know the Speaker believes that we should support Israel. When he was first elected, he went to the podium and said we will support Israel, but later he said we will only support Israel if we cut \$15 billion from the IRS and the budget, which would lose us \$85 billion overall. That is fiscally foolish and morally wrong.

Israel should be supported unconditionally and so should Ukraine—two valiant countries whose existence has been threatened. These are existential fights for Israel and for Ukraine. What happened in Bucha right after the war started before the Ukrainians were able to repel the Russians was similar to what happened on October 7 in Israel—murders, rapes, crime.

If we allow Russia to win, which we will if we don't support Ukraine, there will be ten times the devastation of what happened on October 7 in Israel to happen to the women and the children of Ukraine because Russians have showed they have no respect for women, morality, or mankind.

Madam Speaker, I urge Speaker Johnson to put these bills on the floor to support Ukraine, to support Israel, to support Taiwan, to support democracy, and to support human relief in Gaza for people who have been innocent victims. Please put these bills on the floor and let us do what America needs to do.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Ohio has 1 minute remaining.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas, Ms. SHEILA JACKSON LEE, who has been at almost every meeting we have held on Ukraine and then we will yield to Congressman JOSH GOTTHEIMER of New Jersey, a leader on both sides of the aisle.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague for her great leadership.

Madam Speaker, I stand here for the children. We must stand for the children. A little boy riding with his grandmother, Oleksandr Ivanov, was killed by the Russians and more children have been killed in all the conflicts that are going on.

We must move forward so that the humanitarian aid comes along with the aid that is needed to fight the Russians who have lost 87 percent of their mili-

tary since they started. This can be winnable for the children. We need humanitarian aid in all the wars that are now going on, and I want to stand for that fight. The bill named after Oleksandr Ivanov is to protect our children wherever they are, humanitarian aid and war aid to ensure that the children are our priority. I hope that this fight will be won, and we will win for democracy and we will win for our children.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to support Ukraine as it stands up to tyranny and defends their sovereignty in the face of Russia's continued, unprovoked aggression. But I rise for the children in all wars—and I ask and demand humanitarian aid for children in all the wars.

We must send the unmistakable message that in the 21st Century, a dictator cannot conquer or carve up neighboring territories.

On February 24, 2022, Russia, under the leadership of Vladimir Putin, launched a premeditated war against Ukraine in an attack on democracy and a grave violation of international law, global peace, and security.

The war in Ukraine continues to severely impact people's lives and damage civilian infrastructure, triggering evacuations from frontline areas and driving humanitarian needs.

According to the United Nations Refugee Agency, as of July 2023, there are a recorded 5.1 million internally displaced people in Ukraine, 6.2 million refugees from Ukraine globally, and 17.6 million Ukrainian people in need of humanitarian assistance.

The unjust and brutal war has put millions of Ukrainian women and children at risk of trafficking. Millions of children have been deprived of their education and are experiencing trauma, and according to a report by Yale University, more than 6,000 children are in Russians custody.

According to a report by Yale University Humanitarian Research Lab (Yale HRL), at least 6,000 children from Ukraine ages four months to 17 years have been held at camps and other facilities within Russia-occupied Crimea and mainland Russia since Russia's full-scale invasion began.

Forcibly transferring children of one group to another group is a violation of Article II(e) of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide 1948 and the Geneva Convention IV, including articles 24, 25, 50, 78 and 82.

Today, I call my colleagues to action and ask that they join me in seeking liberty and justice for all those in Ukraine.

Ukrainian children are being forcibly taken to Russia and put up for adoption into Russian families in an apparent effort to assimilate them, a practice that genocide scholar Timothy Snyder has said could be considered genocide under the 1948 Genocide Convention.

Ukraine's Office of the Prosecutor General has confirmed more than 17,000 cases of Ukrainian children abducted to Russia. But the number is likely much higher.

The U.S. State Department has said it has reliable information that Russian authorities have deliberately separated Ukrainian children from their parents during so-called "filtration" procedures and abducted others from Ukrainian institutions before putting them up for adoption inside Russia and estimates that the number may be as high as 260,000.

This is only the first step in what appears to be a deliberate Russian policy.

Once Ukrainian children arrive in Russia—or in Russian-controlled part of Ukraine such as Crimea—they are put into Russian orphanages. After a short period, they are given Russian citizenship.

This is done because Russian law allows for the adoption of foreign children.

Last Spring Putin signed decrees streamlining the process for children to receive Russian citizenship and for adoption.

Families are also given financial incentives to adopt children.

In Russian custody, Ukrainian children are subjected to reeducation programs meant to “Russify” them, told that their parents no longer want them, and convinced that their future lies in Russia.

Disgustingly, Russian propaganda cynically portrays its adoption of Ukrainian children as an act of generosity that gives new homes to helpless orphans.

Russian state media shows local officials hugging and kissing newly arrived Ukrainian children and handing them Russian passports.

Many of these children are not orphans at all.

Ukrainian institutions also house children whose parents were not in position to take care of them for a period of time or who had special needs.

Once adopted, children’s names and dates of birth are often changed, making it extremely difficult to find them and reunite them with their families in the future.

We need to act now to stop the abduction and forced assimilation of Ukrainian children to Russia.

We need to raise our concerns loudly and often and speak out to counter the disgusting Russian propaganda that would use children in this way.

We should consider whether there is a need to establish a registry to record data on children believed to have been taken to Russia or Russian-occupied territories to assist law enforcement and also future family reunification in the future.

Of course, any such system must protect children’s personal information.

In addition, we should also look at what role international organizations might play in tracking and rescuing these children, including the Red Cross.

Further, Ukraine’s children are suffering serious injury and trauma due to Russia’s genocidal war on Ukraine.

According to the United Nations, almost two-thirds of the country’s children have been displaced.

Thousands have been injured and, although UNICEF has said more than 1,000 children have been killed, that number is likely much, much higher as there is no reliable way to verify how many civilians have been killed in the most decimated areas of Ukraine, like Mariupol, where, just as one example, Russian forces bombed a theater housing hundreds of civilians despite clear markings that children were present.

In addition to the immediate dangers of war, the effects of war on children could have lasting consequences.

Many Ukrainian children have witnessed unimaginable violence, including the murders of their own parents or family members.

They have had to endure the stress of being under almost constant bombardment, in fear of their safety.

Others have experienced hunger, cold, and weeks spent hiding in wet, frigid basements without daylight or fresh air and without sanitation or healthcare.

This constant stress takes a heavy toll on the youngest victims of war.

Moreover, disruptions to education may never be fully recovered.

In this regard, I would like to recognize the Ukrainian government’s exceptional campaign to keep children linked to their schools by mobilizing the remote learning infrastructure built up during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the many European countries which have opened their schools to Ukrainian refugee children.

Children—and their families—need support to heal from the trauma they have experienced.

There are organizations on the ground providing psychological treatment, art therapy, humanitarian aid, and for some even new homes.

We all need to support such programs and to act now to ensure their continued action and expanded reach.

The longer children go without receiving treatment for their trauma, the longer it will take to heal.

There is also significant concern for the physical, mental, and psychological well-being of women in Ukraine.

Amnesty International reports that women in the country face grave risks, an increased burden of caring responsibilities and immense stress and hardships when living in war zones.

Amnesty International’s Secretary General explains that “Time and time again, women bear the brunt of war’s brutality. They are consistently on the frontlines of conflict—as soldiers and fighters, doctors and nurses, volunteers, peace activists, carers for their communities and families, internally displaced people, refugees, and too often as victims and survivors.”

Women confront increased sexual and gender-based violence and perilous health conditions, while being forced to make life and death survival decisions for their families.

At the same time, women are often excluded from the decision-making processes and their rights and needs remain unprotected and unmet.

While many women in Ukraine have joined the resistance to Russian aggression, very often caregiving responsibilities for children and family members fall disproportionately on women.

Managing these caregiving responsibilities is especially difficult in the perilous conditions of the conflict.

A woman living in the conflict zone in Donetsk Oblast, told Amnesty International how the invasion has impacted her as a mother and caregiver for her parents: “All changed for the worse. Men [from the family] are at war, women are left alone, many with small children on their backs without any income. There is no help—no physical help, no financial aid.”

The invasion has also had a distinct detrimental effect on women’s mental, physical and sexual and reproductive health.

For menstruating women and girls, limited supplies any increased prices for menstruation management products are forcing them to choose between food and sanitary products.

I am especially concerned about reports of rape and sexual assault committed by Russian

troops, not only of women, but also of children and men.

Gender-based violence is aggravated and intensified for those living in the conflict-affected regions for many reasons.

These include the lack of security, the absence or erosion of the rule of law, the pervasiveness of impunity for the perpetrators, and lack of trust in the occupying authorities, as well as the stigma attached to disclosing experiences of sexual and gender-based violence.

This is not only an effort to humiliate and terrorize, but also could amount to genocide as some women report being told by their tormenters that they would be raped until they could no longer have Ukrainian children.

Russia must be held accountable for their heinous actions and the war crimes they have committed against the women, children, and people of Ukraine.

I urge Congress to act to protect the safety, security, and well-being of the people of Ukraine, especially vulnerable populations like women and children.

Congress cannot remain complicit in the face of Russian aggression.

We must act to defend the rights and freedoms of Ukraine’s children and all its people.

To hold accountable those who have committed these atrocities and have put the lives of thousands of Ukrainian women and children at risk, I introduced H.R. 5800, the Oleksander Ivanov Act.

H.R. 5800, THE OLEKSANDER IVANOV ACT

This bill will help rescue and support the children of Ukraine from Russian aggression and to prevent human trafficking in refugee flows.

Specifically, under this bill, the United States will:

Support programs for trauma treatment and healing, rehabilitation and where necessary prostheses, for Ukrainian children affected by the war including nationwide educational programs of psychological support to address emotional trauma and stress for all of Ukraine’s children, integrated into school curriculum and offered through clinical and social services.

Support programs to rebuild the education system in Ukraine and education for Ukrainian child refugees, in cooperation with other countries, international organizations, and civil society.

Support the development of a unified and consolidated searchable registry of missing Ukrainian children in order to facilitate identification of children and family reunification. The registry should ensure strict data protection and availability in the Ukrainian, Russian, and English languages. In addition, the public should be made aware of its existence and use.

Support the creation of a unified central emergency call center hub linked to law enforcement in Ukraine and in other countries to enable reporting on and interventions on behalf of missing children originally from Ukraine and suspected cases of human trafficking and sexual exploitation, including online, of children originally from Ukraine.

The bill will also undertake new global actions to protect refugees and combatting human trafficking by:

Supporting the creation of an international mechanism to facilitate vetting of volunteers and other non-governmental front-line responders working with refugees or with victims



of other major crises or natural disasters by government authorities or law enforcement. Such an international vetting system could include internationally recognized certifications verifying individuals who have been recently cleared to work with refugees.

Supporting efforts to only allow appropriately vetted and credentialed individuals (such as described above) access to refugees.

Continuing to support efforts by the Ukrainian government to increase collaboration with their European counterparts on anti-trafficking investigations and increased awareness efforts.

Supporting the development of robust child protective mechanisms for vulnerable children, including those from Ukraine, in Ukraine and in countries that have received Ukrainian refugees, that include social assistance and protection to help prevent human trafficking and sexual abuse of Ukrainian children.

And working with Ukrainian authorities to ensure that law enforcement officials stationed at major border crossing points during a refugee crisis are appropriately trained to prevent human trafficking and support other measures to monitor for indications of human trafficking targeting refugees in areas surrounding border crossings.

Further, my bill directs sanctions to hold Russia responsible for its actions against the children of Ukraine by doing the following:

Imposing financial blocking and visa sanctions on any foreign person or organization that the President or Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, determine are responsible for engaging in or facilitating the transfer of Ukrainian children to Russia or Russian-controlled areas of Ukraine or for their forced assimilation, adoption, or placement in a foster home, and engaging in or facilitating the human trafficking of Ukrainian refugees.

The actions laid out in this bill would represent a major step forward for the children of Ukraine, illustrate America's strong stance against Russian aggression, and protect the most vulnerable during this time of conflict and crisis.

Holding Russia accountable for war crimes is crucial.

There can be no impunity for these heinous crimes.

And so today, I call on my colleagues to join me in continuing our support for a victorious Ukraine, and to put an end to these heinous crimes Russia continues to commit.

It is important that we continue to do everything we can to help Ukraine succeed on the battlefield and protect its people, and we cannot under any circumstances allow America's support for Ukraine to be interrupted.

□ 1830

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

Mr. McCaul. Madam Speaker, We are witnessing the largest land invasion of Europe since the Second World War.

The similarities to Poland in 1939 are chilling.

Russia's unprovoked war of aggression has led to countless war crimes, the death of innocent civilians, and the mass deportation of Ukrainian Children.

Make no mistake, Putin's imperialist ambitions do not stop at the Ukrainian border. A loss in Ukraine could lead to a larger conflict in Europe.

The implications and fallout from this war could reach far beyond Ukraine's borders. Our adversaries are watching, and if Putin wins, it will embolden dictators and despots around the globe to advance their malign agendas and challenge U.S. interests.

No one has more to gain from a Russian victory than Chairman Xi, who is eyeing his own military invasion of Taiwan. If Putin is allowed to succeed, it will serve as a green light for Chairman Xi. And it will definitively show a failure in U.S. resolve to stand for freedom and democracy.

Ukraine today could be Taiwan tomorrow.

We must commit to success in Ukraine to demonstrate that the U.S. will not be intimidated or accept threats to our partners and allies.

If history has taught us anything, it is that weakness only invites aggression. As Winston Churchill famously said, "an appeaser is one who feeds a crocodile, hoping it will eat him last."

We need to give Ukraine the weapons they need to win, without delay. We need to tighten sanctions on the Putin regime and transfer frozen Russian assets to Ukraine.

Putin started this war, and Putin must pay.

We also need to address the growing national security threat at our Southern border.

The House is ready to move to support Ukraine, but the Senate Democrats have failed to work with Republicans and make any meaningful policy changes to address the crisis at our own border.

We are experiencing record numbers of illegal aliens daily. Over 2,000 migrants and counting have died trying to make the dangerous journey across the border in the last three fiscal years.

And 35 percent of women and children are sexually abused throughout their journey at the hands of brutal cartels.

And tragically, over the last two years, nearly 150,000 people died from fentanyl crossing the border from Mexico.

That is nearly triple the number of American deaths during the entire duration of the Vietnam War. And we only expect these deaths to continue to grow.

Put simply, the President and Secretary Mayorkas are aiding and abetting this crisis at our Southern border.

It is time for the White House and Senate Democrats to work with House Republicans to finally secure our border through meaningful policy changes, such as reinstating Remain in Mexico, and Asylum Cooperative Agreements.

Only after we secure our border and deal with the national security threats at home can we look abroad to assist Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan.

The world is watching, and history will judge how we respond.

#### BIPARTISAN SUPPLEMENTAL AID PACKAGE

(Mr. GOTTHEIMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, Israel and Ukraine may be 2,000 miles apart, but the evils they face are connected. Hamas and Putin have waged unprovoked wars on neighboring democracies, murdering thousands of civilians and kidnapping innocent people, including children.

Recently, Moscow hosted Hamas and Iranian leaders. This is incredibly concerning because Hamas is funded by Russia's military ally, Iran.

I fear the extreme ultra rightwing wants to cut and run and hand Putin a win. It sends the wrong message to China and empowers our adversaries.

The United States has a responsibility to support Ukraine in its fight against a murdering dictator and provide the support Israel needs to kill the terrorists responsible for the atrocities on October 7. Hamas terrorists have made it clear that they will not back down and are committed to a second, third, and fourth October 7.

We must pass a bipartisan supplemental aid package that makes sure that we do not ever send the wrong signal about fighting against terror and protecting global democracy and our national security.

#### PLEA TO SPEAKER JOHNSON

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I make a plea to Speaker Johnson and our colleagues on both sides of the aisle, please give Vladimir Putin no succor. Stand up for liberty. This is the moment for Ukraine. Let us seize it. Let us seize it.

#### TECHNOLOGY REVOLUTION HAPPENING AROUND US

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, last week I promised I was going to do something a little more positive tonight. It is complicated because I basically have a compulsion. Being from Arizona, I sit on an airplane 10 hours a week; 5 there and 5 back.

I use these news aggregators, and I collect articles. Afterwards, my staff and I do follow-up and research. I just gathered up some of them the last couple days. These are positive things happening in our society, but one of the number one reasons I am going to show them is they are things that actually could make our lives better, make us healthier as a society and assist with, as you know, my fixation on the debt.

Before we start to actually focus on the debt and deficit—and I am going to try to minimize my sarcasm, but you have got to give me a moment here—we should be very proud of ourselves. We did something very special today that we have never done before other than in the middle of COVID.

Over the last 2 months, our borrowing has increased so much that we are at \$80,600 a second. We did it. I am so proud of us. I knew we could actually spend ourselves into oblivion. We did it, we crossed \$80,000. We are at