

CEO. I hope he will work with us in good faith and come before the Senate as soon as possible.

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Madam President, last week, I joined with a number of Senate colleagues in leading my first congressional delegation as majority leader. We went to Germany, India, Pakistan, and Israel. I have only been on one other codel in all of my years as a Senator—back in 2011 with Harry Reid to China.

I thank all of my colleagues for making this trip a success. There were nine of us. Now that we are back, I want to share a few takeaways from our trip that implicate America's national security and our economic future.

First, we relayed a very important message during our meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi: India and America are going to need each other to outcompete the Chinese Communist Party.

India is precisely the kind of partner that the United States needs to provide a check against the hostile tactics of the CCP. They are the world's largest democracy—still young compared to its peers—and primed for tremendous growth in the decades to come.

I told the Prime Minister that, if our democracies are to prosper in this century, we are going to have to work together not only to boost our common defense but to promote our mutual prosperity. That means working together to strengthen our economic ties, deepen trade, and make it easier to recruit talented workers from abroad to work in our country.

It also means we must collaborate to establish the norms for the technologies of the future. Right now, the world's democracies are competing with the Chinese Communist Party to dominate the technologies that will rule this century, like artificial intelligence, quantum computing, clean energy, advanced semiconductor manufacturing, and more.

India, the United States, and all of the world's democracies—we are the largest two—must make sure these technologies become vectors of prosperity, not the weapons of autocratic regimes. We have already seen how the Chinese Communist Party uses AI to eavesdrop on its people and prevent them from getting full knowledge or just propaganda. I think the Prime Minister appreciated the point we were making about the need for India and the United States—the two largest democracies—to work together against the CCP hegemony.

India is an amazing country. I was enthralled by it. Incredible. It has a thriving diaspora, many of whom live in New York, here in the United States. Our partnership has a huge potential for growth in the 21st century.

On a second point about our codel, during the codel, we also met with leaders in Pakistan, Germany, and Israel. Much of our discussion with them, as well as with Prime Minister Modi of India, stressed the importance

of standing with Ukraine in its struggle against Russia. We asked each of these leaders to do more. It has been more than a year now since Vladimir Putin began his illegal invasion, and I made it clear to leaders abroad that the worst thing we could do right now is to waver in our support of the Ukrainian people. I warned them that a Russian victory in Ukraine would not mean an end to Putin's escapades and expansionist proclivities so much as it would mean an escalation of his viciousness and desire for more territory.

Success in Ukraine will only embolden Putin if he sees the free nations of the world turn a blind eye to his aggressions. Should Putin win in Ukraine, it would endanger the security of democracies and burgeoning democracies across the world, and I think the leaders I spoke with—the leaders all nine of us spoke with—got that message.

Finally, on a more personal note, I was deeply moved to join with my colleagues to lay wreaths at both the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany and Yad Vashem in Jerusalem. As the highest ranking elected Jewish leader in U.S. history and the first Jewish majority leader, I used these visits as a chance to reaffirm the Senate's commitment to never forget this dark chapter in human history. At a time when public understanding of the Holocaust is waning, as the next generation is further removed from the horrors—the just sheer horrors—of the past, and as anti-Semitism makes its resurgence at home and around the globe, now more than ever, we must commit to that sacred obligation to never forget.

Elie Wiesel said:

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

We must never remain silent. We must never allow anti-Semitism and bigotry to fester and flourish. We must recommit to never, never again.

I want to thank my colleagues who joined with me at both Dachau and Yad Vashem, and I thank everyone—Members and staff alike—for the incredible job they did and for their excellent work in making our trip fruitful and productive.

CHIPS AND SCIENCE ACT

Madam President, finally, Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo—a great leader, in my opinion—announced recently that, starting tomorrow, the Commerce Department will launch their first application for CHIPS funding, with a focus on chip fab manufacturing facilities.

I will have more to say in the morning, but I just want to reaffirm that, 6 months after CHIPS and Science was passed into law, the benefits are clear and unmistakable: Over \$200 billion in private investment has been announced across 16 States. That includes \$100 billion proposed by Micron to manufacture advanced memory chips in my home State of New York, an investment that will translate into tens of thousands of good, high-paying jobs

and transform Upstate New York, once the manufacturing powerhouse of America. Of course, so many of those jobs went overseas, but CHIPS and Science, high-tech, gives us a great chance to revive that area. This story is being replicated not only in Upstate New York but in many parts of the country that similarly lost jobs over the last decades.

I applaud Secretary Raimondo for rolling out the CHIPS funding—standing up a brandnew, major program—so quickly and efficiently. As you know, the CHIPS and Science bill was a pet of mine, and we worked for 2½ years to get it done.

I also applaud my colleagues from both sides who spent years pushing this bill over the finish line.

This is about laying a crucial foundation to make the United States a global leader in chip production once again, which is critical to our national security and competitiveness, and starting tomorrow, applications will be open to begin to make these significant investments in U.S. industry and in U.S. workers.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UKRAINE

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, last week, Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine hit the 1-year mark—1 year of death and destruction across Ukraine, 1 year of lives and gaslighting from the Russian Government and its paid-off cronies, 1 year of atrocious war crimes committed against innocent people. It has been an unimaginable year of hardship for the Ukrainian people, and it has ushered in a period of global unity not seen in a generation.

One year ago, democracies around the world united in support of the Ukrainian people. The United States and our allies condemned President Putin's unwarranted invasion and took decisive action to help the Ukrainians shape the outcome of this war: sanctions against Russia, military aid for Ukraine, humanitarian assistance for the innocent people who are bearing the true cost of Russia's brutality. It has been a difficult year fueled by both victories and setbacks, but I remain confident and inspired by the courage and the capabilities of the Ukrainian people.

At the start of this war, no one expected Ukraine to keep up the fight as long as it has lasted. They were outmanned, outgunned; and it seemed like a matter of when Ukraine would be defeated, not if.

Over the last 12 months, though, we have witnessed heroic strength and fortitude by the Ukrainian forces and civilians. We have seen a series of setbacks by the Russian Army which was once thought to be among the most capable in the world.

As we marked the 1-year anniversary of this war, the big question in everyone's mind is, What comes next? GEN David Petraeus once said the most important question to ask in any conflict is: How does this end? And in this case, we don't have a clear answer. There is no resolution on the horizon, which has caused many people to doubt America's involvement.

Over the last year, our country has made serious investments in a Ukrainian victory in the form of weapons, equipment, training, and humanitarian aid. These contributions have been integral to Ukraine's success so far, but they have not come without cost. There is the financial cost, which is always a big concern—particularly with a \$30-trillion debt—as well as the prospect of a recession as a result of the Federal Reserve's tightening interest rates in order to stave off the impact of inflation.

There is also the impact on our own military readiness. Our weapons stockpiles have dwindled, and the timeline for replenishment is far too lengthy.

I have heard from my constituents back home in Texas who are deeply concerned about what these costs will mean here at home, and I understand exactly where they are coming from.

This is a tough time for American families due to the ravages of inflation and the uncertainty about their economic future. Our own interests must always come first.

The point that keeps getting lost in this war is that a Ukrainian victory is in our national interest. It is important to our security here at home. America's assistance is not a handout. It is not a charity project. And as much as we want to see Ukraine prevail in this war, our financial support is not entirely altruistic.

The United States isn't just investing in Ukrainian victory, we are also putting our resources toward the defeat of Russian aggression. If history has taught us anything, it has taught us that power-hungry dictators do not accept small gains and call it a day. They just keep on pushing. You don't have to go back very far in our history books to find a good example.

In 2005, President Vladimir Putin said that the collapse of the Soviet Empire "was the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century." Clearly, he is doing everything he can to try to reconstitute the former Soviet Union.

President Putin has used his time in power to rebuild Russia's military and try to redraw the map of Europe. In 2008, Russia invaded the Nation of Georgia. In 2014, it invaded Ukraine for the first time since the end of the Cold War, taking the Crimea region. Of course, true to form, Putin's appetite

for conquest is not satisfied. If anything, it made him more hungry for power. And the message that we sent by doing nothing in 2005 and 2014 was he could take all he wanted and there would be no consequence. This time, we can't make the same mistake. Putin must understand that Russian aggression will not be tolerated.

The outcome of this war will determine how Putin's quest proceeds in the future. Will he continue to intimidate neighbors in Europe and invade sovereign nations, or will he crawl back to Moscow, tailed tucked between his legs?

The answer to those questions are very important. Despite the fact that American troops are not engaged in this war, that could change in an instant.

If the next chapter of Putin's war includes the invasion of a NATO partner, the United States and our allies will no longer be on the sidelines; we will be part of the starting lineup. Collective defense is at the heart of NATO's founding. Article 5 of that founding treaty makes clear that an attack against one member nation is an attack against all. Suffice it to say, I hope and pray we will never reach the point where the collective defense clause is invoked.

The most effective way to keep American troops out of the line of fire is to help the Ukrainians stop Putin now before his conquest moves even further west.

As though the stakes weren't high enough already, we know it is not just the scope of Putin's power that is at stake here. The rest of the world is watching as well to see how the United States and our NATO allies respond to this power-hungry dictator. If we fail to support the Ukrainians in this pivotal moment, other authoritarian governments will take note. Today, the problem is Russia. Tomorrow, the problem could be the People's Republic of China.

President Xi Jinping has made no secret of his desire to capture Taiwan. He has called it "unification," and he has even offered details about what sort of timeline we might expect. Of course, we found, as with Mr. Putin, when one person is making that decision, that person can make a decision to go at any time. But President Xi says he wants to be ready to unify the People's Republic of China with Taiwan by 2027, just 4 years from now.

There is no question that President Xi is paying close attention to the world's response to Russian aggression. If the United States and its allies respond with passivity, the Chinese Communist Party will expect to be met with the same level of weakness. As a matter of fact, I believe that President Putin was shocked to see the Ukrainians demonstrate their will to resist Russian aggression and that the other democracies in the world have come to its aid, particularly after the embarrassing precipitous withdrawal from

Afghanistan by the Biden administration without even notifying our NATO allies. Of course, we know what happened—the leadership of the Afghan Government was spirited off in an airplane to another country, and the Taliban walked in without a shot being fired. I think after Mr. Putin saw that in Afghanistan, he thought: Well, maybe I could do the same thing in Ukraine.

Well, a passive response to this sort of aggression would risk further instability and hurt the cause of peace, to say the least. And it would inevitably diminish America's leadership position in the global order. That is why the tyrants and the madmen of the world must see the United States and our allies respond with strength. That is the only way to ensure long-term security and stability.

Last spring, like many of our colleagues, I had the opportunity to travel to Ukraine. This time, last May, was with Senator MCCONNELL, the Republican leader; Senator COLLINS; and Senator BARRASSO. We had the pleasure of meeting with President Zelenskyy and affirming America's commitment to a Ukrainian victory.

One year into this war, my resolve has not softened. Our resolve cannot soften either. The United States and our allies must remain steadfast in our support of the Ukrainian people, not just for their sake but for our sake as well.

Through strategic investments, with ample oversight and accountability—those were important—we will continue to shape the outcome of this war by giving the Ukrainian people everything they need in order to prevail. In doing so, we will send a clear message to Russia and China and any other authoritarian dictator that aggression against the sovereign nation will not be ignored.

Again, it is our own national interest that is at stake here. This war cannot end with a Russian victory.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, let me first thank my colleague from Texas. We disagree from time to time, but when we agree, I feel good about it. And today, we do agree, certainly, on the Ukrainian war and the role and responsibility of the United States.

MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE

Madam President, the Senator from Texas was in Munich at the security conference. It was such an inspiring get-together. Leaders from all over Europe and from many parts of the world all came together and were virtually unanimous in their opinion that this aggression by Vladimir Putin needed to be stopped and we needed to do everything in our power, either through NATO or other alliances and friendships, to show our solidarity.

I thank the Senator from Texas for his statements.

What a sharp contrast in leadership last week. First, Presidents Biden and