

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6437

To combat subversive activities of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 19, 2018

Mr. HOYER (for himself, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. KILMER, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. CORREA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HECK, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. JONES, and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Intelligence (Permanent Select), the Judiciary, Armed Services, House Administration, Energy and Commerce, Appropriations, Financial Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To combat subversive activities of the Russian Federation,
and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Secure America from Russian Interference Act of 2018”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—ACTIONS TO COMPREHEND AND EXPOSE RUSSIA’S
 SUBVERSIVE MEASURES

Sec. 101. Findings.

Sec. 102. Assessment of subversive activities by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Sec. 103. National Intelligence Estimate on intentions of Russia.

Sec. 104. Report on cyber countermeasures.

Sec. 105. Report on Kremlin-linked corruption.

Sec. 106. Publicize Russian misdeeds.

Sec. 107. Report on actions relating to Ukrainian energy security.

TITLE II—DOMESTIC ACTIONS TO COUNTER RUSSIA’S SUBVER-
 SIVE MEASURES AND CORRUPT NETWORKS OF INFLUENCE

Subtitle A—General Provisions

Sec. 201. Office of sanctions policy.

Sec. 202. National Russian Threat Response Center.

Sec. 203. Interagency task force relating to illicit Russian financial activities in Europe.

Sec. 204. Prohibition on licenses or other authorization for United States persons to engage in activities relating to certain projects to produce oil in the Russian Federation.

Subtitle B—SECURE Our Democracy Act

Sec. 211. Short title.

Sec. 212. Definitions.

Sec. 213. Identification of foreign persons responsible for actions to unlawfully access, disrupt, influence, or in any way alter information or information systems related to United States political parties or elections for Federal office.

Sec. 214. Inadmissibility of certain aliens.

Sec. 215. Financial measures.

Sec. 216. Reports to Congress.

Subtitle C—Preventing Cyber Intrusion Into Election Infrastructure

Sec. 221. Election infrastructure designation.

Sec. 222. Timely threat information.

Sec. 223. Pre-election threat assessments.

Sec. 224. Notification of significant foreign cyber intrusions and active measures campaigns directed at elections for Federal offices.

Subtitle D—Honest Ads Act

Sec. 231. Short title.

Sec. 232. Purpose.

Sec. 233. Findings.

Sec. 234. Sense of Congress.

- Sec. 235. Expansion of definition of public communication.
- Sec. 236. Expansion of definition of electioneering communication.
- Sec. 237. Application of disclaimer statements to online communications.
- Sec. 238. Political record requirements for online platforms.
- Sec. 239. Preventing contributions, expenditures, independent expenditures, and disbursements for electioneering communications by foreign nationals in the form of online advertising.

Subtitle E—Countering Foreign Propaganda Act of 2018

- Sec. 241. Short title.
- Sec. 242. Disclosure requirements for United States-based foreign media outlets.

TITLE III—ACTIONS TO COUNTER RUSSIAN AGGRESSION
AGAINST UNITED STATES ALLIES

Subtitle A—Stand With UK Against Russia Violations Act

- Sec. 301. Short title.
- Sec. 302. Findings.
- Sec. 303. Sense of Congress.
- Sec. 304. Imposition of sanctions with respect to Russian persons responsible for March 12 attack.
- Sec. 305. Prohibition on transactions relating to new Russian sovereign debt.
- Sec. 306. Implementation; penalties; termination.
- Sec. 307. Enhanced military activities to deter Russian aggression.
- Sec. 308. United States person defined.

Subtitle B—Imposition of Sanctions on Certain Russian Parastatal Entities

- Sec. 311. Imposition of sanctions on certain Russian parastatal entities.

Subtitle C—Punishing Continued Occupation of Ukraine Act

- Sec. 321. Short title.
- Sec. 322. Findings.
- Sec. 323. Prohibition against United States recognition of Russia’s annexation of Crimea.
- Sec. 324. Imposition of sanctions with respect to certain Russian financial institutions.

Subtitle D—General Provisions To Bolster Alliances

- Sec. 331. Strategy for offensive use of cyber capabilities.
- Sec. 332. Matters relating to NATO.
- Sec. 333. Countering Russian Influence and Corruption Fund.

TITLE IV—COMBATING PUTIN’S REPRESSION (CPR) FOR RUSSIAN
CIVIL SOCIETY

- Sec. 401. Short title.
- Sec. 402. Strengthening dialogue with the Russian people.
- Sec. 403. Support Russian civil society.

1 **TITLE I—ACTIONS TO COM-**
2 **PREHEND AND EXPOSE RUS-**
3 **SLIA’S SUBVERSIVE MEASURES**

4 **SEC. 101. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The Russian Federation interfered in the
7 United States Presidential election in 2016 and con-
8 tinues to conduct disinformation efforts designed to
9 undermine the United States.

10 (2) The Director of National Intelligence con-
11 cluded in light of the Russian Federation’s hacking
12 of the 2016 Presidential election that “Russian ef-
13 forts to influence the 2016 U.S. Presidential election
14 represent the most recent expression of Moscow’s
15 longstanding desire to undermine the U.S.-led liberal
16 democratic order”.

17 (3) The Director of National Intelligence fur-
18 ther concluded, “We also assess Putin and the Rus-
19 sian Government aspired to help President-elect
20 Trump’s election chances when possible by discred-
21 iting Secretary Clinton and publicly contrasting her
22 unfavorably to him.”.

23 (4) To adequately combat Russian subversive
24 activities, the United States must have a better han-

1 dle on the scope, nature, and source of these efforts
2 and take steps to combat Russia’s global influence.

3 **SEC. 102. ASSESSMENT OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES BY THE**
4 **GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERA-**
5 **TION.**

6 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
7 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall
8 submit to Congress a report setting forth an independent
9 assessment obtained in accordance with subsection (b) of
10 subversive activities by the Government of the Russian
11 Federation.

12 (b) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall
14 obtain an independent assessment for purposes of
15 subsection (a) from a federally funded research and
16 development center or another appropriate inde-
17 pendent entity that is selected by the Secretary that
18 has expertise in diplomatic and military develop-
19 ments in Europe and Russia and undertakes to in-
20 clude each of the following:

21 (A) An assessment of disinformation and
22 propaganda activities of the Government of the
23 Russian Federation, including an assessment
24 of—

1 (i) support for disinformation and
2 propaganda activities with respect to the
3 United States and foreign countries;

4 (ii) the overall structure of the
5 disinformation and influence apparatus of
6 the Government of the Russian Federation,
7 including its intelligence agencies and
8 propaganda outlets such as Russia Today;

9 (iii) propaganda techniques, including
10 forgery, use of media representatives and
11 proxies, use of front organizations, and ef-
12 forts to influence international organiza-
13 tions; and

14 (iv) use of corruption to advance Rus-
15 sian objectives.

16 (B) An assessment of support by the Gov-
17 ernment of the Russian Federation for sepa-
18 ratist activities and other aggressive actions
19 aimed at undermining the sovereignty of foreign
20 countries, particularly in Ukraine, the Baltic
21 countries, the Balkans, Georgia, and Azer-
22 baijan.

23 (C) An assessment of cyber intrusions by
24 the Government of the Russian Federation to
25 influence the infrastructure and democratic

1 processes in the United States and other coun-
2 tries.

3 (D) An assessment of—

4 (i) the use of energy exports by the
5 Government of the Russian Federation for
6 purposes of political or economic coercion;
7 and

8 (ii) significant investment in energy
9 infrastructure outside of Russia, including
10 pipelines, by the Government of Russia or
11 Russian-controlled entities.

12 (E) An assessment of the deterioration of
13 democratic conditions in the Russian Federa-
14 tion, including—

15 (i) suppression of freedom of the
16 press;

17 (ii) detention, beating, and murder of
18 political activists and opposition leaders;

19 (iii) suppression of minority rights;

20 (iv) suppression of human rights; and

21 (v) efforts to undermine the Russian
22 nongovernmental organizations and Rus-
23 sian civil society.

24 (2) USE OF PREVIOUS STUDIES.—The entity
25 conducting the assessment may use and incorporate

1 information from previous studies on matters appro-
2 priate to the assessment.

3 (c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a)
4 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include
5 a classified annex.

6 **SEC. 103. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE ON INTEN-**
7 **TIONS OF RUSSIA.**

8 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
9 ment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in
10 consultation with the Secretary of State, shall produce a
11 National Intelligence Estimate on the political and mili-
12 tary intentions of Russia, including with respect to each
13 of the following:

14 (1) Russian leadership intentions in pursuing
15 military and subversive scenarios against members
16 of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, including
17 the conduct of an exercise on the border with
18 Belarus of more than 100,000 Russian forces in
19 September 2017.

20 (2) Russian leadership reactions to the Euro-
21 pean Deterrence Initiative.

22 (3) Areas of possible joint dialogue with Russia.

23 **SEC. 104. REPORT ON CYBER COUNTERMEASURES.**

24 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
25 gress that the President should promptly and fully imple-

1 ment Executive Order No. 13800 (82 Fed. Reg. 22391;
2 relating to strengthening the cybersecurity of Federal net-
3 works and critical infrastructure) so that Federal depart-
4 ments and agencies can better detect, monitor, and miti-
5 gate cyber attacks as quickly as possible.

6 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date
7 of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit
8 to Congress a report describing each step taken to meet
9 the objectives described in subsection (a) relating to cyber
10 attack response.

11 **SEC. 105. REPORT ON KREMLIN-LINKED CORRUPTION.**

12 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
13 gress that—

14 (1) the intelligence community should dedicate
15 resources to further expose the key networks that
16 the corrupt political class in Russia uses to hide the
17 money it steals; and

18 (2) the President should pursue efforts to stifle
19 Russian use of hidden financial channels, including
20 anonymous shell companies and real estate invest-
21 ments, in a manner similar to the efforts undertaken
22 to tighten banking regulations after the terrorist at-
23 tacks on September 11, 2001.

24 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date
25 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treas-

1 ury, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall sub-
2 mit a report to Congress on assets owned by Russian
3 President Vladimir Putin, Russian oligarchs with close
4 ties to Putin, and senior officials of the Government of
5 the Russian Federation, including—

6 (1) with respect to bank accounts, real estate
7 holdings, and other financial assets, including those
8 outside of Russia, that are owned by or accessible to
9 Putin—

10 (A) the location of such accounts, holdings,
11 or assets; and

12 (B) the contents of such accounts or the
13 amount held through such holdings or assets;

14 (2) the location, size, and contents of any assets
15 of any oligarch listed in the classified annex to the
16 report submitted pursuant to section 241 of the
17 Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanc-
18 tions Act (Public Law 115–44; 131 Stat. 922); and

19 (3) any “front” or shell companies, or other
20 intermediaries, used by senior officials of the Gov-
21 ernment of the Russian Federation to hide assets
22 from public disclosure.

23 (c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (b)
24 shall be submitted in classified form.

1 (d) REASONABLE ATTEMPT TO ISSUE UNCLASSIFIED
2 REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the
3 submission of the report required under subsection (b), the
4 Secretary of the Treasury shall—

5 (1) publish an unclassified version of such re-
6 port on a publicly available website of the Depart-
7 ment of the Treasury; or

8 (2) submit a notification to Congress describing
9 the reasons for which the Secretary has determined
10 that such release is not possible.

11 **SEC. 106. PUBLICIZE RUSSIAN MISDEEDS.**

12 (a) DONBASS RECRUITMENT.—

13 (1) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the
14 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
15 State shall compile and publicly release a list of Rus-
16 sian-based persons, including organizations and their
17 executives, who recruited or otherwise facilitated the
18 transfer of Russian personnel for—

19 (A) the war in the Donbass; or

20 (B) targeting of civilians in Syria.

21 (2) VISA BAN.—Notwithstanding any other pro-
22 vision of law any persons identified in the list re-
23 quired under paragraph (1) shall be prohibited from
24 entry to the United States.

1 (b) REPORT ON ACTIONS BY RUSSIAN PROXIES.—

2 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment
3 of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to Con-
4 gress a list of the following:

5 (1) Persons, including corporations with United
6 States subsidiaries, acting in Europe and the United
7 States as front companies or intermediaries of the
8 Government of Russia, and the executives of such
9 persons.

10 (2) Politicians serving or acting as proxies of
11 the Government of Russia.

12 (3) Russian media entities, including producers
13 and reporters, who—

14 (A) traffic in forgeries, fabrications, and
15 altered media products with intent to obfuscate
16 factual reporting; or

17 (B) instigate conflict and violence in Eu-
18 rope or the United States.

19 (4) Non-Russian persons that have knowingly
20 or negligently provided hardware or other forms of
21 assistance to the Government of Russia that has
22 furthered Russia's efforts to—

23 (A) filter online political content;

24 (B) disrupt cell phone and Internet com-
25 munications;

1 (C) monitor the online activities of Russian
2 citizens; or

3 (D) discriminate against or suppress the
4 activities of independent civil society institu-
5 tions.

6 (5) Each person that—

7 (A) receives subsidies from the Govern-
8 ment of Russia, thereby eroding market oppor-
9 tunities for private businesses;

10 (B) provides financial or material support
11 to Russia-backed forces actively involved in ag-
12 gression against Russia's neighbors;

13 (C) provides financial or material support
14 to propaganda outlets of the Government of
15 Russia that legitimize Russian aggression; or

16 (D) provides financing or material support
17 to political and nongovernmental persons or en-
18 tities, including the United Russia political
19 party, determined by the Secretary of State to
20 be engaged in the suppression of fundamental
21 freedoms in Russia.

22 (c) PREVIOUSLY LISTED ENTITIES.—The lists re-
23 quired under this section may also include entities already
24 identified in the list of specially designated nationals and

1 blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign As-
2 sets Control of the Department of the Treasury.

3 (d) FORM.—The lists required under this section
4 shall be unclassified but may be submitted in classified
5 form.

6 (e) PROVISION.—The Secretary of State shall trans-
7 mit the unclassified lists required under this section to the
8 heads of state of—

- 9 (1) NATO member states;
- 10 (2) Sweden;
- 11 (3) Finland; and
- 12 (4) Ireland.

13 **SEC. 107. REPORT ON ACTIONS RELATING TO UKRANIAN**
14 **ENERGY SECURITY.**

15 (a) REPORT BY SECRETARY OF STATE.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall
17 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
18 a report on actions the Department of State is tak-
19 ing to implement section 257 of the Countering
20 America’s Adversaries through Sanctions Act of
21 2017 (Public Law 115–44; 22 U.S.C. 9546).

22 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report shall include de-
23 tails on the following:

24 (A) Efforts by the Department of State
25 since August 3, 2017, to work with European

1 Union member states and institutions to pro-
2 mote energy security and decrease their depend-
3 ence on Russian sources of energy, including
4 use of the Countering Russian Influence Fund
5 authorized pursuant to section 254 of the
6 Countering America’s Adversaries through
7 Sanctions Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–44; 22
8 U.S.C. 9543).

9 (B) Diplomatic efforts undertaken by the
10 Department of State to oppose directly the
11 Nord Stream 2 pipeline and the Turk Stream
12 pipeline.

13 (C) An estimation of European natural gas
14 supply demand from 2019 through 2023.

15 (b) REPORT BY SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Treasury,
17 in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall
18 submit to the appropriate congressional committees
19 a report on each entity involved in construction of
20 the Nord Stream 2 pipeline or construction of the
21 Turk Stream pipeline.

22 (2) ENTITY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the
23 term “entity”—

24 (A) means an entity organized under the
25 laws of the United States; and

1 (B) includes, with respect to the entity, a
2 sub entity, parent entity, subsidiary, or any
3 other entity.

4 (c) REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTEL-
5 LIGENCE.—The Director of National Intelligence, in co-
6 ordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to
7 the appropriate congressional committees a report on the
8 impact of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline on—

9 (1) United States interests and security objec-
10 tives;

11 (2) European energy security and defense pos-
12 ture;

13 (3) Russian influence in Europe; and

14 (4) Ukraine, including the implications of re-
15 ductions in transit fees as a result of the Nord
16 Stream 2 pipeline.

17 (d) FORM.—The reports required by this section shall
18 be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a clas-
19 sified annex.

20 (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
21 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
22 sional committees” means—

23 (1) in the House of Representatives—

24 (A) the Committee on Armed Services;

25 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs;

- 1 (C) the Committee in Financial Services;
- 2 (D) the Committee on Energy and Com-
- 3 merce;
- 4 (E) the Committee on Oversight and Gov-
- 5 ernment Reform; and
- 6 (F) the Permanent Select Committee on
- 7 Intelligence; and
- 8 (2) in the Senate—
- 9 (A) the Committee on Armed Services;
- 10 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations;
- 11 (C) the Committee on Finance;
- 12 (D) the Committee on Banking, Housing,
- 13 and Urban Affairs;
- 14 (E) the Committee on Homeland Security
- 15 and Governmental Affairs; and
- 16 (F) the Select Committee on Intelligence.

17 **TITLE II—DOMESTIC ACTIONS**

18 **TO COUNTER RUSSIA’S SUB-**

19 **VERSIVE MEASURES AND**

20 **CORRUPT NETWORKS OF IN-**

21 **FLUENCE**

22 **Subtitle A—General Provisions**

23 **SEC. 201. OFFICE OF SANCTIONS POLICY.**

24 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Section 1 of the State De-

25 partment Basic Authorities Act (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is

1 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 section:

3 “(h) COORDINATOR OF SANCTIONS POLICY.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be established
5 within the Department of State a Coordinator for
6 Sanctions Policy, who shall be appointed by the
7 President, by and with the advice and consent of the
8 Senate, and shall report directly to the Secretary of
9 State.

10 “(2) DUTIES.—The Coordinator for Sanctions
11 Policy shall be responsible for the following:

12 “(A) Overseeing the diplomatic aspects of
13 the enforcement of United States and United
14 Nations sanctions, including sanctions with re-
15 spect to Russia, Iran, North Korea, and other
16 countries.

17 “(B) Coordinating with allies regarding the
18 enforcement of such sanctions.

19 “(C) Coordinating determinations with re-
20 spect to such sanctions by the heads of other
21 Federal departments and agencies, including
22 the Secretary of the Treasury and the United
23 States intelligence community.

1 security, political sovereignty, and economic activity of
2 the United States and its allies.

3 “(2) To synchronize the efforts of the intel-
4 ligence community, the Department of Justice, the
5 Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other depart-
6 ments and agencies of the United States with re-
7 spect to countering efforts by Russia to undermine
8 the national security, political sovereignty, and eco-
9 nomic activity of the United States and its allies, in-
10 cluding by—

11 “(A) ensuring that each such element is
12 aware of and coordinating on such efforts; and

13 “(B) overseeing the development and im-
14 plementation of comprehensive and integrated
15 policy responses to such efforts.

16 “(3) In coordination with the relevant elements
17 of the Department of State, the Department of De-
18 fense, the Department of Justice, the intelligence
19 community, and other departments and agencies of
20 the United States—

21 “(A) to develop policy recommendations for
22 the President to detect, deter, and respond to
23 the threats posed by Russia described in para-
24 graph (1), including with respect to covert ac-
25 tivities pursuant to section 503; and

1 “(B) to monitor and assess efforts by Rus-
2 sia to carry out such threats.

3 “(4) In coordination with the head of the Glob-
4 al Engagement Center established by section 1287
5 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
6 Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328), to examine cur-
7 rent and emerging efforts by Russia to use propa-
8 ganda and information operations relating to the
9 threats posed by Russia described in paragraph (1).

10 “(5) To identify and close gaps across the de-
11 partments and agencies of the Federal Government
12 with respect to expertise, readiness, and planning to
13 address the threats posed by Russia described in
14 paragraph (1).

15 “(c) DIRECTOR.—

16 “(1) APPOINTMENT.—There is a Director of
17 the Center, who shall be the head of the Center, and
18 who shall be appointed by the Director of National
19 Intelligence, with the concurrence of the Secretary of
20 State. The Director may not simultaneously serve in
21 any other capacity in the executive branch.

22 “(2) REPORTING.—The Director of the Center
23 shall directly report to the Director of National In-
24 telligence.

1 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director of the
2 Center shall—

3 “(A) ensure that the relevant departments
4 and agencies of the Federal Government par-
5 ticipate in the mission of the Center, including
6 by recruiting detailees from such departments
7 and agencies in accordance with subsection
8 (e)(1); and

9 “(B) have primary responsibility within the
10 United States Government, in coordination with
11 the Director of National Intelligence, for estab-
12 lishing requirements for the collection of intel-
13 ligence related to, or regarding, the threats
14 posed by Russia described in subsection (b)(1),
15 in accordance with applicable provisions of law
16 and Executive orders.

17 “(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—At the direction of the Di-
19 rector of National Intelligence, but not less than
20 once each year, the Director of the Center shall sub-
21 mit to the appropriate congressional committees a
22 report on threats posed by Russia to the national se-
23 curity, political sovereignty, and economic activity of
24 the United States and its allies.

1 “(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—Each report under
2 paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the pe-
3 riod covered by the report, a discussion of the fol-
4 lowing:

5 “(A) The nature of the threats described
6 in such paragraph.

7 “(B) The ability of the United States Gov-
8 ernment to address such threats.

9 “(C) The progress of the Center in achiev-
10 ing its missions.

11 “(D) Recommendations the Director deter-
12 mines necessary for legislative actions to im-
13 prove the ability of the Center to achieve its
14 missions.

15 “(3) FORM.—Each report under paragraph (1)
16 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-
17 clude a classified annex.

18 “(e) EMPLOYEES.—

19 “(1) DETAILEES.—Any Federal Government
20 employee may be detailed to the Center on a reim-
21 bursable or nonreimbursable basis, and such detail
22 shall be without interruption or loss of civil service
23 status or privilege for a period of not more than 8
24 years.

1 “(2) PERSONAL SERVICE CONTRACTORS.—The
2 Director of National Intelligence, in consultation
3 with the Secretary of State, may hire United States
4 citizens or aliens as personal services contractors for
5 purposes of personnel resources of the Center, if—

6 “(A) the Director of National Intelligence
7 determines that existing personnel resources are
8 insufficient;

9 “(B) the period in which services are pro-
10 vided by a personal services contractor, includ-
11 ing options, does not exceed 3 years, unless the
12 Director of National Intelligence determines
13 that exceptional circumstances justify an exten-
14 sion of up to 1 additional year;

15 “(C) not more than 10 United States citi-
16 zens or aliens are employed as personal services
17 contractors under the authority of this para-
18 graph at any time; and

19 “(D) the authority of this paragraph is
20 only used to obtain specialized skills or experi-
21 ence or to respond to urgent needs.

22 “(3) SECURITY CLEARANCES.—Each employee
23 detailed to the Center and contractor of the Center
24 shall have the security clearance appropriate for the
25 assigned duties of the employee or contractor.

1 “(f) BOARD.—

2 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a
3 Board of the National Russian Threat Response
4 Center (in this section referred to as the ‘Board’).

5 “(2) FUNCTIONS.—The Board shall conduct
6 oversight of the Center to ensure the Center is
7 achieving the missions of the Center. In conducting
8 such oversight, upon a majority vote of the members
9 of the Board, the Board may recommend to the Di-
10 rector of National Intelligence that the Director of
11 the Center should be removed for failing to achieve
12 such missions.

13 “(3) MEMBERSHIP.—

14 “(A) APPOINTMENT.—The Board shall
15 consist of 6 members. The head of each depart-
16 ment or agency of the Federal Government
17 specified in subparagraph (B) shall appoint a
18 senior official from that department or agency,
19 who shall be a member of the Senior Executive
20 Service, as a member.

21 “(B) DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES REP-
22 RESENTED.—The department or agency of the
23 Federal Government specified in this subpara-
24 graph are the following:

25 “(i) The Department of State.

1 “(ii) The Department of Defense.

2 “(iii) The Department of Justice.

3 “(iv) The Department of the Treas-
4 ury.

5 “(v) The Department of Homeland
6 Security.

7 “(vi) The Central Intelligence Agency.

8 “(4) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet not
9 less than biannually and shall be convened by the
10 member appointed by the Secretary of State.

11 “(g) INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT.—The Director
12 of the Center may convene biannual conferences to coordi-
13 nate international efforts against threats posed by Russia
14 described in subsection (b)(1).

15 “(h) TERMINATION.—The Center shall terminate on
16 the date that is 8 years after the date of the enactment
17 of this section.

18 “(i) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
19 DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congres-
20 sional committees’ means—

21 “(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

22 “(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
23 Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee
24 on Oversight and Government Reform of the House
25 of Representatives; and

1 “(3) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the
2 Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee
3 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of
4 the Senate.”.

5 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
6 at the beginning of such Act is amended by inserting after
7 the item relating to section 119B the following new item:
 “Sec. 119C. National Russian Threat Response Center.”.

8 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 507(a) of
9 such Act (50 U.S.C. 3106) is amended by adding at the
10 end the following new paragraph:

11 “(6) An annual report submitted under section
12 119C(d)(1).”.

13 (d) FUNDING.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other au-
15 thority of the Director of National Intelligence to
16 transfer or reprogram funds, the Director may
17 transfer not more than \$10,000,000 in each of fiscal
18 years 2019 and 2020 to carry out the functions of
19 the National Russian Threat Response Center estab-
20 lished by section 119C of the National Security Act
21 of 1947, as added by subsection (a), during such fis-
22 cal years.

23 (2) NOTICE.—The Director of National Intel-
24 ligence shall notify the congressional intelligence
25 committees (as defined in section 3 of the National

1 Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003)) of a pro-
2 posed transfer under paragraph (1) not less than 15
3 days prior to making such transfer.

4 (3) INAPPLICABILITY OF REPROGRAMMING RE-
5 QUIREMENTS.—The authority to transfer amounts
6 under paragraph (1) shall not be subject to any
7 transfer or reprogramming requirements under any
8 other provision of law.

9 **SEC. 203. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE RELATING TO IL-**
10 **LICIT RUSSIAN FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES IN EU-**
11 **ROPE.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the National Security
13 Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3021 et seq.) is amended by add-
14 ing at the end the following new section:

15 **“SEC. 119C. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE RELATING TO IL-**
16 **LICIT RUSSIAN FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES IN EU-**
17 **ROPE.**

18 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall estab-
19 lish an interagency task force relating to illicit Russian
20 financial activities in Europe (in this section referred to
21 as the ‘task force’).

22 “(b) HEAD OF TASK FORCE.—The head of the task
23 force shall be a senior director, who shall be appointed
24 by the President and who shall report to the Assistant

1 to the President for National Security Affairs (commonly
2 referred to as the ‘National Security Advisor’).

3 “(c) FUNCTIONS.—The task force shall carry out the
4 following functions:

5 “(1) In coordination with the intelligence com-
6 munity, synchronize intelligence analysis relating to
7 financial networks of the Russian Federation that
8 operate in European countries relating to invest-
9 ments in the real estate, energy, media, infrastruc-
10 ture, philanthropy, civil society, sports, nongovern-
11 mental organization, and other sectors.

12 “(2) In coordination with the Secretary of the
13 Treasury, ensure training of United States liaison
14 officers to serve in key United States diplomatic and
15 consular posts in European countries to cooperate
16 with foreign partners in the uncovering and prosecu-
17 tion of illicit Russian financial activity.

18 “(d) PERSONNEL.—The task force is authorized to
19 accept details or assignments of any personnel on a reim-
20 bursable or nonreimbursable basis for the purpose of car-
21 rying out this section, and the head of any Federal agency
22 is authorized to detail or assign personnel of such agency
23 on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis to the task
24 force for purposes of carrying out this section.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
2 for the National Security Act of 1947 is amended by in-
3 serting after the item relating to section 119B the fol-
4 lowing new item:

“Sec. 119C. Interagency task force relating to illicit Russian financial activities
in Europe.”.

5 **SEC. 204. PROHIBITION ON LICENSES OR OTHER AUTHOR-**
6 **IZATION FOR UNITED STATES PERSONS TO**
7 **ENGAGE IN ACTIVITIES RELATING TO CER-**
8 **TAIN PROJECTS TO PRODUCE OIL IN THE**
9 **RUSSIAN FEDERATION.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Effective as of the date of the en-
11 actment of this Act—

12 (1) the Secretary of the Treasury, acting di-
13 rectly or through any person, agency, or instrumen-
14 tality, may not provide a license or other authoriza-
15 tion pursuant to Directive 4 under Executive Order
16 13662 to engage in any of the activities prohibited
17 under such Directive; and

18 (2) any license or other authorization provided
19 before such date of enactment by the Secretary of
20 the Treasury, acting directly or through any person,
21 agency, or instrumentality, pursuant to Directive 4
22 under Executive Order 13662 to engage in any of
23 the activities prohibited under such Directive shall
24 have no force or effect.

1 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Direc-
2 tive 4 under Executive Order 13662” means Directive 4
3 of September 12, 2014, under Executive Order 13662 of
4 March 20, 2014 (79 Fed. Reg. 16169; relating to Blocking
5 Property of Additional Persons Contributing to the Situa-
6 tion in Ukraine) or any successor Directive or other Exec-
7 utive action.

8 **Subtitle B—SECURE Our**
9 **Democracy Act**

10 **SEC. 211. SHORT TITLE.**

11 This subtitle may be cited as the “Safeguard our
12 Elections and Combat Unlawful Interference in Our De-
13 mocracy Act” or the “SECURE Our Democracy Act”.

14 **SEC. 212. DEFINITIONS.**

15 In this subtitle:

16 (1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms “admitted”
17 and “alien” have the meanings given such terms in
18 section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act
19 (8 U.S.C. 1101).

20 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
21 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
22 mittees” means—

23 (A) in the House of Representatives—

24 (i) the Committee on Foreign Affairs;

1 (ii) the Committee on Homeland Se-
2 curity;

3 (iii) the Committee on Financial Serv-
4 ices;

5 (iv) the Committee on the Judiciary;
6 and

7 (v) the Permanent Select Committee
8 on Intelligence; and

9 (B) in the Senate—

10 (i) the Committee on Foreign Rela-
11 tions;

12 (ii) the Committee on Homeland Se-
13 curity and Governmental Affairs;

14 (iii) the Committee on Banking,
15 Housing, and Urban Affairs;

16 (iv) the Committee on the Judiciary;
17 and

18 (v) the Select Committee on Intel-
19 ligence.

20 (3) FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term “fi-
21 nancial institution” has the meaning given such
22 term in section 5312 of title 31, United States Code.

23 (4) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign per-
24 son” means a person that is not a United States
25 person.

1 (5) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
2 “United States person” means—

3 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-
4 fully admitted for permanent residence to the
5 United States; or

6 (B) an entity organized under the laws of
7 the United States or of any jurisdiction within
8 the United States, including a foreign branch of
9 such an entity.

10 **SEC. 213. IDENTIFICATION OF FOREIGN PERSONS RESPON-**
11 **SIBLE FOR ACTIONS TO UNLAWFULLY AC-**
12 **CESS, DISRUPT, INFLUENCE, OR IN ANY WAY**
13 **ALTER INFORMATION OR INFORMATION SYS-**
14 **TEMS RELATED TO UNITED STATES POLIT-**
15 **ICAL PARTIES OR ELECTIONS FOR FEDERAL**
16 **OFFICE.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
18 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall
19 transmit to the appropriate congressional committees and
20 the Secretary of State a list of each foreign person that
21 the President, in consultation with the heads of other rel-
22 evant Federal departments and agencies, determines—

23 (1) was, at any time since January 1, 2015,
24 knowingly involved in actions to unlawfully access,
25 disrupt, misappropriate, influence, or in any way

1 alter information or information systems related to
2 United States political parties, candidates in elec-
3 tions for Federal office, or the administration of
4 elections for Federal office; or

5 (2) worked or acted as an agent or instrumen-
6 tality of or on behalf of or was otherwise associated
7 with such a foreign person in a matter relating to
8 an action described in paragraph (1).

9 (b) UPDATES.—The President shall transmit to the
10 appropriate congressional committees and the Secretary of
11 State an update of the list required under subsection (a)
12 as new information becomes available.

13 (c) FORM.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
15 graph (2), the list required under subsection (a) and
16 any updates under subsection (b) shall be submitted
17 in unclassified form.

18 (2) EXCEPTION.—The name of a foreign person
19 to be included in the list required under subsection
20 (a) and any updates under subsection (b) may be
21 submitted in a classified annex only if the Presi-
22 dent—

23 (A) determines that it is in the national se-
24 curity interests of the United States to do so;
25 and

1 (B) 15 days prior to submitting any such
2 name in such a classified annex, provides to the
3 appropriate congressional committees notice of,
4 and a justification for, including or continuing
5 to include any such foreign person in any such
6 classified annex despite any publicly available
7 information indicating that such foreign person
8 is described in paragraph (1) or (2) of such
9 subsection.

10 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY; NONAPPLICABILITY
11 OF CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENT WITH RESPECT
12 TO VISA RECORDS.—The unclassified portion of the
13 list required under subsection (a), including any up-
14 dates thereto, shall be made available to the public
15 and published in the Federal Register, without re-
16 gard to the requirements of section 222(f) of the Im-
17 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1202(f))
18 with respect to confidentiality of records pertaining
19 to the issuance or refusal of visas or permits to
20 enter the United States.

21 **SEC. 214. INADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN ALIENS.**

22 (a) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS.—An alien is ineligible
23 to receive a visa to enter the United States and ineligible
24 to be admitted to the United States if such alien is a for-

1 eign person on the list required under section 213(a) or
2 any update thereto.

3 (b) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—The Secretary of
4 State shall revoke, in accordance with section 221(i) of
5 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)),
6 the visa or other documentation of any alien who is a for-
7 eign person on the list required under section 213(a) or
8 any update thereto, and who would therefore be ineligible
9 to receive such a visa or documentation under subsection
10 (a) of this section.

11 (c) APPLICABILITY TO FOREIGN ENTITIES AND FOR-
12 EIGN GOVERNMENTS.—Subsections (a) and (b) of this
13 section shall apply to aliens who are officials of, agents
14 or instrumentalities of, working or acting on behalf of, or
15 otherwise associated with a foreign entity or foreign gov-
16 ernment that is a foreign person included on the list re-
17 quired under section 213(a) or any update thereto, if the
18 President determines that such aliens have knowingly au-
19 thorized, conspired to commit, been responsible for, en-
20 gaged in, or otherwise assisted or facilitated the actions
21 described in such section 213(a).

22 (d) WAIVER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.—
23 The Secretary of State may waive the application of sub-
24 section (a) or (b) in the case of an alien if—

1 (1) the Secretary determines that such a waiv-
2 er—

3 (A) is necessary to permit the United
4 States to comply with the Agreement between
5 the United Nations and the United States of
6 America regarding the Headquarters of the
7 United Nations, signed June 26, 1947, and en-
8 tered into force November 21, 1947, or other
9 applicable international obligations of the
10 United States; or

11 (B) is in the national security interests of
12 the United States; and

13 (2) not later than 15 days prior to granting
14 such a waiver, the Secretary provides to the appro-
15 priate congressional committees notice of, and a jus-
16 tification for, such waiver.

17 **SEC. 215. FINANCIAL MEASURES.**

18 (a) FREEZING OF ASSETS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President, acting
20 through the Secretary of the Treasury, shall exercise
21 all powers granted by the International Emergency
22 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) (ex-
23 cept that the requirements of section 202 of such
24 Act (50 U.S.C. 1701) shall not apply) to the extent
25 necessary to freeze and prohibit all transactions in

1 all property and interests in property of a foreign
2 person that is on the list required under section
3 213(a), including any update thereto, of this Act if
4 such property or interests in property are in the
5 United States, are or come within the United States,
6 or are or come within the possession or control of a
7 United States person.

8 (2) APPLICABILITY TO FOREIGN ENTITIES AND
9 FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—Paragraph (1) shall
10 apply to aliens who are officials of, agents or instru-
11 mentalities of, working or acting on behalf of, or
12 otherwise associated with a foreign entity or foreign
13 government that is a foreign person included on the
14 list required under section 213(a), including any up-
15 date thereto, if the Director of National Intelligence
16 determines that such aliens have knowingly author-
17 ized, conspired to commit, been responsible for, en-
18 gaged in, or otherwise assisted or facilitated the ac-
19 tions described in such section 213(a).

20 (b) WAIVER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.—
21 The Secretary of the Treasury may waive the application
22 of subsection (a) if—

23 (1) the Secretary determines that such a waiver
24 is in the national security interests of the United
25 States; and

1 (2) not less than 15 days prior to granting such
2 a waiver, the Secretary provides to the appropriate
3 congressional committees notice of, and a justifica-
4 tion for, such waiver.

5 (c) ENFORCEMENT.—

6 (1) PENALTIES.—A foreign person that vio-
7 lates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or
8 causes a violation of this section or any regulation,
9 license, or order issued to carry out this section shall
10 be subject to the penalties specified in subsections
11 (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International
12 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705)
13 to the same extent as a person that commits an un-
14 lawful act described in subsection (a) of such sec-
15 tion.

16 (2) APPLICABILITY TO FOREIGN ENTITIES AND
17 FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.—Paragraph (1) shall
18 apply to aliens who are officials of, agents or instru-
19 mentalities of, working or acting on behalf of, or
20 otherwise associated with a foreign entity or foreign
21 government that is a foreign person included on the
22 list required under section 213(a), including any up-
23 date thereto, if the Director of National Intelligence
24 determines that such aliens have knowingly author-
25 ized, conspired to commit, been responsible for, en-

1 gaged in, or otherwise assisted or facilitated the ac-
2 tions described in such section 213(a).

3 (3) REQUIREMENTS FOR FINANCIAL INSTITU-
4 TIONS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of
5 the enactment of this Act, the President, acting
6 through the Secretary of the Treasury, shall pre-
7 scribe or amend regulations as needed to require
8 each financial institution that is a United States
9 person and has within its possession or control as-
10 sets that are property or interests in property of a
11 foreign person that is on the list required under sec-
12 tion 213(a), including any update thereto, if such
13 property or interests in property are in the United
14 States, are or come within the United States, or are
15 or come within the possession or control of a United
16 States person, to certify to the Secretary that, to the
17 best of the knowledge of such financial institution,
18 such financial institution has frozen all assets within
19 the possession or control of such financial institution
20 that are required to be frozen pursuant to subsection
21 (a) of this section.

22 (d) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The President, act-
23 ing through the Secretary of the Treasury, shall issue such
24 regulations, licenses, and orders as are necessary to carry
25 out this section.

1 **SEC. 216. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of National Intel-
3 ligence, in consultation with the heads of other relevant
4 Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the ap-
5 propriate congressional committees a report on the actions
6 taken to carry out this subtitle, including—

7 (1) a description of each foreign person on the
8 list required under section 213(a), including any up-
9 date thereto;

10 (2) the dates on which such foreign persons
11 were added to such list; and

12 (3) a description of the actions described in
13 such section that were undertaken by each such for-
14 eign person.

15 (b) TIMING.—The Director of National Intelligence
16 shall submit the first report required under this section
17 not later than one year after the date of the enactment
18 of this Act. The Director shall submit subsequent reports
19 under this section not later than 60 days after the date
20 of each regularly scheduled general election for Federal
21 office, beginning with the election held in 2018.

22 (c) FORM.—Each report required under subsection
23 (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may in-
24 clude a classified annex if the Director of National Intel-
25 ligence determines and includes in such report a specific
26 national security justification for such classified annex.

1 **Subtitle C—Preventing Cyber In-**
2 **trusion Into Election Infrastruc-**
3 **ture**

4 **SEC. 221. ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNATION.**

5 Subparagraph (J) of section 2001(3) of the Home-
6 land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 601(3)) is amended
7 by inserting “, including election infrastructure” before
8 the period at the end.

9 **SEC. 222. TIMELY THREAT INFORMATION.**

10 Subsection (d) of section 201 of the Homeland Secu-
11 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121) is amended by adding
12 at the end the following new paragraph:

13 “(27) To provide timely threat information re-
14 garding election infrastructure to the chief State
15 election official of the State with respect to which
16 such information pertains.”.

17 **SEC. 223. PRE-ELECTION THREAT ASSESSMENTS.**

18 (a) **SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT BY DNI.**—Not
19 later than 180 days before the date of each regularly
20 scheduled general election for Federal office, the Director
21 of National Intelligence shall submit an assessment of the
22 full scope of threats to election infrastructure, including
23 cybersecurity threats posed by State actors and terrorist
24 groups, and recommendations to address or mitigate the
25 threats, as developed by the Secretary of Homeland Secu-

1 rity and Chairman of the Election Assistance Commission,
2 to—

3 (1) the chief State election official of each
4 State;

5 (2) the Committees on Homeland Security and
6 House Administration of the House of Representa-
7 tives and the Committees on Homeland Security and
8 Governmental Affairs and Rules and Administration
9 of the Senate; and

10 (3) any other appropriate congressional com-
11 mittees.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) shall apply
13 with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for
14 Federal office held in November 2018 and each succeeding
15 regularly scheduled general election for Federal office.

16 **SEC. 224. NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN CYBER**
17 **INTRUSIONS AND ACTIVE MEASURES CAM-**
18 **PAIGNS DIRECTED AT ELECTIONS FOR FED-**
19 **ERAL OFFICES.**

20 (a) DETERMINATIONS OF SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN
21 CYBER INTRUSIONS AND ACTIVE MEASURES CAM-
22 PAIGNS.—The Director of National Intelligence, the Di-
23 rector of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the
24 Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly carry out

1 subsection (b) if such Directors and the Secretary jointly
2 determine—

3 (1) that on or after the date of the enactment
4 of this Act, a significant foreign cyber intrusion or
5 active measures campaign intended to influence an
6 upcoming election for any Federal office has oc-
7 curred or is occurring; and

8 (2) with moderate or high confidence, that such
9 intrusion or campaign can be attributed to a foreign
10 state or to a foreign nonstate person, group, or other
11 entity.

12 (b) BRIEFING.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 14 days after
14 making a determination under subsection (a), the
15 Director of National Intelligence, the Director of the
16 Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Secretary
17 of Homeland Security shall jointly provide a briefing
18 to the congressional leadership, the congressional in-
19 telligence committees and, consistent with the pro-
20 tection of sources and methods, the other appro-
21 priate congressional committees. The briefing shall
22 be classified and address, at a minimum, the fol-
23 lowing:

1 (A) A description of the significant foreign
2 cyber intrusion or active measures campaign, as
3 the case may be, covered by the determination.

4 (B) An identification of the foreign state
5 or foreign nonstate person, group, or other enti-
6 ty, to which such intrusion or campaign has
7 been attributed.

8 (C) The desirability and feasibility of the
9 public release of information about the cyber in-
10 trusion or active measures campaign.

11 (D) Any other information such Directors
12 and the Secretary jointly determine appropriate.

13 (2) ELECTRONIC ELECTION INFRASTRUCTURE
14 BRIEFINGS.—With respect to a significant foreign
15 cyber intrusion covered by a determination under
16 subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security,
17 in consultation with the Director of National Intel-
18 ligence and the Director of the Federal Bureau of
19 Investigation, shall offer to the owner or operator of
20 any electronic election infrastructure directly af-
21 fected by such intrusion, a briefing on such intru-
22 sion, including any steps that may be taken to miti-
23 gate such intrusion. Such briefing may be classified
24 and made available only to individuals with appro-
25 priate security clearances.

1 (3) PROTECTION OF SOURCES AND METH-
2 ODS.—This subsection shall be carried out in a man-
3 ner that is consistent with the protection of sources
4 and methods.

5 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

6 (1) ACTIVE MEASURES CAMPAIGN.—The term
7 “active measures campaign” means a foreign semi-
8 covert or covert intelligence operation.

9 (2) CANDIDATE, ELECTION, AND POLITICAL
10 PARTY.—The terms “candidate”, “election”, and
11 “political party” have the meanings given those
12 terms in section 301 of the Federal Election Cam-
13 paign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101).

14 (3) CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP.—The term
15 “congressional leadership” includes the following:

16 (A) The majority leader of the Senate.

17 (B) The minority leader of the Senate.

18 (C) The Speaker of the House of Rep-
19 resentatives.

20 (D) The minority leader of the House of
21 Representatives.

22 (4) CYBER INTRUSION.—The term “cyber in-
23 trusion” means an electronic occurrence that actu-
24 ally or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful au-
25 thority, electronic election infrastructure, or the in-

1 tegrity, confidentiality, or availability of information
2 within such infrastructure.

3 (5) ELECTRONIC ELECTION INFRASTRUC-
4 TURE.—The term “electronic election infrastruc-
5 ture” means an electronic information system of any
6 of the following that is related to an election for
7 Federal office:

8 (A) The Federal Government.

9 (B) A State or local government.

10 (C) A political party.

11 (D) The election campaign of a candidate.

12 (6) FEDERAL OFFICE.—The term “Federal of-
13 fice” has the meaning given that term in section 301
14 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52
15 U.S.C. 30101).

16 (7) HIGH CONFIDENCE.—The term “high con-
17 fidence”, with respect to a determination, means
18 that the determination is based on high-quality in-
19 formation from multiple sources.

20 (8) MODERATE CONFIDENCE.—The term “mod-
21 erate confidence”, with respect to a determination,
22 means that a determination is credibly sourced and
23 plausible but not of sufficient quality or corrobo-
24 rated sufficiently to warrant a higher level of con-
25 fidence.

1 (9) OTHER APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COM-
2 MITTEES.—The term “other appropriate congres-
3 sional committees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Armed Services and
5 the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
6 ernmental Affairs of the Senate; and

7 (B) the Committee on Armed Services and
8 the Committee on Homeland Security of the
9 House of Representatives.

10 **Subtitle D—Honest Ads Act**

11 **SEC. 231. SHORT TITLE.**

12 This subtitle may be cited as the “Honest Ads Act”.

13 **SEC. 232. PURPOSE.**

14 The purpose of this subtitle is to enhance the integ-
15 rity of American democracy and national security by im-
16 proving disclosure requirements for online political adver-
17 tisements in order to uphold the United States Supreme
18 Court’s well-established standard that the electorate bears
19 the right to be fully informed.

20 **SEC. 233. FINDINGS.**

21 Congress makes the following findings:

22 (1) On January 6, 2017, the Office of the Di-
23 rector of National Intelligence published a report ti-
24 tled “Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in
25 Recent U.S. Elections”, noting that “Russian Presi-

1 dent Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign
2 in 2016 aimed at the U.S. Presidential election
3 . . .”. Moscow’s influence campaign followed a Rus-
4 sian messaging strategy that blends covert intel-
5 ligence operation—such as cyber activity—with overt
6 efforts by Russian Government agencies, State-fund-
7 ed media, third-party intermediaries, and paid social
8 media users or “trolls.”

9 (2) On November 24, 2016, the Washington
10 Post reported findings from 2 teams of independent
11 researchers that concluded Russians “exploited
12 American-made technology platforms to attack U.S.
13 democracy at a particularly vulnerable moment . . .
14 as part of a broadly effective strategy of sowing dis-
15 trust in U.S. democracy and its leaders.”.

16 (3) Findings from a 2017 study on the manipu-
17 lation of public opinion through social media con-
18 ducted by the Computational Propaganda Research
19 Project at the Oxford Internet Institute found that
20 the Kremlin is using pro-Russian bots to manipulate
21 public discourse to a highly targeted audience. With
22 a sample of nearly 1,300,000 tweets, researchers
23 found that in the 2016 election’s 3 decisive States,
24 propaganda constituted 40 percent of the sampled
25 election-related tweets that went to Pennsylvanians,

1 34 percent to Michigan voters, and 30 percent to
2 those in Wisconsin. In other swing States, the figure
3 reached 42 percent in Missouri, 41 percent in Flor-
4 ida, 40 percent in North Carolina, 38 percent in
5 Colorado, and 35 percent in Ohio.

6 (4) On September 6, 2017, the Nation’s largest
7 social media platform disclosed that between June
8 2015 and May 2017, Russian entities purchased
9 \$100,000 in political advertisements, publishing
10 roughly 3,000 ads linked to fake accounts associated
11 with the Internet Research Agency, a pro-Kremlin
12 organization. According to the company, the ads
13 purchased focused “on amplifying divisive social and
14 political messages . . .”.

15 (5) In 2002, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform
16 Act became law, establishing disclosure requirements
17 for political advertisements distributed from a tele-
18 vision or radio broadcast station or provider of cable
19 or satellite television. In 2003, the Supreme Court
20 upheld regulations on electioneering communications
21 established under the Act, noting that such require-
22 ments “provide the electorate with information and
23 insure that the voters are fully informed about the
24 person or group who is speaking.”.

1 (6) According to a study from Borrell Associ-
2 ates, in 2016, \$1,415,000,000 was spent on online
3 advertising, more than quadruple the amount in
4 2012.

5 (7) The reach of a few large internet plat-
6 forms—larger than any broadcast, satellite, or cable
7 provider—has greatly facilitated the scope and effec-
8 tiveness of disinformation campaigns. For instance,
9 the largest platform has over 210,000,000 American
10 users—over 160,000,000 of them on a daily basis.
11 By contrast, the largest cable television provider has
12 22,430,000 subscribers, while the largest satellite
13 television provider has 21,000,000 subscribers. And
14 the most-watched television broadcast in U.S. his-
15 tory had 118,000,000 viewers.

16 (8) The public nature of broadcast television,
17 radio, and satellite ensures a level of publicity for
18 any political advertisement. These communications
19 are accessible to the press, fact-checkers, and polit-
20 ical opponents; this creates strong disincentives for
21 a candidate to disseminate materially false, inflam-
22 matory, or contradictory messages to the public. So-
23 cial media platforms, in contrast, can target portions
24 of the electorate with direct, ephemeral advertise-
25 ments often on the basis of private information the

1 platform has on individuals, enabling political adver-
2 tisements that are contradictory, racially or socially
3 inflammatory, or materially false.

4 (9) According to comScore, 2 companies own
5 eight of the 10 most popular smartphone applica-
6 tions as of June 2017, including the most popular
7 social media and email services—which deliver infor-
8 mation and news to users without requiring
9 proactivity by the user. Those same 2 companies ac-
10 counted for 99 percent of revenue growth from digi-
11 tal advertising in 2016, including 77 percent of
12 gross spending. Seventy-nine percent of online
13 Americans—representing 68 percent of all Ameri-
14 cans—use the single largest social network, while 66
15 percent of these users are most likely to get their
16 news from that site.

17 (10) In its 2006 rulemaking, the Federal Elec-
18 tion Commission noted that only 18 percent of all
19 Americans cited the internet as their leading source
20 of news about the 2004 Presidential election; by con-
21 trast, the Pew Research Center found that 65 per-
22 cent of Americans identified an internet-based
23 source as their leading source of information for the
24 2016 election.

1 (11) The Federal Election Commission, the
2 independent Federal agency charged with protecting
3 the integrity of the Federal campaign finance proc-
4 ess by providing transparency and administering
5 campaign finance laws, has failed to take action to
6 address online political advertisements.

7 (12) In testimony before the Senate Select
8 Committee on Intelligence titled, “Disinformation: A
9 Primer in Russian Active Measures and Influence
10 Campaigns,” multiple expert witnesses testified that
11 while the disinformation tactics of foreign adver-
12 saries have not necessarily changed, social media
13 services now provide “platform[s] practically pur-
14 pose-built for active measures[.]” Similarly, as Gen.
15 (RET) Keith B. Alexander, the former Director of
16 the National Security Agency, testified, during the
17 Cold War “if the Soviet Union sought to manipulate
18 information flow, it would have to do so principally
19 through its own propaganda outlets or through ac-
20 tive measures that would generate specific news:
21 planting of leaflets, inciting of violence, creation of
22 other false materials and narratives. But the news
23 itself was hard to manipulate because it would have
24 required actual control of the organs of media, which
25 took long-term efforts to penetrate. Today, however,

1 because the clear majority of the information on so-
2 cial media sites is uncurated and there is a rapid
3 proliferation of information sources and other sites
4 that can reinforce information, there is an increasing
5 likelihood that the information available to average
6 consumers may be inaccurate (whether intentionally
7 or otherwise) and may be more easily manipulable
8 than in prior eras.”.

9 (13) Current regulations on political advertise-
10 ments do not provide sufficient transparency to up-
11 hold the public’s right to be fully informed about po-
12 litical advertisements made online.

13 **SEC. 234. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

14 It is the sense of Congress that—

15 (1) the dramatic increase in digital political ad-
16 vertisements, and the growing centrality of online
17 platforms in the lives of Americans, requires the
18 Congress and the Federal Election Commission to
19 take meaningful action to ensure that laws and reg-
20 ulations provide the accountability and transparency
21 that is fundamental to our democracy;

22 (2) free and fair elections require both trans-
23 parency and accountability which give the public a
24 right to know the true sources of funding for polit-
25 ical advertisements in order to make informed polit-

1 ical choices and hold elected officials accountable;
2 and

3 (3) transparency of funding for political adver-
4 tisements is essential to enforce other campaign fi-
5 nance laws, including the prohibition on campaign
6 spending by foreign nationals.

7 **SEC. 235. EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF PUBLIC COMMU-
8 NICATION.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (22) of section 301 of
10 the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C.
11 30101(22)) is amended by striking “or satellite commu-
12 nication” and inserting “satellite, paid internet, or paid
13 digital communication”.

14 (b) TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDI-
15 TURES.—Section 301 of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30101) is
16 amended—

17 (1) in paragraph (8)(B)—

18 (A) by striking “on broadcasting stations,
19 or in newspapers, magazines, or similar types of
20 general public political advertising” in clause
21 (v) and inserting “in any public communica-
22 tion”;

23 (B) by striking “broadcasting, newspaper,
24 magazine, billboard, direct mail, or similar type
25 of general public communication or political ad-

1 vertising” in clause (ix)(1) and inserting “pub-
2 lic communication”; and

3 (C) by striking “but not including the use
4 of broadcasting, newspapers, magazines, bill-
5 boards, direct mail, or similar types of general
6 public communication or political advertising”
7 in clause (x) and inserting “but not including
8 use in any public communication”; and
9 (2) in paragraph (9)(B)—

10 (A) by striking clause (i) and inserting the
11 following:

12 “(i) any news story, commentary, or
13 editorial distributed through the facilities
14 of any broadcasting station or any print,
15 online, or digital newspaper, magazine,
16 blog, publication, or periodical, unless such
17 broadcasting, print, online, or digital facili-
18 ties are owned or controlled by any polit-
19 ical party, political committee, or can-
20 didate;” and

21 (B) by striking “on broadcasting stations,
22 or in newspapers, magazines, or similar types of
23 general public political advertising” in clause
24 (iv) and inserting “in any public communica-
25 tion”.

1 (c) DISCLOSURE AND DISCLAIMER STATEMENTS.—
2 Subsection (a) of section 318 of such Act (52 U.S.C.
3 30120) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “financing any communication
5 through any broadcasting station, newspaper, maga-
6 zine, outdoor advertising facility, mailing, or any
7 other type of general public political advertising”
8 and inserting “financing any public communication”;
9 and

10 (2) by striking “solicits any contribution
11 through any broadcasting station, newspaper, maga-
12 zine, outdoor advertising facility, mailing, or any
13 other type of general public political advertising”
14 and inserting “solicits any contribution through any
15 public communication”.

16 **SEC. 236. EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF ELECTIONEERING**
17 **COMMUNICATION.**

18 (a) EXPANSION TO ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS.—

19 (1) APPLICATION TO QUALIFIED INTERNET AND
20 DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of
22 section 304(f)(3) of the Federal Election Cam-
23 paign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104(f)(3)(A))
24 is amended by striking “or satellite communica-
25 tion” each place it appears in clauses (i) and

1 (ii) and inserting “satellite, or qualified internet
2 or digital communication”.

3 (B) QUALIFIED INTERNET OR DIGITAL
4 COMMUNICATION.—Paragraph (3) of section
5 304(f) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30104(f)) is
6 amended by adding at the end the following
7 new subparagraph:

8 “(D) QUALIFIED INTERNET OR DIGITAL
9 COMMUNICATION.—The term ‘qualified internet
10 or digital communication’ means any commu-
11 nication which is placed or promoted for a fee
12 on an online platform (as defined in subsection
13 (j)(3)).”.

14 (2) NONAPPLICATION OF RELEVANT ELEC-
15 TORATE TO ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS.—Section
16 304(f)(3)(A)(i)(III) of such Act (52 U.S.C.
17 30104(f)(3)(A)(i)(III)) is amended by inserting “any
18 broadcast, cable, or satellite” before “communica-
19 tion”.

20 (3) NEWS EXEMPTION.—Section
21 304(f)(3)(B)(i) of such Act (52 U.S.C.
22 30104(f)(3)(B)(i)) is amended to read as follows:

23 “(i) a communication appearing in a
24 news story, commentary, or editorial dis-
25 tributed through the facilities of any

1 broadcasting station or any online or dig-
2 ital newspaper, magazine, blog, publica-
3 tion, or periodical, unless such broad-
4 casting, online, or digital facilities are
5 owned or controlled by any political party,
6 political committee, or candidate;”.

7 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 this section shall apply with respect to communications
9 made on or after January 1, 2018.

10 **SEC. 237. APPLICATION OF DISCLAIMER STATEMENTS TO**
11 **ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS.**

12 (a) CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS MANNER REQUIRE-
13 MENT.—Subsection (a) of section 318 of the Federal Elec-
14 tion Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30120(a)) is
15 amended—

16 (1) by striking “shall clearly state” each place
17 it appears in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) and in-
18 serting “shall state in a clear and conspicuous man-
19 ner”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following flush
21 sentence: “For purposes of this subsection, a com-
22 munication does not make a statement in a clear
23 and conspicuous manner if it is difficult to read or
24 hear or if the placement is easily overlooked.”.

1 (b) SPECIAL RULES FOR QUALIFIED INTERNET OR
2 DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 318 of such Act (52
4 U.S.C. 30120) is amended by adding at the end the
5 following new subsection:

6 “(e) SPECIAL RULES QUALIFIED INTERNET OR DIG-
7 ITAL COMMUNICATIONS.—

8 “(1) SPECIAL RULES WITH RESPECT TO STATE-
9 MENTS.—In the case of any qualified internet or
10 digital communication (as defined in section
11 304(f)(3)(D)) which is disseminated through a me-
12 dium in which the provision of all of the information
13 specified in this section is not possible, the commu-
14 nication shall, in a clear and conspicuous manner—

15 “(A) state the name of the person who
16 paid for the communication; and

17 “(B) provide a means for the recipient of
18 the communication to obtain the remainder of
19 the information required under this section with
20 minimal effort and without receiving or viewing
21 any additional material other than such re-
22 quired information.

23 “(2) SAFE HARBOR FOR DETERMINING CLEAR
24 AND CONSPICUOUS MANNER.—A statement in quali-
25 fied internet or digital communication (as defined in

1 section 304(f)(3)(D)) shall be considered to be made
2 in a clear and conspicuous manner as provided in
3 subsection (a) if the communication meets the fol-
4 lowing requirements:

5 “(A) TEXT OR GRAPHIC COMMUNICA-
6 TIONS.—In the case of a text or graphic com-
7 munication, the statement—

8 “(i) appears in letters at least as large
9 as the majority of the text in the commu-
10 nication; and

11 “(ii) meets the requirements of para-
12 graphs (2) and (3) of subsection (c).

13 “(B) AUDIO COMMUNICATIONS.—In the
14 case of an audio communication, the statement
15 is spoken in a clearly audible and intelligible
16 manner at the beginning or end of the commu-
17 nication and lasts at least 3 seconds.

18 “(C) VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS.—In the
19 case of a video communication which also in-
20 cludes audio, the statement—

21 “(i) is included at either the beginning
22 or the end of the communication; and

23 “(ii) is made both in—

24 “(I) a written format that meets
25 the requirements of subparagraph (A)

1 and appears for at least 4 seconds;

2 and

3 “(II) an audible format that
4 meets the requirements of subpara-
5 graph (B).

6 “(D) OTHER COMMUNICATIONS.—In the
7 case of any other type of communication, the
8 statement is at least as clear and conspicuous
9 as the statement specified in subparagraphs
10 (A), (B), or (C).”.

11 (2) NONAPPLICATION OF CERTAIN EXCEP-
12 TIONS.—The exceptions provided in section
13 110.11(f)(1)(i) and (ii) of title 11, Code of Federal
14 Regulations, or any successor to such rules, shall
15 have no application to qualified internet or digital
16 communications (as defined in section 304(f)(3)(D)
17 of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971).

18 (c) MODIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
19 FOR CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS.—Section 318(d) of such
20 Act (52 U.S.C. 30120(d)) is amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (1)(A)—

22 (A) by striking “which is transmitted
23 through radio” and inserting “which is in an
24 audio format”; and

1 (B) by striking “BY RADIO” in the heading
2 and inserting “AUDIO FORMAT”;

3 (2) in paragraph (1)(B)—

4 (A) by striking “which is transmitted
5 through television” and inserting “which is in
6 video format”; and

7 (B) by striking “BY TELEVISION” in the
8 heading and inserting “VIDEO FORMAT”; and

9 (3) in paragraph (2)—

10 (A) by striking “transmitted through radio
11 or television” and inserting “made in audio or
12 video format”; and

13 (B) by striking “through television” in the
14 second sentence and inserting “in video for-
15 mat”.

16 **SEC. 238. POLITICAL RECORD REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE**
17 **PLATFORMS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 304 of the Federal Elec-
19 tion Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30104) is amended
20 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

21 “(j) DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN ONLINE ADVERTISE-
22 MENTS.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

24 “(A) REQUIREMENTS FOR ONLINE PLAT-
25 FORMS.—An online platform shall maintain,

1 and make available for online public inspection
2 in machine readable format, a complete record
3 of any request to purchase on such online plat-
4 form a qualified political advertisement which is
5 made by a person whose aggregate requests to
6 purchase qualified political advertisements on
7 such online platform during the calendar year
8 exceeds \$500.

9 “(B) REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVERTISERS.—Any person who requests to purchase
10 a qualified political advertisement on an online
11 platform shall provide the online platform with
12 such information as is necessary for the online
13 platform to comply with the requirements of
14 subparagraph (A).
15

16 “(2) CONTENTS OF RECORD.—A record main-
17 tained under paragraph (1)(A) shall contain—

18 “(A) a digital copy of the qualified political
19 advertisement;

20 “(B) a description of the audience targeted
21 by the advertisement, the number of views gen-
22 erated from the advertisement, and the date
23 and time that the advertisement is first dis-
24 played and last displayed; and

25 “(C) information regarding—

1 “(i) the average rate charged for the
2 advertisement;

3 “(ii) the name of the candidate to
4 which the advertisement refers and the of-
5 fice to which the candidate is seeking elec-
6 tion, the election to which the advertise-
7 ment refers, or the national legislative
8 issue to which the advertisement refers (as
9 applicable);

10 “(iii) in the case of a request made
11 by, or on behalf of, a candidate, the name
12 of the candidate, the authorized committee
13 of the candidate, and the treasurer of such
14 committee; and

15 “(iv) in the case of any request not
16 described in clause (iii), the name of the
17 person purchasing the advertisement, the
18 name, address, and phone number of a
19 contact person for such person, and a list
20 of the chief executive officers or members
21 of the executive committee or of the board
22 of directors of such person.

23 “(3) ONLINE PLATFORM.—For purposes of this
24 subsection, the term ‘online platform’ means any
25 public-facing website, web application, or digital ap-

1 plication (including a social network, ad network, or
2 search engine) which—

3 “(A) sells qualified political advertise-
4 ments; and

5 “(B) has 50,000,000 or more unique
6 monthly United States visitors or users for a
7 majority of months during the preceding 12
8 months.

9 “(4) QUALIFIED POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this
11 subsection, the term ‘qualified political adver-
12 tisement’ means any advertisement (including
13 search engine marketing, display advertise-
14 ments, video advertisements, native advertise-
15 ments, and sponsorships) that—

16 “(i) is made by or on behalf of a can-
17 didate; or

18 “(ii) communicates a message relating
19 to any political matter of national impor-
20 tance, including—

21 “(I) a candidate;

22 “(II) any election to Federal of-
23 fice; or

24 “(III) a national legislative issue
25 of public importance.

1 “(5) TIME TO MAINTAIN FILE.—The informa-
2 tion required under this subsection shall be made
3 available as soon as possible and shall be retained by
4 the online platform for a period of not less than 4
5 years.

6 “(6) PENALTIES.—For penalties for failure by
7 online platforms, and persons requesting to purchase
8 a qualified political advertisement on online plat-
9 forms, to comply with the requirements of this sub-
10 section, see section 309.”.

11 (b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 90 days after the
12 date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Election
13 Commission shall establish rules—

14 (1) requiring common data formats for the
15 record required to be maintained under section
16 304(j) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
17 1971 (as added by subsection (a)) so that all online
18 platforms submit and maintain data online in a com-
19 mon, machine-readable and publicly accessible for-
20 mat; and

21 (2) establishing search interface requirements
22 relating to such record, including searches by can-
23 didate name, issue, purchaser, and date.

24 (c) REPORTING.—Not later than 2 years after the
25 date of the enactment of this Act, and biannually there-

1 after, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission
2 shall submit a report to Congress on—

3 (1) matters relating to compliance with and the
4 enforcement of the requirements of section 304(j) of
5 the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as
6 added by subsection (a);

7 (2) recommendations for any modifications to
8 such section to assist in carrying out its purposes;
9 and

10 (3) identifying ways to bring transparency and
11 accountability to political advertisements distributed
12 online for free.

13 **SEC. 239. PREVENTING CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENDITURES,**
14 **INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES, AND DIS-**
15 **BURSEMENTS FOR ELECTIONEERING COM-**
16 **MUNICATIONS BY FOREIGN NATIONALS IN**
17 **THE FORM OF ONLINE ADVERTISING.**

18 Section 319 of the Federal Election Campaign Act
19 of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30121) is amended by adding at the
20 end the following new subsection:

21 “(c) Each television or radio broadcast station, pro-
22 vider of cable or satellite television, or online platform (as
23 defined in section 304(j)(3)) shall make reasonable efforts
24 to ensure that communications described in section 318(a)
25 and made available by such station, provider, or platform

1 are not purchased by a foreign national, directly or indi-
2 rectly.”.

3 **Subtitle E—Countering Foreign**
4 **Propaganda Act of 2018**

5 **SEC. 241. SHORT TITLE.**

6 This subtitle may be cited as the “Countering For-
7 eign Propaganda Act of 2018”.

8 **SEC. 242. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR UNITED**
9 **STATES-BASED FOREIGN MEDIA OUTLETS.**

10 Title VII of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
11 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
12 following:

13 **“SEC. 722. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR UNITED**
14 **STATES-BASED FOREIGN MEDIA OUTLETS.**

15 “(a) **REPORTS BY OUTLETS TO COMMISSION.**—Not
16 later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this
17 section, and not less frequently than every 6 months there-
18 after, a United States-based foreign media outlet shall
19 submit to the Commission a report that contains the fol-
20 lowing information:

21 “(1) The name of such outlet.

22 “(2) A description of the relationship of such
23 outlet to the foreign principal of such outlet, includ-
24 ing a description of the legal structure of such rela-

1 tationship and any funding that such outlet receives
2 from such principal.

3 “(b) REPORTS BY COMMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not
4 later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this
5 section, and not less frequently than every 6 months there-
6 after, the Commission shall transmit to Congress a report
7 that summarizes the contents of the reports submitted by
8 United States-based foreign media outlets under sub-
9 section (a) during the preceding 6-month period.

10 “(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Commission shall
11 make publicly available on the internet website of the
12 Commission each report submitted by a United States-
13 based foreign media outlet under subsection (a) not later
14 than the earlier of—

15 “(1) the date that is 30 days after the outlet
16 submits the report to the Commission; or

17 “(2) the date on which the Commission trans-
18 mits to Congress under subsection (b) the report
19 covering the 6-month period during which the report
20 of the outlet was submitted to the Commission
21 under subsection (a).

22 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 “(1) FOREIGN PRINCIPAL.—The term ‘foreign
24 principal’ has the meaning given such term in sec-

1 tion 1(b)(1) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act
2 of 1938 (22 U.S.C. 611(b)(1)).

3 “(2) UNITED STATES-BASED FOREIGN MEDIA
4 OUTLET.—The term ‘United States-based foreign
5 media outlet’ means an entity that—

6 “(A) produces or distributes video pro-
7 gramming that is transmitted, or intended for
8 transmission, by a multichannel video program-
9 ming distributor to consumers in the United
10 States; and

11 “(B) would be an agent of a foreign prin-
12 cipal (as defined in paragraph (1)) for purposes
13 of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938
14 (22 U.S.C. 611 et seq.) but for section 1(d) of
15 such Act (22 U.S.C. 611(d)).”.

16 **TITLE III—ACTIONS TO**
17 **COUNTER RUSSIAN AGGRES-**
18 **SION AGAINST UNITED**
19 **STATES ALLIES**

20 **Subtitle A—Stand With UK Against**
21 **Russia Violations Act**

22 **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

23 This subtitle may be cited as the “Stand with UK
24 against Russia Violations Act”.

1 **SEC. 302. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) On March 4, 2018, Sergei V. Skripal, and
4 his daughter, Yulia Skripal, were found unconscious
5 on a park bench in Salisbury, England.

6 (2) British Prime Minister Theresa May an-
7 nounced on March 12, 2018, that the poison used in
8 the attack was Novichok, a military-grade nerve
9 agent developed by Soviet scientists for use on North
10 Atlantic Treaty Organization troops, and that Rus-
11 sia was responsible for the attack.

12 (3) On March 15, 2018, the United Kingdom,
13 France, and Germany issued a joint statement hold-
14 ing the Government of Russia responsible for the
15 poisoning and characterizing the attack as “an as-
16 sult on UK sovereignty”.

17 **SEC. 303. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

18 It is the sense of Congress that—

19 (1) The attempts of the Government of Russia
20 to commit murders on British soil are unconscion-
21 able and violate international law.

22 (2) The United States stands in strong soli-
23 darity with the British government and its people as
24 they respond to this violation.

25 (3) Russian aggression must be met with
26 strength and resolve, including through sanctions to

1 deter future Russian attacks on dissidents, expatri-
2 ates, and democratic activists.

3 **SEC. 304. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
4 **RUSSIAN PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR**
5 **MARCH 12 ATTACK.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall im-
8 pose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect
9 to any person that the President determines—

10 (1) knowingly engaged in, provided material
11 support to, worked on behalf of, or acted as an
12 agent or instrumentality of, any person who per-
13 petrated the attack against Sergei Skripal and Yulia
14 Skripal on March 4, 2018; or

15 (2) is an officer, employee, or agent of the Gov-
16 ernment of Russia and knowingly, on or after the
17 date of the enactment of this Act, materially as-
18 sisted, worked on behalf of, or acted as an agent or
19 instrumentality of, the Government of Russia in
20 committing murder, attempted murder, or assault
21 outside of Russia against any expatriate, dissident,
22 or foreign national.

23 (b) **CONCURRENT REPORT.**—The President shall
24 submit to Congress a report, concurrent with the imposi-
25 tion of any sanction under subsection (a), that lists each

1 person determined to have engaged in the conduct result-
2 ing in such sanction.

3 (c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
4 scribed in this subsection are the sanctions described in
5 section 224(b) of the Countering America’s Adversaries
6 Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9524(b)).

7 **SEC. 305. PROHIBITION ON TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO**
8 **NEW RUSSIAN SOVEREIGN DEBT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
10 date of the imposition of a sanction pursuant to section
11 304(a)(2), the President shall—

12 (1) issue regulations prohibiting United States
13 persons from engaging in transactions with, pro-
14 viding financing for, or in any other way dealing in
15 Russian sovereign debt that is issued on or after the
16 date that is 180 days after such date of imposition
17 of sanctions; and

18 (2) exercise all powers granted to the President
19 by the International Emergency Economic Powers
20 Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 13 et seq.) to the extent nec-
21 essary to block and prohibit all transactions in all
22 property and interests in property of one or more of
23 the financial institutions listed in subsection (c) if
24 such property and interests in property are in the
25 United States, come within the United States, or are

1 or come within the possession or control of a United
2 States person.

3 (b) RUSSIAN SOVEREIGN DEBT DEFINED.—For pur-
4 poses of this section, the term “Russian sovereign debt”
5 means—

6 (1) bonds issued by the Russian Central Bank,
7 the Russian National Wealth Fund, the Russian
8 Federal Treasury, or agents or affiliates of any such
9 institution, with a maturity of more than 14 days;

10 (2) new foreign exchange swap agreements with
11 the Russian Central Bank, the Russian National
12 Wealth Fund, or the Russian Federal Treasury, the
13 duration of which agreement is longer than 14 days;
14 and

15 (3) any other financial instrument, the duration
16 or maturity of which is more than 14 days, that—

17 (A) the President determines represents
18 the sovereign debt of Russia; or

19 (B) is issued by a bank listed in subsection
20 (c).

21 (c) RUSSIAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The finan-
22 cial institutions listed in this subsection are the following:

23 (1) Sberbank.

24 (2) VTB Bank.

25 (3) Gazprombank.

1 (4) Bank of Moscow.

2 (5) Rosselkhozbank.

3 (6) Promsvyazbank.

4 (7) Vnesheconombank.

5 (d) REQUIREMENT TO PROMPTLY PUBLISH GUID-
6 ANCE.—The President shall concurrently publish guidance
7 on the implementation of the regulations issued pursuant
8 to subsection (a).

9 **SEC. 306. IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES; TERMINATION.**

10 (a) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise
11 all authorities provided to the President under sections
12 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic
13 Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out this
14 subtitle.

15 (b) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to
16 violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of section
17 304 or 305, or any regulation, license, or order issued to
18 carry out such sections, shall be subject to the penalties
19 set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the
20 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50
21 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits
22 an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

23 (c) TERMINATION.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may termi-
25 nate the application of a sanction under section 304

1 or section 305(a)(2) if the President submits to Con-
2 gress a determination that officers, employees, and
3 agents of the Government of Russia no longer en-
4 gage in the conduct described in section 304(a)(2).

5 (2) WAIVER.—The President may, on or after
6 the date on which the President submits the deter-
7 mination described in paragraph (1), waive the pro-
8 hibition imposed pursuant to section 305(a)(1) with
9 respect to Russian sovereign debt (as defined in such
10 section) issued on or after such date if the President
11 concurrently submits to Congress a notification that
12 includes a justification of the basis for waiving such
13 prohibition.

14 **SEC. 307. ENHANCED MILITARY ACTIVITIES TO DETER RUS-**
15 **SIAN AGGRESSION.**

16 (a) NATO EXERCISES.—The Secretary of Defense,
17 in consultation with appropriate officials of other countries
18 in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), shall
19 seek opportunities to conduct more NATO naval exercises
20 in the Baltic and Black Seas, as well as in the northern
21 Atlantic Ocean, to defend the seas around Europe and
22 deter Russian aggression in those regions.

23 (b) JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS.—The Secretary of
24 Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, may
25 conduct joint research projects with NATO allies pursuant

1 to the authorities under chapter 138 of title 10, United
2 States Code, including projects through NATO Centers of
3 Excellence, to—

4 (1) improve NATO reconnaissance capabilities
5 to track Russian military exercises;

6 (2) enhance NATO anti-submarine warfare ca-
7 pabilities against Russia;

8 (3) increase the numbers of modern sensors
9 placed on NATO aircraft, submarines, and surface
10 ships; or

11 (4) enhance NATO capabilities to detect and
12 deter Russian information operations.

13 **SEC. 308. UNITED STATES PERSON DEFINED.**

14 In this subtitle, the term “United States person”
15 means—

16 (1) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully
17 admitted for permanent residence to the United
18 States; and

19 (2) an entity organized under the laws of the
20 United States or of any jurisdiction within the
21 United States, including a foreign branch of such an
22 entity.

1 **Subtitle B—Imposition of Sanc-**
2 **tions on Certain Russian**
3 **Parastatal Entities**

4 **SEC. 311. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON CERTAIN RUS-**
5 **SIAN PARASTATAL ENTITIES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall im-
8 pose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect
9 to not less than five entities and including any individuals
10 associated with such entities, that—

11 (1) are identified as Russian parastatal entities
12 in the report required by section 241(a)(2) of the
13 Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanc-
14 tions Act (Public Law 115–44; 131 Stat. 922) and
15 submitted to Congress on January 29, 2018; and

16 (2) are not currently subject to sanctions im-
17 posed by the United States.

18 (b) CRITERIA.—In determining those entities and in-
19 dividuals described in subsection (a) with respect to which
20 sanctions described in subsection (c) are to be imposed,
21 the President shall take into account the extent to which
22 such entities and individuals meet the criteria described
23 in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of section 241(a)(2) of
24 the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions
25 Act.

1 (c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
2 scribed in this subsection are the following:

3 (1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all pow-
4 ers granted to the President by the International
5 Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701
6 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit
7 all transactions in all property and interests in prop-
8 erty of a person determined by the President to be
9 subject to subsection (b) if such property and inter-
10 ests in property are in the United States, come with-
11 in the United States, or are or come within the pos-
12 session or control of a United States person.

13 (2) EXCLUSION FROM THE UNITED STATES
14 AND REVOCATION OF VISA OR OTHER DOCUMENTA-
15 TION.—In the case of an alien determined by the
16 President to be subject to subsection (a) denial of a
17 visa to, and exclusion from the United States of, the
18 alien, and revocation in accordance with section
19 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
20 U.S.C. 1201(i)), of any visa or other documentation
21 of the alien.

22 (d) DEFINITION.—In subsection (c), the term
23 “United States person” means—

1 (1) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully
2 admitted for permanent residence to the United
3 States; or

4 (2) an entity organized under the laws of the
5 United States or of any jurisdiction within the
6 United States, including a foreign branch of such an
7 entity.

8 **Subtitle C—Punishing Continued**
9 **Occupation of Ukraine Act**

10 **SEC. 321. SHORT TITLE.**

11 This subtitle may be cited as the “Punishing Contin-
12 ued Occupation of Ukraine Act”.

13 **SEC. 322. FINDINGS.**

14 Congress finds the following:

15 (1) On February 27, 2014, the Russian Federa-
16 tion unlawfully invaded Ukraine’s Crimea region and
17 shortly thereafter intervened and occupied parts of
18 Ukraine.

19 (2) Russia continues to flout the Minsk Agree-
20 ment and subsequent clarifications to address the
21 ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine, signed in
22 Minsk, Belarus, on February 11, 2015, by the lead-
23 ers of Ukraine, Russia, France, and Germany, and
24 the Minsk Protocol, which was agreed to on Sep-

1 tember 5, 2014, by directly and indirectly com-
2 manding separatist forces in Ukraine.

3 (3) Sanctions to date have failed to alter Rus-
4 sian President Vladimir Putin’s calculation regard-
5 ing Crimea and eastern Ukraine.

6 (4) Russia relies on sovereign debt to finance
7 the government. If denied access to these funds,
8 Russia would be forced to cut spending, increase
9 taxes, draw down its foreign exchange reserves, or
10 seek alternative sources of financing, increasing the
11 economic pressures facing the economy.

12 **SEC. 323. PROHIBITION AGAINST UNITED STATES RECOGNI-**
13 **TION OF RUSSIA’S ANNEXATION OF CRIMEA.**

14 (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the
15 United States not to recognize the de jure or de facto sov-
16 ereignty of the Russian Federation over Crimea, its air-
17 space, or its territorial waters.

18 (b) PROHIBITION.—In accordance with subsection
19 (a), no Federal department or agency may take any action
20 or extend any assistance that recognizes or implies rec-
21 ognition of the de jure or de facto sovereignty of the Rus-
22 sian Federation over Crimea, its airspace, or its territorial
23 waters.

24 (c) WAIVER.—The President may waive the prohibi-
25 tion under subsection (a) or (b) if the President deter-

1 mines that it is vital to the national security interests of
2 the United States to do so.

3 **SEC. 324. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO**
4 **CERTAIN RUSSIAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

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

6 (1) On February 27, 2014, the Russian Federa-
7 tion unlawfully invaded Crimea and shortly there-
8 after intervened and occupied parts of Ukraine.

9 (2) Russia continues to flout the Minsk Ac-
10 cords, signed on September 5, 2014, by directly and
11 indirectly supporting separatist forces in Ukraine.

12 (3) Sanctions to date have failed to alter Rus-
13 sian President Vladimir Putin’s calculation regard-
14 ing Ukraine and the Crimea.

15 (4) The Putin regime relies on several large fi-
16 nancial institutions to implement its policies and
17 keep the regime afloat.

18 (b) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days
20 thereafter for 5 years, the President shall determine
21 whether the Russian Federation is in compliance with the
22 Minsk Accords.

23 (c) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—If the President, pursuant to
25 subsection (b), determines that Russia is not in com-

1 pliance with the Minsk Accords, the President shall
2 impose the sanctions described in subsection (d)
3 with respect to not less than three Russian financial
4 institutions that are substantially affiliated with the
5 Putin regime, including from among those institu-
6 tions described in subsection (e).

7 (2) REQUIREMENT.—One of the financial insti-
8 tutions to be sanctioned pursuant to this subsection
9 shall include Vnesheconombank.

10 (d) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions de-
11 scribed in this subsection are the exercise of all powers
12 granted to the President by the International Emergency
13 Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the ex-
14 tent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all
15 property and interests in property of a financial institution
16 determined by the President to be subject to subsection
17 (b)(1) if such property and interests in property are in
18 the United States, come within the United States, or are
19 or come within the possession or control of a United
20 States person.

21 (e) RUSSIAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS DE-
22 SCRIBED.—The financial institutions described in this
23 subsection are the following:

24 (1) Sberbank.

25 (2) VTB Bank.

1 (3) Gazprombank.

2 (4) Bank of Moscow.

3 (5) Rosselkhozbank.

4 (6) Promsvyazbank.

5 (f) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

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

11 (2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, at-
12 tempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a
13 violation of subsection (c) or any regulation, license,
14 or order issued to carry out subsection (b) shall be
15 subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b)
16 and (c) of section 206 of the International Emer-
17 gency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the
18 same extent as a person that commits an unlawful
19 act described in subsection (a) of that section.

20 (g) TERMINATION.—The President may terminate
21 the application of sanctions under subsection (c) with re-
22 spect to a Russian financial institution if the President
23 submits to Congress a notice of and justification for the
24 termination.

25 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) PERSON.—The term “person” means an in-
2 dividual or entity.

3 (2) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
4 “United States person” means—

5 (A) a United States citizen or an alien law-
6 fully admitted for permanent residence to the
7 United States; or

8 (B) an entity organized under the laws of
9 the United States or of any jurisdiction within
10 the United States, including a foreign branch of
11 such an entity.

12 **Subtitle D—General Provisions To** 13 **Bolster Alliances**

14 **SEC. 331. STRATEGY FOR OFFENSIVE USE OF CYBER CAPA-** 15 **BILITIES.**

16 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—The President shall de-
17 velop a written strategy for the offensive use of cyber ca-
18 pabilities by departments and agencies of the Federal Gov-
19 ernment.

20 (b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy developed under sub-
21 section (a) shall include, at minimum—

22 (1) a description of enhancements that are
23 needed to improve the offensive cyber capabilities of
24 the United States and partner nations, including
25 NATO member states; and

1 (2) a statement of principles concerning the ap-
2 propriate deployment of offensive cyber capabilities.

3 (c) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
6 President shall submit to the congressional defense
7 committees (as that term is defined in section
8 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code) the
9 strategy developed under subsection (a).

10 (2) FORM OF SUBMISSION.—The strategy sub-
11 mitted under paragraph (1) may be submitted in
12 classified form.

13 **SEC. 332. MATTERS RELATING TO NATO.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall seek
15 to work with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
16 (NATO) to carry out the following actions:

17 (1) Elevating anti-corruption as an element of
18 NATO's Readiness Action Plan.

19 (2) Tasking the NATO Assistant Secretary
20 General for Intelligence and Warning with moni-
21 toring Russian influence in NATO member states.

22 (3) Prioritizing the combating of Russian influ-
23 ence under the NATO–European Union framework.

24 (b) EU–US SUMMIT.—The Secretary of State, in co-
25 ordination with the Secretary of the Treasury, is author-

1 ized to host a summit between the United States and the
2 European Union on preventing undeclared, cross-border
3 money flows invested in strategic areas or economic sec-
4 tors of European countries.

5 **SEC. 333. COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE AND CORRUP-**
6 **TION FUND.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President is authorized
8 to establish in the Department of the Treasury a fund to
9 be known as the Countering Russian Influence and Cor-
10 ruption Fund (in this section referred to as the “Fund”).

11 (b) INITIAL AMOUNTS IN FUND.—The Fund shall
12 consist of the following:

13 (1) The unobligated balances, as of the date of
14 the enactment of this Act, of any amounts appro-
15 priated to carry out section 7070(d) of division C of
16 the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public
17 Law 115–31).

18 (2) The unobligated balances, as of the date of
19 the enactment of this Act, of any amounts otherwise
20 available to the Secretary of State to carry out the
21 purposes described in subsection (c).

22 (c) PURPOSES OF FUND.—Amounts in the Fund for
23 any fiscal year are authorized to be made available to the
24 Secretary of State for bilateral assistance for countries in
25 Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia to counter the fol-

1 lowing activities in such countries carried out by the Rus-
2 sian Federation:

3 (1) Support for disinformation and propaganda.

4 (2) Interference in foreign elections.

5 (3) Efforts to undermine financial transparency
6 and governance.

7 (4) Support for activities described in para-
8 graphs (1) and (2) of section 64(e) of the State De-
9 partment Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (as added
10 by section 204 of this Act).

11 (5) Support for and strengthening of foreign
12 programs focused on investigative journalism and
13 independence of the media environment to expose
14 Russian corruption.

15 (d) CIVIL SOCIETY AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.—

16 Amounts in the Fund for any fiscal year may be made
17 available to carry out the purposes of the Fund under sub-
18 section (c) through civil society and other organizations
19 that seek to mitigate the expansion of Russian influence
20 and aggression, including through public awareness cam-
21 paigns and exchange activities.

22 (e) REPORT.—The Secretary of State shall submit to
23 Congress a report for each fiscal year for which activities
24 are undertaken pursuant to this section.

1 **TITLE IV—COMBATING PUTIN’S**
2 **REPRESSION (CPR) FOR RUS-**
3 **SIAN CIVIL SOCIETY**

4 **SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.**

5 This title may be cited as the “CPR for Russian Civil
6 Society Act”.

7 **SEC. 402. STRENGTHENING DIALOGUE WITH THE RUSSIAN**
8 **PEOPLE.**

9 (a) **IMPROVED VISA SCREENING PROCEDURES FOR**
10 **RUSSIAN VISITORS.**—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,
12 in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security,
13 shall conduct a study on how to streamline and simplify
14 visa procedures for Russian students and persons involved
15 in professional and cultural exchanges in order to reduce
16 the overall visa processing period and facilitate people-to-
17 people exchanges. Such study shall examine average visa
18 wait times for successful visa applicants from Russia and
19 overall rejection rates of Russian nationals applying for
20 visas.

21 (b) **ENHANCED SCREENING FOR PUTIN ALLIES.**—In
22 conjunction with the study undertaken pursuant to sub-
23 section (a), the Secretary of State, in coordination with
24 the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of

1 the Treasury, shall develop enhanced visa screening proce-
2 dures for the following individuals:

3 (1) Persons identified as “the most significant
4 senior foreign political figures and oligarchs in the
5 Russian Federation”, as listed in a classified annex
6 to a report issued on January 29, 2018, pursuant to
7 section 241(a)(1) of the Countering America’s Ad-
8 versaries Through Sanctions Act, but who are not
9 already included in the list of specially designated
10 nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Of-
11 fice of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of
12 the Treasury.

13 (2) Persons who are not otherwise included in
14 the specially designated nationals list but who pro-
15 mote Russian President Vladimir Putin’s policies of
16 repression, as determined by the Secretary of State.

17 (3) Persons who benefit from or act as agents
18 of Russian persons on the specially designated na-
19 tionals list.

20 (c) IMPROVED TRACKING OF EXCHANGE PRO-
21 GRAMS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the en-
22 actment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit
23 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
24 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of
25 the Senate a report on current cultural exchange and edu-

1 cational programs with Russia. Such report shall include
2 the following:

3 (1) A list of existing programs funded by the
4 United States Government dedicated to United
5 States-Russia cultural and educational exchange and
6 research, including funding levels for each program.

7 (2) Information relating to funding of the pro-
8 grams specified in paragraph (1), including overall
9 history of such funding since 1991, relative to fund-
10 ing for other regions with such exchange and re-
11 search programs.

12 (d) STRATEGIC STABILITY.—

13 (1) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the
14 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
15 Defense, in concurrence with the Secretary of State,
16 shall submit to Congress a report on efforts to
17 strengthen strategic stability with Russia.

18 (2) ANNUAL MEETINGS.—The Secretary of De-
19 fense, in concurrence with the Secretary of State,
20 shall host an annual bilateral meeting, through
21 2023, with Russian counterparts in order to discuss
22 relevant issues of common interest, including main-
23 taining strategic stability and open lines for crisis
24 communications.

1 **SEC. 403. SUPPORT RUSSIAN CIVIL SOCIETY.**

2 (a) FIGHT PUTIN'S CENSORSHIP.—Not later than 90
3 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
4 retary of State shall convene a meeting of senior leaders
5 of United States technology companies that sell, license,
6 or otherwise facilitate the installation of tools that allow
7 the Government of Russia to censor, harass, or suppress
8 the activities of civil society activists. Such meeting shall
9 focus on developing a common code of conduct to restrain
10 United States companies aiding and abetting the Govern-
11 ment of Russia's efforts to suppress Russian civil society,
12 fundamental freedoms in Russia, and efforts to expose
13 corruption on the part of the Government of Russia.

14 (b) INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS
15 FUND.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts oth-
17 erwise authorized to be appropriated for the Broad-
18 casting Board of Governors' International Broad-
19 casting Operations Fund, there is authorized to be
20 appropriated \$10,000,000 to expand Russian lan-
21 guage programming and to provide for the dissemi-
22 nation of accurate and independent information to
23 the Russian people through online media, radio, tele-
24 vision, cellular telephone, short message service, and
25 other communications. The Broadcasting Board of
26 Governors shall identify those countries that serve as

1 Russian vacation destinations and further target
2 United States international broadcasting and pro-
3 gramming activities towards such countries.

4 (2) USE OF AMOUNTS.—To achieve the objec-
5 tives described in paragraph (1), amounts in the
6 International Broadcasting Operations Fund re-
7 ferred to in such subparagraph may be used to de-
8 velop—

9 (A) additional transmission capability for
10 Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, including
11 through additional shortwave and medium wave
12 transmissions, satellite, and Internet mecha-
13 nisms;

14 (B) additional proxy server capability and
15 anti-censorship technologies to counter efforts
16 by the Government of Russia to censor political
17 and civil society activities, such as blocking of
18 the Telegram app, and investigations into cor-
19 ruption on the part of the Government of Rus-
20 sia;

21 (C) technologies to counter efforts to block
22 SMS text message exchange over cellular phone
23 networks; and

24 (D) additional digital programs and oper-
25 ations for Voice of America in Russia.

1 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO EXPANDED
2 BROADCASTING IN COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SO-
3 VIET UNION.—Paragraph (1) of section 8(e) of the
4 Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C.
5 8927(e); Public Law 118–272) is amended by strik-
6 ing “2018” and inserting “2020”.

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