

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1495

To promote international press freedom, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 29, 2021

Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) introduced the following bill; which
was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To promote international press freedom, and for other
purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “International Press
5 Freedom Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
8 ings:

9 (1) Even as the number of journalists killed in
10 war zones has reached a historic low, the number of
11 journalists killed or targeted in countries at peace

1 continues to remain at historically high levels. In
2 2020, more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of all media fatalities took place
3 in countries at peace.

4 (2) Even as the COVID–19 pandemic reduced
5 the number of journalists reporting from the field,
6 Reporters Without Borders (RSF) reported that 50
7 journalists were killed in 2020. Additionally, as of
8 December 2020, 387 journalists remained impris-
9 oned worldwide, continuing the historically high
10 trend seen in previous years, and 57 journalists were
11 held hostage.

12 (3) As the frontier between countries at war
13 and countries at peace continues to disappear, more
14 must be done to protect journalists and activists de-
15 fending human rights and spreading awareness of
16 abuse and corruption.

17 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
18 gress that—

19 (1) a free and vibrant press is the fulcrum of
20 democracy;

21 (2) the protection and advancement of the free-
22 dom of expression is a foundational value of the
23 United States;

24 (3) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
25 which the General Assembly of the United Nations

1 adopted in 1948 with the United States voting in
 2 favor, defines freedom of expression, which includes
 3 a free press, as a fundamental human right;

4 (4) the International Covenant on Civil and Po-
 5 litical Rights, which the United States ratified in
 6 1992, specifies that everyone shall have the “free-
 7 dom to seek, receive and impart information and
 8 ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either oral-
 9 ly, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or
 10 through any other media of his choice”; and

11 (5) it is in the national security interest of the
 12 United States to promote the spread of democratic
 13 values and institutions worldwide.

14 **SEC. 3. OFFICE ON INTERNATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM; CO-**
 15 **ORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL PRESS**
 16 **FREEDOM.**

17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE.—There is estab-
 18 lished within the Department of State an Office on Inter-
 19 national Press Freedom (referred to in this section as the
 20 “Office”).

21 (b) COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL PRESS
 22 FREEDOM.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed
 24 by the Coordinator for International Press Freedom
 25 appointed under paragraph (2).

1 (2) APPOINTMENT.—The Coordinator shall be
2 appointed by the Secretary of State.

3 (3) REPORTING.—The Coordinator shall report
4 to the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy,
5 Human Rights, and Labor.

6 (c) DUTIES.—The Coordinator for International
7 Press Freedom shall have the following responsibilities:

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The primary responsibility
9 of the Coordinator shall be—

10 (A) to advance the right to freedom of the
11 press and freedom of expression abroad;

12 (B) to denounce violations of that right;

13 (C) to recommend appropriate responses
14 by the United States Government when that
15 right is violated;

16 (D) to recommend—

17 (i) the issuance of nonimmigrant visas
18 to individuals classified as threatened jour-
19 nalists under subsection (s) of section 214
20 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
21 U.S.C. 1184), as added by section 6(a);
22 and

23 (ii) the provision of humanitarian pa-
24 role to certain journalists under section
25 6(b); and

1 (E) to make individualized determinations
2 with respect to the continued risk to the lives
3 and safety of such individuals and journalists,
4 as described in section 6(c).

5 (2) ADVISORY ROLE.—The Coordinator shall—

6 (A) be the principal adviser to the Assist-
7 ant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human
8 Rights, and Labor regarding matters affecting
9 press freedom abroad; and

10 (B) make recommendations regarding—

11 (i) the policies of the United States
12 Government toward foreign governments
13 that violate freedom of the press or fail to
14 ensure the safety and freedom of persons
15 engaged in free expression or journalism;
16 and

17 (ii) policies to advance the right to
18 free expression and freedom of the press
19 abroad.

20 (3) DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION.—Subject to
21 the direction of the Secretary of State and the As-
22 sistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human
23 Rights, and Labor, the Coordinator is authorized to
24 represent the United States in matters and cases
25 relevant to press freedom abroad in—

1 (A) contacts with foreign governments,
2 intergovernmental organizations, and special-
3 ized agencies of the United Nations, the Orga-
4 nization for Security and Co-operation in Eu-
5 rope, and other international organizations of
6 which the United States is a member; and

7 (B) multilateral conferences and meetings
8 relevant to press freedom abroad.

9 (4) OTHER DUTIES.—The Coordinator shall
10 have such other responsibilities in carrying out this
11 Act as the Secretary of State and the Assistant Sec-
12 retary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and
13 Labor determine.

14 (d) FUNDING.—The Secretary of State shall provide
15 the Coordinator for International Press Freedom with
16 such funds as may be necessary for the hiring of staff
17 for—

18 (1) the Office;

19 (2) the conduct of investigations by the Office;

20 and

21 (3) necessary travel.

22 **SEC. 4. AT-RISK JOURNALISTS FUND.**

23 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
24 Treasury of the United States a fund, to be known as the
25 “At-Risk Journalists Fund” (in this section referred to

1 as the “Fund”), to be administered by the Secretary of
2 State.

3 (b) PURPOSES OF THE FUND.—The Secretary of
4 State shall use the amounts in the Fund for the following
5 purposes:

6 (1) To support journalists operating in restric-
7 tive environments by providing—

8 (A) training in digital identity protection
9 and physical security; and

10 (B) psycho-social care.

11 (2) To provide short-term emergency assistance
12 to support and protect journalists who have been
13 threatened, harassed, or attacked and need to relo-
14 cate, which may be provided through existing mecha-
15 nisms such as the Human Rights Defenders Fund of
16 the Department of State.

17 (3) To provide medium-term emergency assist-
18 ance resources for journalists in danger, including
19 continuing support to journalists described in para-
20 graph (2) whose relocations must be extended due to
21 ongoing security concerns.

22 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts authorized to be ap-
23 propriated under subsection (e) shall be obligated and ex-
24 pended consistent with the action plan required by section
25 7032(i)(1) of the Department of State, Foreign Oper-

ations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2018
(division K of Public Law 115–141).

(d) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 of each year, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the Fund.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The total amount expended from the Fund during the previous calendar year for each of the purposes specified in subsection (b).

(B) A description of the specific programs implemented using amounts from the Fund during such year.

(C) Data regarding the number and nationality of journalists assisted using such amounts during such year.

(D) Such accounts of individuals assisted by the Fund during such year that the Secretary of State considers relevant to share.

(3) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

1 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations,
2 the Committee on Appropriations, and the
3 Human Rights Caucus of the Senate; and

4 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
5 Committee on Appropriations, and the Tom
6 Lantos Human Rights Commission of the
7 House of Representatives.

8 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
10 appropriated to the Fund \$30,000,000 to carry out
11 this section for each of the 5 fiscal years beginning
12 with the first fiscal year that begins after the date
13 of the enactment of this Act.

14 (2) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts au-
15 thorized to be appropriated under paragraph (1)
16 shall remain available until expended.

17 (f) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
18 gress that—

19 (1) amounts authorized to be appropriated
20 under subsection (e) should be appropriated in addi-
21 tion to amounts regularly appropriated for other
22 programs to promote human rights and civil society;
23 and

24 (2) support for civil society activists and other
25 human rights defenders provided by the Federal

1 Government as of the date of the enactment of this
2 Act should not be decreased.

3 **SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT IMPUNITY.**

4 (a) LIST OF COUNTRIES.—Not later than 180 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not later
6 than March 1 of each year thereafter, the Secretary of
7 State, in consultation with the Attorney General of the
8 United States and nongovernmental organizations with ex-
9 pertise in threats to journalists worldwide, shall create a
10 list of not less than 10 countries in which journalists face
11 the greatest risk of murder, assault, harassment, intimidat-
12 ion, or other crimes.

13 (b) BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND
14 LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Of amounts appropriated
16 each fiscal year for “International Narcotics Control
17 and Law Enforcement” for bilateral assistance for
18 each country identified in the list required by sub-
19 section (a), the Assistant Secretary of State for
20 International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Af-
21 fairs shall use not less than 10 percent for programs
22 to assist police, prosecutors, judges, and other indi-
23 viduals—

1 (A) to support the investigation and pros-
2 ecution of individuals who commit crimes
3 against journalists; and

4 (B) to prevent such crimes.

5 (2) CONSULTATION.—The Assistant Secretary
6 of State for International Narcotics and Law En-
7 forcement Affairs shall develop the programs de-
8 scribed in paragraph (1) in consultation with the
9 Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of
10 the Department of State, the Department of Justice,
11 and other local or international organizations with
12 expertise in threats to journalists in the relevant
13 country.

14 (c) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not
17 later than March 1 of each year thereafter, the As-
18 sistant Secretary of State for International Nar-
19 cotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, in consultation
20 with the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy,
21 Human Rights, and Labor, shall submit to Congress
22 a report outlining the efforts and level of success of
23 such Assistant Secretaries in combatting impunity
24 for attacks against journalists, with special emphasis

1 on the countries identified in the list required by
2 subsection (a).

3 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by para-
4 graph (1) shall include the following:

5 (A) The number of journalists in foreign
6 countries who were killed, attacked, harassed,
7 or intimidated during the previous calendar
8 year.

9 (B) The number of cases of crimes against
10 journalists in foreign countries that were pros-
11 ecuted, the number of convictions in those
12 cases, and the sentences for individuals con-
13 victed, during such year.

14 (C) A description of any relevant preven-
15 tion efforts or training conducted by the Bu-
16 reau of International Narcotics and Law En-
17 forcement Affairs of the Department of State
18 for host nation officials, journalists, or other in-
19 dividuals during such year.

20 **SEC. 6. NONIMMIGRANT VISAS AND HUMANITARIAN PA-**
21 **ROLE FOR THREATENED JOURNALISTS.**

22 (a) NONIMMIGRANT VISAS.—

23 (1) EXPANSION OF FOREIGN MEDIA NON-
24 IMMIGRANT VISA CATEGORY.—Section 101(a)(15)(I)

1 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
2 1101(a)(15)(I)) is amended—

3 (A) by inserting “(i)” before “upon a
4 basis”;

5 (B) by striking “him;” and inserting “the
6 alien; or”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(ii) an alien who is classified as a threat-
9 ened journalist under section 214(s), and the
10 spouse and children of such an alien if accom-
11 panying or following to join the alien;”.

12 (2) THREATENED JOURNALIST DEFINED.—Sec-
13 tion 214 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
14 U.S.C. 1184) is amended by adding at the end the
15 following:

16 “(s)(1) An alien shall be classified as a threatened
17 journalist under this subsection if the Secretary of State,
18 the Coordinator for International Press Freedom, or an
19 appropriate Chief of Mission (after consultation with the
20 Secretary or the Coordinator) determines that—

21 “(A) the alien is a journalist who practices (on
22 a regular or professional basis) the collection and
23 dissemination of information to the public through
24 any means of mass communication;

25 “(B) the alien—

1 “(i) has been threatened, harassed, or at-
2 tacked on account of, or in the exercise of, jour-
3 nalistic activity; or

4 “(ii) has a well-founded fear of future per-
5 secution on account of the alien’s journalistic
6 activity;

7 “(C) the alien has conducted reporting con-
8 sistent with the values and standards of professional
9 journalism, including—

10 “(i) the collection and dissemination of in-
11 formation, freely and in accordance with the
12 principles of attachment to the truth, plurality
13 of points of view, and rationality with respect to
14 the methods of establishment of fact and fact
15 verification;

16 “(ii) the demonstration of a commitment
17 to free pursuit of the truth, factual accuracy,
18 and no intention to harm;

19 “(iii) refraining from dissemination of mis-
20 leading or incorrect information, and refraining
21 from concealing information that should be
22 known to the public;

23 “(iv) the regular or professional collection
24 of information and ideas and dissemination to

1 the public through any means of mass commu-
2 nication;

3 “(v) the use of professional methods of es-
4 tablishing and verifying the facts, and endeav-
5 oring to be factually accurate;

6 “(vi) behavior and actions that are in ac-
7 cordance with the principles of freedom of ex-
8 pression;

9 “(vii) respect for ethical principles of the
10 profession of journalism, in particular the du-
11 ties attached to such principles;

12 “(viii) the treatment of information in a
13 manner that serves the general interests and
14 the fundamental rights of the public, and does
15 not regard information as a commercial prod-
16 uct;

17 “(ix) engagement in activities that fall
18 within the framework of editorial independence;

19 “(x) the impartial presentation of facts,
20 disregarding as much as possible his or her own
21 interests and prejudices, and rejection of all
22 forms of connivance or conflict of interest;

23 “(xi) respect for the plurality of sources
24 and points of view;

1 “(xii) a refusal to engage in manipulation
2 of information; and

3 “(xiii) the observation and reporting of
4 events without actively participating in them;
5 and

6 “(D) temporary measures implemented by the
7 Secretary of State using amounts authorized to be
8 appropriated under section 4(e) of the International
9 Press Freedom Act of 2021 are insufficient to pro-
10 tect the life or safety of the alien or the spouse or
11 child of the alien.

12 “(2) In processing nonimmigrant visa applications for
13 aliens described in paragraph (1) and the spouse and chil-
14 dren of such aliens who are accompanying or following to
15 join them, the Secretary of State shall—

16 “(A) offer interview appointments to such
17 aliens not later than 3 business days after receiving
18 an application from such aliens; and

19 “(B) prioritize the review and processing of
20 such applications ahead of any nonemergency non-
21 immigrant visa applications.

22 “(3) In the case of an alien spouse admitted under
23 section 101(a)(15)(I)(ii), who is accompanying or fol-
24 lowing to join a principal alien admitted under such sec-
25 tion, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall authorize

1 the alien spouse to engage in employment in the United
 2 States and provide the spouse with an ‘employment au-
 3 thorized’ endorsement or other appropriate work permit.”.

4 (3) CHANGE OF STATUS.—Section 248(b) of
 5 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
 6 1258(b)) is amended by striking “(T) or (U)” and
 7 inserting “(I)(ii), (T), or (U)”.

8 (4) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary of Homeland
 9 Security shall amend Part 214 of title 8, Code of
 10 Federal Regulations, as appropriate, to ensure that
 11 each alien described in section 101(a)(15)(I)(ii) of
 12 the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by
 13 paragraph (1)—

14 (A) is permitted to remain in the United
 15 States—

16 (i) while classified as a threatened
 17 journalist pursuant to section 214(s) of
 18 such Act, as added by paragraph (2); or

19 (ii) with respect to the spouse and
 20 children of a threatened journalist, while
 21 such classification remains in effect for the
 22 spouse or parent;

23 (B) receives an Employment Authorization
 24 Document;

(C) is not denied a nonimmigrant visa under such section 101(a)(15)(I)(ii) or the extension of such visa based on the approval of a permanent labor certification, the filing of a preference petition on behalf of the alien, or the pursuit of refugee or asylee status; and

(D) is provided with notification of each determination under subsection (c).

(5) APPLICABILITY OF REGULATION.—The final rule of the Department of Homeland Security entitled “Period of Admission and Extensions of Stay for Representatives of Foreign Information Media Seeking to Enter the United States” (85 Fed. Reg. 91 (May 11, 2020)) shall not apply to a nonimmigrant described in section 101(a)(15)(I)(ii).

(b) HUMANITARIAN PAROLE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall consider, on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons, and in accordance with section 212(d)(5)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)(B)), the provision of humanitarian parole to aliens described in section 214(s) of such Act, as added by subsection (a)(2), who meet the criteria described in paragraph (2).

1 (2) CRITERIA.—

2 (A) LIFE OR SAFETY AT RISK.—The Sec-
3 retary of State, the Coordinator for Inter-
4 national Press Freedom, or an appropriate
5 Chief of Mission (after consultation with the
6 Secretary or the Coordinator) affirms that the
7 life or safety of the alien is at risk if the alien
8 remains in his or her country of origin or coun-
9 try of last habitual residence.

10 (B) WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION.—The
11 Secretary of State or the Chief of Mission
12 (after consultation with the Secretary) has sub-
13 mitted to the Secretary of Homeland Security
14 and the Attorney General a favorable written
15 recommendation that humanitarian parole for
16 the alien furthers the foreign policy interests or
17 national security interests of the United States.

18 (3) PREFERENCE FOR ADMISSION AS NON-
19 IMMIGRANT.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to an
21 alien who meets the criteria described in para-
22 graph (2), subject to subparagraph (B), the
23 Secretary of Homeland Security shall exercise a
24 preference for admission as a nonimmigrant de-
25 scribed in clause (ii) of section 101(a)(15)(I) of

1 such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(I)), as added
2 by subsection (a)(1).

3 (B) IMMINENT DANGER.—In the case of
4 imminent danger to such an alien—

5 (i)(I) the Secretary of State may sub-
6 mit to the Secretary of Homeland Security
7 a request to parole the alien into the
8 United States under this subsection; and

9 (II) the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
10 rity may parole the alien into the United
11 States; or

12 (ii) the Secretary of State may coordi-
13 nate directly with the Commissioner of
14 U.S. Customs and Border Protection for
15 the parole of the alien into the United
16 States under this subsection.

17 (c) INDIVIDUALIZED DETERMINATION WITH RE-
18 SPECT TO CONTINUED RISK TO LIFE OR SAFETY.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each alien
20 admitted to the United States as a threatened jour-
21 nalist described in clause (ii) of section
22 101(a)(15)(I) of the Immigration and Nationality
23 Act, as added by subsection (a)(1), or paroled into
24 the United States under subsection (b), not less fre-
25 quently than once every 5 years after such admission

1 or parole, the Coordinator for International Press
2 Freedom shall make a determination as to whether
3 the alien's life or safety would be at risk if the alien
4 were to return to his or her country of origin or
5 country of last habitual residence.

6 (2) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days
7 after the date on which the Coordinator makes a de-
8 termination under paragraph (1), the Coordinator
9 shall notify the alien of such determination.

10 (3) EFFECT OF DETERMINATION.—If the Coor-
11 dinator determines that an alien's life or safety
12 would not be at risk if the alien were to return to
13 his or her country of origin or country of last habit-
14 ual residence, not later than 120 days after the date
15 of such determination—

16 (A) the alien's status as a nonimmigrant
17 described in paragraph (15)(I)(ii) of section
18 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
19 (8 U.S.C. 101(a)) shall terminate; and

20 (B) the alien shall be required—

21 (i) to depart the United States; or

22 (ii) to change or adjust his or her sta-
23 tus under the immigration laws (as defined
24 in such section) to a status for which the
25 alien is eligible.

1 **SEC. 7. TRAINING FOR REFUGEE OFFICERS.**

2 Section 207(f)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality
3 Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(f)(2)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking the period at the end and insert-
5 ing “; and”;

6 (2) by striking “include country-specific condi-
7 tions, instruction” and inserting “include—

8 “(A) country-specific conditions;

9 “(B) instruction”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(C) instruction on the internationally rec-
12 ognized right to freedom of the press, instruc-
13 tion on methods of persecution of, or attacks
14 on, journalists in foreign countries, and applica-
15 ble distinctions between traditional and non-
16 traditional journalists.”.

17 **SEC. 8. TRAINING FOR FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS.**

18 Section 708 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22
19 U.S.C. 4028) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(e) FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.—The Secretary of
22 State, with the assistance of other relevant officials, such
23 as the Coordinator for International Press Freedom ap-
24 pointed under section 3(b)(2) of the International Press
25 Freedom Act of 2021, and distinguished nongovernmental
26 organizations that advocate for press freedoms, shall pro-

1 vide to each Foreign Service officer who will work overseas
2 in the areas of political affairs, public diplomacy, or con-
3 sular affairs, or as a Deputy Chief of Mission or Chief
4 of Mission, pre-departure instruction that includes infor-
5 mation about the following:

6 “(1) The scope and value of freedom of expres-
7 sion.

8 “(2) How violations of the freedom the press
9 harm the interests of the United States.

10 “(3) The relevance of international freedom of
11 the press to the advancement of the defense, diplo-
12 macy, development, and public affairs efforts and in-
13 terests of the United States.

14 “(4) With respect to the country in which the
15 Foreign Service officer will be posted, the nature, se-
16 verity, and origins of threats facing journalists in
17 their reporting and United States Government and
18 nongovernmental mechanisms available to mitigate
19 those threats.

20 “(5) The role of nontraditional media platforms
21 and nontraditional journalists in the press in the
22 country in which the Foreign Service officer will be
23 posted.”.

1 **SEC. 9. REPORTS.**

2 (a) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ANNUAL
3 REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than March 1 of each
4 year, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a
5 report to the appropriate committees of Congress that
6 identifies, with respect to the preceding fiscal year—

7 (1) the number of threatened journalist aliens
8 who were issued a nonimmigrant visa under clause
9 (ii) of section 101(a)(15)(I) of the Immigration and
10 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(I)), as added
11 by section 6(a), disaggregated by country of nation-
12 ality;

13 (2) the number of family members of aliens de-
14 scribed in paragraph (1) who were issued a non-
15 immigrant visa under such clause (ii), disaggregated
16 by country of nationality;

17 (3) the number of alien journalists who were
18 granted humanitarian parole pursuant to section
19 6(b) due to their work as journalists, disaggregated
20 by country of nationality;

21 (4) the number of family members of aliens de-
22 scribed in paragraph (3) who were granted humani-
23 tarian parole pursuant to section 6(b), disaggregated
24 by country of nationality; and

25 (5) such other information as the Secretary
26 considers relevant.

1 (b) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT
2 TO CONGRESS.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 3
5 years thereafter on March 1, the Comptroller Gen-
6 eral of the United States shall submit to the appro-
7 priate committees of Congress a report analyzing the
8 barriers that prevent foreign journalists from obtain-
9 ing visas for admission into the United States.

10 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-
11 graph (1) shall assess the following:

12 (A) The success of programs relating to in-
13 country support for foreign journalists, tem-
14 porary resettlement of such journalists in third
15 countries, admission of such journalists under
16 clause (ii) of section 101(a)(15)(I) of the Immi-
17 gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
18 1101(a)(15)(I)), as added by section 6(a), and
19 humanitarian parole for such journalists under
20 section 6(b).

21 (B) The processing speeds and delays in
22 the program providing nonimmigrant visas to
23 journalists under clause (ii) of section
24 101(a)(15)(I) of the Immigration and Nation-

1 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(I)), as added
2 by section 6(a).

3 (3) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report
4 required by paragraph (1), the Comptroller General
5 shall consult with—

6 (A) the Attorney General;

7 (B) the Secretary of Homeland Security;

8 (C) the Secretary of State; and

9 (D) nongovernmental organizations that
10 advocate for the safety of journalists, as deter-
11 mined by the Comptroller General.

12 (4) DEFINITION OF APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES
13 OF CONGRESS.—In this subsection, the term “appro-
14 priate committees of Congress” means—

15 (A) the Committee on Foreign Relations,
16 the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
17 ernmental Affairs, the Committee on the Judi-
18 ciary, and the Human Rights Caucus of the
19 Senate; and

20 (B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
21 Committee on Homeland Security, the Com-
22 mittee on the Judiciary, and the Tom Lantos
23 Human Rights Commission of the House of
24 Representatives.

○