

Alliance for Peacebuilding Applauds House Passage of Bipartisan Legislation to Reduce Global Violence

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WASHINGTON, DC – The Alliance for Peacebuilding applauded yesterday’s overwhelming approval of the Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act of 2018 (H.R. 5273) by the House of Representatives.

This timely legislation seeks to address the root causes of violent conflict that costs the world an estimated \$14.76 trillion annually. As House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce noted, “There are [nearly] 70 million men, women, and children who have been displaced by conflict around this globe...no amount of tents and sheeting will stop the suffering and the misery that these people feel. We need solutions that get at the roots of these problems.”

The Global Fragility and Violence Reduction Act would require the U.S. Department of State, in partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of Defense, and other federal agencies, to develop a new strategy to reduce and prevent violent conflict. It would give the U.S. government the tools it needs for a long-term, coordinated approach to identify and mitigate the drivers of violence in order to prevent conflict.

H.R. 5273 was introduced in March 2018 by Representatives Eliot Engel (D-NY), Ted Poe (R-TX), Mike McCaul (R-TX), Adam Smith (D-WA), Bill Keating (D-MA), and Paul Cook (R-CA). It passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously in September. The bill has strong bipartisan support with 15 cosponsors.

A broad coalition of over 50 leading international humanitarian, peacebuilding, development, and faith-based organizations endorse this legislation.

The House voted 376-16 to pass the bill. A related bill awaits committee consideration in the Senate, S. 3368.

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About the Alliance for Peacebuilding

The Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP) is a membership network of over 100 organizations. Our members include some of the world’s largest development organizations, most innovative academic institutions, and the most powerful peacebuilding groups. We bring together coalitions in key areas of strategy and policy to elevate the entire peacebuilding field, tackling issues too large for any one organization to address alone. You can find out more about the Alliance for Peacebuilding on their website: allianceforpeacebuilding.org