



NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT

REFORM AND REBUILD: The Next Steps
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FY2019

The Constitution requires Congress to provide for the common defense, including specific direction to “raise and support Armies,” “provide and maintain a Navy,” and “make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.” For 57 years, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) has been the primary way through which Congress executes this constitutional obligation.

America’s military is facing challenges on multiple fronts, including the troubling increase in serious training accidents in all the military services; the re-emergence of competitors like Russia and China; the nuclear ambitions of Iran and North Korea; and the imperative to keep up the pressure on ISIS, al Qaeda, and other terrorist groups. In his bill for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 NDAA, **Chairman Thornberry implements new reforms designed to speed decision making and improve military agility, while simultaneously restoring readiness and increasing capability and capacity in a force that has been asked to do too much with too little for too long.**

Last year, President Trump prioritized rebuilding the military. He issued a new National Security Strategy, National Defense Strategy, and a Nuclear Posture Review to address a world with a wider spectrum of serious threats than at any time in our history. The FY19 NDAA focuses rebuilding efforts on implementing these new strategies.

The NDAA complies with the bipartisan budget agreement and supports a base budget of **\$639.1 billion**, including **significant increases for readiness recovery**. The bill is the result of rigorous bipartisan oversight, numerous visits with troops and facilities across the country and around the world, and the testimony of Secretary Mattis, Chairman Dunford, and other senior commanders and national security experts.

In supporting Secretary Mattis’ efforts to restore military readiness, the NDAA authorizes **\$18.6 billion to begin to rehabilitate and replace worn out Army equipment; \$39.5 billion** to begin to **overcome the crisis in military aviation** by getting more aircraft in the air;

\$36.0 billion to restore America’s strength at sea, and \$23.3 billion to sustain, repair and rebuild crumbling military buildings and other infrastructure.

TABLE 1: FY19 Funding Levels

DOD Discretionary Base Budget	\$616.7
DOE Discretionary Base Budget	22.1
Defense-Related Activities	0.3
FY19 Base Budget NDAA Topline	639.1
Overseas Contingency Operations	69.0
FY19 Discretionary Topline*	708.1
Defense Mandatory Spending **	8.9
FY19 NDAA Topline	717.0

**Does not include \$7.9 billion of authorizations not within HASC jurisdiction*

*** Includes statutory requirements for Concurrent Receipt; does not include \$0.6 billion outside HASC Jurisdiction*

CARING FOR TROOPS AND THEIR FAMILIES

While the world has grown more dangerous, our military has grown smaller. Rebuilding the U.S. military must begin with growing the number of uniformed personnel. To help alleviate the stress on the force, the NDAA authorizes **increases in the size of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Naval and Air Reserve, and Air Guard** commensurate with the threats we face.

Chairman Thornberry and members of the Committee agree that our personnel are our military’s most valuable asset. The bill **fully funds a 2.6% pay raise for our troops, which is the highest increase in nine years.** It also **extends special pay and bonuses for Servicemembers in high-demand fields.**

Continuing to recruit and retain America’s best and brightest in our Armed Forces remains paramount. The NDAA expands the Department’s authority to award **constructive service credit** for those entering the military with advanced education, experience, and training to help the military compete with the private sector in recruiting talent with specialized skills. It also makes permanent the **Career Intermission Program**, which allows Servicemembers to take a break from active service to pursue personal interests, family needs, professional education, or career opportunities.

The NDAA also takes steps to address the ongoing pilot shortage, which is hampering readiness in every Service. In an effort to address the persistent pilot shortage in the Air Force, the **NDAA requires the Service to evaluate all pilot staff requirements to maximize pilots’ time in the cockpit.** Similarly, the bill **extends the National Guard**

recruiting pilot program, which is designed to use retired senior enlisted members to fill recruiter positions so that current National Guard members can focus on their primary mission.

Ensuring the country keeps faith with those who serve, and their families is a key priority for the Committee. The NDAA seeks to enhance ongoing Military Health System organizational reforms. The bill ensures **no military medical treatment facility will be closed or downgraded** until all facilities are transitioned to the Defense Health Agency. It also requires a comprehensive review of both wounded warrior care and mental health services to ensure service members receive the best possible treatment. Finally, it directs the Secretary of the Army to take steps **to extend the life of Arlington National Cemetery**.

The Chairman and Committee members are committed to taking additional steps to protect Servicemembers and their families from misconduct. The NDAA continues to provide oversight of critical issues including: directing the Department of Defense to improve the process for reporting crimes to the FBI database; requiring Department of Defense schools to **improve their tracking of juvenile misconduct**; and refining sexual assault prevention and response to better assist victims.

Honoring Those Who Have Served

As America approaches the 100th anniversary of the Armistice which ended World War I, the NDAA **looks back on a century of military service** and focuses on the men and women who sacrificed to secure America's freedoms. Those sacrifices eventually built and secured a world order that raised living standards around the globe, gave millions a greater say in their government, and prevented another global conflict in the last seventy-three years. However, this global order is increasingly under threat from competitors like Russia and China. At the same time, far too many American veterans and their families believe their sacrifices have not been given the public recognition that they deserve. Chairman Thornberry agrees with President Trump that **it is appropriate to honor and celebrate 100 years of patriotic sacrifice in a way that expresses appreciation and admiration for our men and women in uniform, including a parade in the nation's capital and a national celebration for that purpose**. Chairman Thornberry also recognizes that our strength is and always has been in our people. To ensure that veterans and those currently serving remain the focus of any parade and that efforts to restore readiness are not slowed, the Chairman's Proposal **prohibits the use of operational units or equipment in the parade if the Secretary of Defense believes such use will hamper readiness**. For too long our men and women in uniform have been victims of political discord. Honoring those who have served our nation over the past 100 years, including those who served in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan, should not be a political matter. **Veterans of those conflicts did not let politics stand in the way of their service to the country. No political interest or concern should stand in the way of expressing the country's gratitude and respect.**

RESTORING READINESS

In 2017, nearly four times as many members of the military died in training accidents as were killed in combat. In all, 21 Servicemembers died in combat while 80 died as a result of non-combat training-related accidents. **This spring alone, 25 were killed in military aviation mishaps.** This tragic statistic is the latest in a chain of evidence that has led Chairman Thornberry and many members of the Armed Services Committee to believe that America's Military is **"at a crisis point."**

According to an investigation by the Military Times "accidents involving all of the military's manned fighter, bomber, helicopter, and cargo warplanes rose by nearly 40 percent from fiscal years 2013-2017." The Military times notes that 133 service members were killed as a result of those accidents.

This crisis is not limited to military aviation. This past summer, the Navy lost 17 Sailors in separate collisions involving the USS McCain and the USS Fitzgerald. Navy investigators later found that both accidents were related to ongoing Navy readiness problems.

Rebuilding the military so that our troops can safely meet current and future threats to the country is the primary focus of the NDAA. Expert testimony to the Armed Services Committee indicates that readiness challenges are too big to overcome in a single year. However, **the Committee believes that the steps taken in the bill will begin to restore strength and safety to the military.**

Increased Training

The NDAA begins with **increased funding for training in each Service.** This increase will allow the Army to conduct 20 Combat Training Center rotations in FY19, including four rotations for the Army National Guard, doubling the number of Brigade Combat Teams sent to the Center. It will also enable the Army to hold two Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB) culminating training events a year, enhancing the Army's combat capability and capacity. The bill also enables the Marine Corps to continue maximizing the capacity of their full-spectrum collective training exercises that will help restore the capability of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force.

In addition to the President's Budget Request, the Committee has heeded the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Readiness and **increased funding for flying hours by \$24.2 million.** By allowing more time in the air, this increase will help reverse the tragic trend of military aviation accidents highlighted above.

Similarly, the NDAA **increases funding for other training operations by nearly \$83 million above the increase already included in the President's Budget Proposal.** This

includes additional funds for simulations and full-spectrum training exercises while also preserving the ability of the Services to provide valuable small-unit training.

The bill authorizes an additional \$58.9 million to improve and modernize major combat range and test facility bases to include procurement of advanced threat radar systems. These upgrades will improve open-air range test capabilities on a timeline that will aid the Air Force's development of next-generation equipment and aerial armament, and addresses the growing challenges, which confront the nation's vital training ranges.

Aviation Readiness

The NDAA builds on the work of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee and **facilitates efforts to better address the increased occurrences of physiological episodes** (PEs) in tactical and training aircraft. The bill requires the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force to certify that any new aircraft will all have the most recent technological advancements necessary to mitigate PEs.

The NDAA also includes an additional \$10.0 million to help accelerate technology development required to mitigate PEs.

The NDAA fully supports the President's budget request of **\$2.8 billion for the procurement of spare airplane parts** for the Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. It also authorizes an additional \$100.0 million for spare parts for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

Building on committee oversight and prior National Defense Authorization Act legislation, the bill continues to stress the importance of **modernizing the A-10 Warthog fleet**. It also includes an increase of \$65.0 million for the A-10 wing replacement program and directs the Air Force to consider using multi-year procurement contracts to generate better cost-savings.

Repairing Equipment

In addition to aircraft, testimony to the Committee and other oversight reveals that the lack of spare parts and aging or inefficient maintenance facilities also degrade readiness. Troops cannot train on equipment that does not work, nor can they safely deploy with systems that are poorly-maintained. Many important types of equipment are being used continually which complicates or prevents the performance of necessary maintenance.

The NDAA reflects the work of the Readiness Subcommittee in providing **\$21.8 billion for equipment maintenance and \$3.7 billion for spare parts**. This is an increase of \$927.9 million over the FY18 Omnibus.

Readiness At Sea

The fatal accidents aboard the USS Fitzgerald and USS McCain highlight readiness challenges within the Navy. The Navy's own investigation found "fundamental failures to responsibly plan, prepare, and execute ship activities and to avoid undue operational risk."

Following these tragic accidents, the Subcommittee on Readiness and the Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces conducted a series of joint oversight activities examining the accidents and overall Navy readiness. As a result, the NDAA:

- Directs the Navy to provide **clear chains of command** for operations, for building readiness, and for shipyard maintenance.
- Requires the Navy to establish **separate career paths for Surface Warfare Officers** to help produce crews that are properly trained and skilled and that have proficient leadership.
- **Limits the time a Navy vessel is forward deployed** overseas to no more than ten years.
- Ensures the Navy **retains sufficient ship repair capability** in the Western Pacific by prohibiting the redevelopment of the Former Ship Repair Facility on Guam.
- Requires the Secretary of the Navy to provide a report on the ways to optimize surface Navy vessel inspection crew certifications to reduce redundancies and the burden on inspection visits that ships undergo.

Additionally, Committee oversight identified flaws in the Navy's readiness inspection process. Ships and crews often cram to prepare for pre-determined inspection periods rather than maintain a constant state of high readiness. To encourage more consistent readiness, and to eliminate the stress caused by inspection preparation, the NDAA **requires the Navy's Board of Inspection and Survey inspections to be conducted on a no-notice basis**. The bill also mandates that the results of those inspections be unclassified and available to the public.

Finally, the Committee continues to be concerned about the stress on the Navy forces and families. **The Navy has been unable to meet Combatant Commander requirements because it has too few ships**. As a consequence, the Navy has occasionally extended the length of time that vessels are deployed. To partially address the vessel shortfall, the NDAA supports the **accelerated construction of the fourth Ford-class aircraft carrier**, construction of **two additional Littoral Combat Ships**, and supports **two additional Virginia-class attack submarines** in fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

Building A Modern Force

Committee oversight demonstrates that maintaining outdated equipment is more expensive and puts troops at higher risk than procuring newer more capable systems. Further, as a result of constrained budgets, the military postponed the purchase of modernized equipment in order to instead fund current operations and maintain readiness. Because of this, the NDAA supports the President's request to **buy new equipment to replace that which is too broken or too expensive to repair, or lack modern capabilities useful against current and emerging threats**.

In some cases, the NDAA was able to add additional funds above the President's request. The NDAA:

- Authorizes \$360.0 million, an increase of \$338.1 million, for **Stryker A1 combat vehicles**, the most survivable and advanced version of the Stryker combat vehicle.
- Supports the President's budget request to **modernize Army Armored Brigade Combat Team vehicles**, including 135 M1 Abrams tanks, 60 Bradley fighting vehicles, 197 Armored multi-purpose vehicles, 38 Improved Recovery Vehicles, and 3,390 Joint Light Tactical Vehicles.
- Authorizes multiyear procurement authorities for **F/A-18E/F Super Hornet aircraft, C-130 Super Hercules aircraft, E-2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft**, advanced missiles and amphibious ships to generate better cost savings for the taxpayer and provide needed capability to the Navy;
- Supports the President's budget request for the **F-35 Joint Strike Fighter** and authorizes 77 aircraft. The bill also authorizes the Department to procure additional F-35 aircraft, if additional funds become available, utilizing cost savings and program efficiencies.
- Authorizes an additional \$85.0 million for additional **UH-60M Black Hawk** utility helicopters for the Army National Guard. The most modern Black Hawk version.
- Supports additional funding to maintain the maximum production rate of **critical munitions**, such as small diameter bombs, joint direct attack munitions, hellfire missiles, advanced precision kill weapon systems, long range anti-ship missiles, tomahawk missiles, advanced medium-range air-to-air missiles and torpedoes.
- Mandates recapitalization of the **Navy's 43-year old auxiliary fleet** which would help to transport Army and Marine Corps forces in times of conflict.
- Encourages the rapid development and fielding of interim maneuver short range **air defense capabilities** and **indirect fire protection solutions** to address current deficiencies in air and missile defense.
- Fully supports funding for the **Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine** and the **B-21 Raider bomber programs**.
- Adds \$150 million to accelerate U.S. efforts to field a **conventional prompt strike capability** before FY22, in response to the critical advances Russia and China have made in developing their prompt global strike hypersonic weapons.

Airborne Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR)

The NDAA strengthens and improves oversight of the Department's investments in airborne Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) programs in order to more efficiently and effectively meet combatant commander requirements, to include:

- Building on the work of the Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee and requiring the Secretary of the Air Force to **continue the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System Recapitalization (JSTARS Recap) program** and authorizing an additional \$623.0 million for this purpose. This will significantly increase Battle-Management, Command

and Control, and Ground-Moving Target Indicator intelligence capabilities and capacity over what's provided to combatant commanders today. Air Force analysis in recent years has concluded that this will minimize the risk faced by Service members.

- Including an additional \$60.0 million to improve the capability of the Army's **Gray Eagle** unmanned air system platform.
- Including an additional \$105.0 million for **EQ-4 unmanned aircraft systems**; a critical warfighting capability for providing communications relay and high-altitude ISR for combatant commanders.

Rebuilding Infrastructure

As overall military resources have declined, the military services have diverted funding away from buildings and other infrastructure in order to fund training and maintenance. This has resulted in a significant backlog of military infrastructure in urgent need of repair. The President's Budget Request makes substantial infrastructure investments, the Committee agreed with the Readiness Subcommittee on the need for even more funding. The NDAA:

- Increases funds for **facilities sustainment by \$470.9 million**
- Authorizes for appropriation **\$11.3 billion for military construction**, including family housing, and other infrastructure projects.
- Adds **\$340.5 million for depot maintenance**.

Chairman Thornberry is concerned that the Department of Defense does not have a full and accurate accounting of its real property or a realistic assessment of its excess capacity. Secretary Mattis has testified that he does not believe the Department's existing assessments of its excess infrastructure are accurate. **The Department of Defense did not request a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) effort this year and the NDAA does not authorize one.**

However, the NDAA does recognize that there are small installations around the country that have outlasted their purpose and their continued operation places an undue burden on the taxpayers and on the local community. The bill includes a **new authority, with the consent of relevant state and local officials, to close such small installations where the Secretary of Defense can do so affordably.**

Expanding Agility

Slow decision-making and overly-bureaucratic processes drain our military's fighting strength and pose unacceptable risk to America's warfighters just as surely as inadequate training or poorly maintained equipment. Chairman Thornberry's Proposal continues his annual series of reforms to the Department of Defense. Past reforms have streamlined procurement processes, improved health care, and directed DOD enterprise data standards to support well-informed

decisions. The President's Budget Request indicates that **Chairman Thornberry's reforms are already saving the taxpayers billions, including \$1 billion in health care savings alone.**

The NDAA provides for a historic clarification of the acquisition process by **restructuring the United States Code** to logically assemble all acquisition-related statutes in one place for the first time since 1947. In so doing, the bill also repeals dozens of obsolete provisions of law, prescriptive statutory requirements for positions and offices, and outdated reporting requirements. To further increase clarity and consistency, the NDAA separates commercial items into either "commercial products" or "commercial services," and creates a precise definition for "subcontract."

Reforming Bureaucracy

The NDAA also undertakes significant bureaucratic reforms. These reforms focus on a collection of Defense agencies that are not part of a military Service and do not report directly to the Secretary of Defense. The almost 30 defense agencies and field activities which comprise this group (which is informally known as the "**4th Estate**") account for 20% of DOD's budget, 25% of the workforce, and have enormous influence on day-to-day operations.

The NDAA empowers the newly-created DOD Chief Management Officer (CMO) to eliminate redundancy and "back office" overhead in these agencies. The CMO will be charged with **finding efficiencies and reducing by 25% the budget of certain Department-wide activities**, including logistics, human resources, services contracting, and real property management, by 2021. The CMO must continue to review these activities every five years thereafter.

Additionally, specific defense agencies like the Washington Headquarters Service will be eliminated, and the Secretary and CMO will be given the responsibility to **review the function of each component of the 4th Estate to validate its usefulness to Servicemembers or propose its elimination.**

Finally, this year's NDAA continues to emphasize **enhanced accountability**. For example, it **requires the Army Marketing Group** to implement measures to improve the effectiveness of its advertising and marketing campaign and to provide additional review and oversight of related contracts. In order to ensure these new accountability procedures are implemented, the NDAA withholds a portion of funding until required action is undertaken. The bill also requires DoD to establish a comprehensive plan for implementing the Department's **new harassment prevention and response policy** and to standardize reports of Senior Leader Misconduct.

Readiness Accountability

To ensure that the additional readiness resources are spent wisely, the NDAA includes a number of accountability and reporting requirements, including:

- An **enhanced quarterly readiness report** that includes measures of cyber and Space readiness.
- A new requirement for combatant commanders to report readiness to fight an integrated battle using air, ground, sea, Space, and cyber forces; and
- A new requirement for the Government Accountability Office to assess the Services' readiness against set metrics over time, in order to measure readiness trends based upon resources provided.

STRATEGIC READINESS

Nuclear Deterrence

Competitors like Russia and China are investing in new strategic weapons designed to challenge our credible nuclear deterrent, undermine our missile defense capabilities, and erode the advantages we derive from Space. The NDAA takes a comprehensive approach to ensuring our security by answering each one of those these challenges.

Russia and China are building new modern nuclear weapons. At the same time, America's nuclear deterrent has been neglected. The NDAA supports the efforts outlined in Secretary Mattis' Nuclear Posture Review and **makes critical investments to modernize America's nuclear deterrent and align it with modern threats**. Critics in the nuclear disarmament community falsely claim that the cost to maintain a robust deterrent is not worth the security it provides to the country. The Committee notes that under Secretary Mattis' plan, spending to operate and restore the nuclear deterrent **will never exceed 7% of defense spending** ----- a reasonable expenditure when one considers that deterrence is the cornerstone of America's security. The NDAA builds on the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces and:

- Supports the Nuclear Posture Review's recommendation to pursue a **lower-yield ballistic missile warhead to strengthen deterrence**.
- Supports the President's budget request to restore the nuclear arsenal and adds **\$325 million for the National Nuclear Security Administration's nuclear weapons activities** and defense nuclear nonproliferation program, including efforts to modernize the nuclear weapons stockpile and address NNSA's aging facilities and other infrastructure.
- Provides increased funding to accelerate two key Air Force nuclear modernization programs: **The Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent** and the **Long-Range Standoff cruise missile**.

Missile Defense

The Committee believes the threats from North Korea and Iran demonstrate that the time to debate the utility or practicality of missile defenses has passed. Again, building on the work of the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, the NDAA:

- Supports the President's request for missile defense and adds **\$140 million to the Missile Defense Agency (MDA)** for development of critical directed energy, and Space sensing projects, and the acceleration of hypersonic defense capabilities.
- Adds \$175 million to accelerate integration of **Patriot** (for lower altitudes) and **Terminal High Altitude Area Defense** (higher altitudes) missiles to meet the requirements of the Commander of U.S. Forces in Korea.
- Requires the director of MDA establish a **boost phase intercept program** using kinetic interceptors, initiate development of a missile defense tracking and discrimination Space sensor layer and continue efforts to develop high power directed energy for missile defense applications.
- Requires the Director of MDA to continue development for the **homeland defense radar in Hawaii**, and that it be operationally capable by FY23.
- Provides increased funding to address **cyber threats** to our missile defense systems.
- Supports the President's request of \$500 million for co-development of missile defense systems with Israel, and co-production of **Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow weapons systems**.

Space Warfighting

Russia and China are developing capabilities to deny the United States the advantages we derive from operating in space. Equally concerning is the inability of the organizations responsible for the nation's national security-related space activities to prepare for Space to become a warfighting domain and to adequately develop and/or acquire essential national security Space systems.

Efforts to reform the Department's approach to Space issues can be summarized in four equally important elements: acquisition reform, resources, cadre development, and joint warfighting. The NDAA comprehensively addresses each one of these lines of effort to ensure that our Servicemembers are ready to defend our vital national interests in space. The bill also ensures that the Department's Space investments are being executed in a way to ensure increased agility, lethality, and accountability by the Department of Defense. The NDAA:

- Directs the Department of Defense to develop a plan to **establish a separate alternative acquisition process for Space acquisitions**.
- Directs the Secretary of the Air Force to develop and implement a plan to **increase the size and quality of the Space cadre within the Air Force**.
- Establishes a **new numbered Air Force** responsible for carrying out Space warfighting.

- Establishes a **sub-unified command for Space** under the Strategic Command for carrying out joint Space warfighting.
- Directs the Secretary of Defense to develop a plan that **identifies joint mission-essential tasks for Space as a warfighting domain**.
- Supports the President’s request for Next Generation Overhead Persistent Infrared, Protected Satellite Communications, and the Air Force’s Space launch efforts.

FACING NEW THREATS

Dedicating additional resources to restoring readiness is only helpful if they are accompanied by policies that ensure the force is configured to best meet the threats we face. As Secretary Mattis pointed out, while countries like Russia and China are reasserting their power and leveraging new technologies, “our competitive edge has eroded in every domain of warfare, air, land, sea, Space, and cyberspace, and it is continuing to erode.”

The NDAA includes threat-specific initiatives designed to maximize defense resources and keep America safe.

Emerging Technologies

America’s security is challenged by our strategic competitors’ advances in Artificial Intelligence, Space and counter-Space capabilities, Cyber, Influence Operations, and Hypersonics, among others. To address these threats, the NDAA:

- Places emphasis on policy and programs to advance **Artificial Intelligence, machine learning, quantum computing, and other critical national security technologies**;
- Fully supports innovation efforts of the **Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency**, and **Defense Innovation Unit Experimental** to ensure our technological superiority and dominance over current and future threats;
- **Advances hypersonic and directed energy weapons research**, development, and transition efforts within DoD;
- Provides additional funds to accelerate Artificial Intelligence, machine learning programs, as well as directed energy, and hypersonics programs.

Russia

The National Defense Strategy points out that Russia seeks to “shatter the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and change European and Middle East security and economic structures to its favor.” Russia has violated key arms control treaties, expanded and modernized its nuclear arsenal, tested counter-Space weapons, and used emerging technologies to undermine its neighbors. The NDAA Proposal confronts Russia by:

- **Withholding funding for Open Skies Treaty aircraft and sensors** until Russia again complies with the Treaty and takes other steps, including agreeing to extradite Russian nationals who have been indicted for their actions against the United States during the 2016 election.)
- **Funding research and development** to counter weapons being deployed by Russia that are in contravention of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces treaty.
- Levying **new sanctions on Russia's arms industry** in response to that country's treaty violations.
- **Prohibiting military-to-military cooperation with Russia.**
- Prohibiting the U.S. government's recognition of the absorption of Crimea into the Russian Federation.
- Funding the President's request for Ukraine, including **\$250 million for lethal defensive items.**
- Funding the President's request for **\$6.3 billion for the European Deterrence Initiative** (EDI) to further increase number of U.S. troops in Europe, reassure U.S. partners and allies, and deter Russian aggression.
- **Moves the EDI-related request** for wartime materiel, known as the "Army Prepositioned Stock Unit Set" **to the base budget**, to encourage future such requests be to be included in the base budget.
- Instructing the President to designate an official on the staff of the National Security Council to **coordinate a whole-of-government response to malign foreign influence** campaigns against the United States.
- **Bolstering international partnerships** and providing additional funding for cyber warfare and influence operations to counter Russian aggression, cyber, and information warfare threats.

China

China, governed by the dictates of the Chinese Communist Party, is working to undermine the world order which has existed since the end of World War II. According to the National Defense Strategy, China is using an "all-of-nation long-term strategy" and "leveraging military modernization, influence operations, and predatory economics to coerce neighboring countries to reorder the Indo-Pacific region to their advantage." To counter this approach and reassure our allies and partners, the NDAA:

- **Directs a whole-of-government strategy** to confront the People's Republic of China
- Bolsters DOD's efforts to plan for and provide the necessary forces and military infrastructure, and logistics capabilities, in the region through the Indo-Pacific Stability Initiative.
- **Expands and extends maritime security cooperation** through the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative to increase maritime security and maritime domain awareness in the South China Sea and Indian Ocean.
- Supports **military exercises** with Japan, Australia, and India.

- **Improves security cooperation** to counter China’s rising influence in Africa, Southeast Asia, and other regions.
- Instructs the President to designate an official on the staff of the National Security Council to coordinate a whole-of-government response to malign foreign influence campaigns against the United States.
- Supports **improving Taiwan’s defense capabilities**, expands joint training, foreign military sales, the use of security cooperation authorities, and senior-level military-to-military engagement initiatives with Taiwan.,.
- **Prohibits any U.S. government agency from using risky technology** produced by Huawei or ZTE, two companies linked to the Chinese Communist Party’s intelligence apparatus. (This Proposal enjoys wide bipartisan support and is in concert with recent unanimous regulatory actions by the Federal Communications Commission.)

North Korea

North Korea continues its dangerous and destabilizing development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles. According to the National Defense Strategy, North Korea seeks “a mixture of nuclear, biological, chemical, conventional, and unconventional weapons and a growing ballistic missile capability to gain coercive influence over South Korea, Japan, and the United States.” Accordingly, the NDAA:

- **Ensures US forces are ready** for a potential conflict on the Korean Peninsula.
- Expresses **support for regional missile defense exercises** to improve interoperability.
- Supports the President’s budget request for the **Army’s precision strike missile program**.
- Bolsters DOD’s efforts to plan for and provide the necessary forces, military infrastructure, and basing, logistics capabilities and invests in **new missile defense capabilities** (as discussed above).

Counterterrorism

Even as America’s Military prepares for new threats, we must also keep up the pressure on terrorist groups that threaten U.S. interests, including ISIS and al Qaeda. The NDAA:

- Authorizes the **Counter ISIS Train and Equip fund** to aid partners and allies fighting ISIS.
- **Extends the Syria Train and Equip Authority** through 2019 so that U.S. partners in Syria can consolidate gains against ISIS and requires the President to submit an updated implementation plan.
- Authorizes **continued security cooperation with the Government of Iraq** to consolidate gains against ISIS.

- Maintains the **Coalition Support Fund** to reimburse partners and allies that contribute to U.S. counterterrorism efforts and to encourage Pakistan to do more to counter the groups that threaten stability in Afghanistan.
- **Supports the Afghan military** (particularly the Afghan Special Security Forces and the Afghan Air Force) in its fight against the Taliban, and ISIS Khorasan, through the Afghan Security Forces Fund.
- Authorizes **U.S. Special Operations Command** programs and activities, including ongoing efforts in **Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, Somalia, and Eastern Europe**.
- Extends critical authorities for special operations and **personnel recovery programs**.
- Improves congressional oversight of ongoing counterterrorism and sensitive activities.

Iran

Iran continues its malign activities across the Middle East in an effort to achieve regional hegemony. The NDAA is designed to revitalize America's alliances as a bulwark against Iranian influence, ensure the United States has the military posture in the region to deter Iranian aggression, allows the Pentagon to plan for a robust defense against Iran, and increase pressure on Iran's proxy network in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and elsewhere. The NDAA:

- Revitalizes partnerships in the region by establishing a **Defense Partnership to Counter Iran**, extending the authority for the Counter ISIS fund, and expresses Congress' support for Gulf Cooperation Council unity.
- Provides for a robust military posture in the region by increasing oversight of countermine assets, **accelerates the next Ford Class aircraft carrier** to close the carrier gap in the Gulf, and increases regional missile defense cooperation and deployment.
- Increases oversight of items essential to deterring Iran and other hostile actors, including munitions stockpiles, Patriot missiles, cooperation on efforts to counter Unmanned Aerial Systems, and missile defense of the United States.

Security Cooperation

U.S. national security is bolstered by ensuring that allies and partners can defend themselves, operate alongside U.S. forces, and contribute to coalitions supporting U.S. objectives. Allies and partners must also be able to enhance interoperability with the United States, conduct counterterrorism operations, and help to deter the malign influence of shared competitors and adversaries. The NDAA:

- Builds upon previous reforms to ensure the security cooperation enterprise is efficient and effective.
- Continues to improve the Foreign Military Sales process to support U.S. security objectives and the defense industry.