

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
August 30, 31, September 1, 2022**

Resolution No. 51: Fully Fund the International Affairs Budget

Origin: Arizona

Submitted by: Convention Committee on National Security

WHEREAS, American national security and economic interests must be protected; and
WHEREAS, The threats facing the United States cannot be solved by military power alone;
and

WHEREAS, The instruments of national power are diplomacy, information, military and economics, represented by the acronym D.I.M.E.; and

WHEREAS, Diplomacy and development, alongside a strong defense, help keep America and Americans safe and secure in a rapidly changing world; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of State carries out America's diplomacy and development missions, and

WHEREAS, The mission of the U.S. Department of State is "to protect and promote U.S. security, prosperity, and democratic values and shape an international environment in which all Americans can thrive"; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of State and American diplomacy and development programs work to ensure that international crises are prevented as often as possible rather than allowed to escalate to hostilities requiring military action, among other missions; and

WHEREAS, The International Affairs Budget, passed by Congress each fiscal year as a part of the national budget, is the budget that funds the U.S. Department of State, America's embassies, consulates, and diplomacy and development missions, such as the United States Agency for International Development, the Development Finance Corporation, Peace Corps, and other programs; and

WHEREAS, The International Affairs Budget typically only represents approximately 1 percent of each fiscal year's budget overall; and

WHEREAS, The International Affairs Budget creates a significant return on investment for American taxpayers as a key to advancing American economic prosperity, American national security interests and demonstrating American values worldwide alongside defense; and

WHEREAS, The goals of America's diplomacy and development missions cannot be fully carried out in the best interest of the American people without proper funding; and

WHEREAS, The National Security pillar of The American Legion aligns with the purpose of the International Affairs Budget, the mission of the U.S. Department of State, and the various programs which support America's diplomatic and development programs; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion "encourages increased federal funding for foreign relations and international affairs, and for the Department of State's continuing efforts to seek peaceful and diplomatic solutions to world conflicts"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The American Legion in National Convention assembled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 30, 31, September 1, 2022, That The American Legion urges Congress to fully resource and fund the International Affairs Budget each year, as requested by the administration, in support of America's national security, democracy and economic interests.