## Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney Chairwoman Committee on Oversight and Reform Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney:

The House Committee on Oversight and Reform must follow its mandate to conduct oversight of the expenditures of U.S. taxpayer funds that are vulnerable to waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement. This includes the recent supplemental funding designed to assist Ukraine. In response to the Russian invasion and subsequent war in Ukraine, Congress approved an emergency military and humanitarian aid package totaling \$13.6 billion. As the war continues, the world is bearing witness to the horrors perpetrated by Russian President Vladimir Putin, who is now unquestionably a war criminal. It is vital that this congressionally appropriated aid is distributed effectively and efficiently to best support not only the Ukrainian military resistance but also those Ukrainian civilians currently under Russian siege or displaced by Russian aggression. As such, we call on you to immediately convene a hearing to oversee and evaluate agency performance and effectiveness in the distribution of U.S. taxpayer dollars in Ukraine.

The recent aid package was divided into four primary categories: (1) \$6.9 billion for traditional foreign aid, including humanitarian assistance, (2) \$3.5 billion for military supplies, including additional and replacement lethal materiel, (3) \$3 billion for U.S. deployment and intelligence programs, including support to the troops currently deployed to the European theater, and (4) \$175.5 million for enforcing sanctions and other aid, including investigating cyber threats.<sup>3</sup> With this significant amount of money, it is imperative the Committee provide real time oversight to ensure that taxpayer dollars are going to where they can best assist the Ukrainian people.

Russia's war against Ukraine has led to thousands of civilian deaths, millions of refugees, millions more internally displaced, shortages of food, energy, and other necessities. We must ensure that typical red tape and federal bureaucracy do not delay this aid from reaching the Ukrainian people or lead to taxpayer dollars going to bad actors. Further, Russia continues to choose to attack Ukrainian infrastructure like roads and rails. This poses a significant challenge to the delivery of aid. To assist the Committee in understanding these issues, we request an immediate hearing with the following witnesses:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> House Rule X.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bianca Pallaro & Alicia Parlapiano, *Visualizing the \$13.6 Billion in U.S. Spending on Ukraine*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 18, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id*.

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney March 31, 2022 Page 2

- The Honorable Antony Blinken Secretary U.S. Department of State
- The Honorable Samantha Power Administrator
   U.S. Agency for International Development
- The Honorable Lloyd Austin Secretary U.S. Department of Defense
- The Honorable Shalanda Young Director
   Office of Management and Budget

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

James Comer
Ranking Member

Committee on Oversight and Reform

Jody Hice

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Government

Operations

Michael Cloud Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Economic and

**Consumer Policy** 

Victoria Spartz

Member of Congress

Glenn S. Grothman Ranking Member

Subcommittee on National Security

Ralph Norman

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Environment

The Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney March 31, 2022 Page 3

Virginia Foxx

Member of Congress

Clay Higgins Member of Congress

Fred Keller Member of Congress

Andrew S. Clyde Member of Congress

Jake LaTurner Member of Congress

Byron Donalds Member of Congress

The Honorable Gerald E. Connolly, Chairman cc: Subcommittee on Government Operations

> The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch, Chairman Subcommittee on National Security

The Honorable Raja Krishnamoorthi, Chairman Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy

The Honorable Ro Khanna, Chairman Subcommittee on Environment

**Bob Gibbs** Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Andy Biggs Member of Congress

C. Scott Franklin Member of Congress

Member of Congress