



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

SEP 09 2014

Dear Senator Portman:

Thank you for your letter of July 31 to President Obama regarding U.S. assistance to Ukraine. We have been asked to respond on the President's behalf.

Since the beginning of the crisis, the United States has worked to build a strong international coalition to support Ukraine. We are also continuing to work with Allies and partners to increase the cost on Russia for its actions undermining Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, including its destabilizing activities in eastern Ukraine and attempted occupation of Crimea.

In addition to economic assistance, we are working to provide \$70 million in training and non-lethal equipment to the Government of Ukraine: \$26 million to the State Border Guard Service, \$25 million to the Ministry of Defense (MoD), and \$19 million to the National Guard. Our assistance to the border guards is aimed at helping Ukraine better monitor and secure its vast border with Russia to help prevent the flow of weapons and fighters. Our assistance to the MoD is providing equipment to help enable Ukrainian forces operate more effectively and regain control over their sovereign territory. The Departments of State and Defense notified Congress on July 18 of our intent to provide assistance through the Global Security Contingency Fund (GSCF) for training and non-lethal equipment to Ukraine's National Guard to conduct internal defense operations.

Much of the materiel assistance we are providing has arrived, including vehicles, radios, surveillance equipment, helmets, MREs, body armor, heavy engineering machinery, first aid kits, and medical equipment. Even more materiel is on the way, including additional radios and body armor, night and thermal vision devices, light patrol boats, tents, and many other related items. We also have begun a process, led by U.S. European Command and Department of Defense civilian experts, to work with Ukraine to identify the best areas for continued U.S. engagement to build Ukraine's long-term capacity to provide for its own defense and improve interoperability with U.S. and other Western forces.

The Honorable
Rob Portman,
United States Senate.

We appreciate Congress's continued bipartisan support for Ukraine. We look forward to working with you on the Administration's proposal to provide an additional \$45 million in FY15 Foreign Military Financing for Ukraine through the European Reassurance Initiative, as well as for the July 18 Congressional notification to provide assistance through the GSCF, as noted above.

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact us on any matter of concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Frifield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'F'.

Julia Frifield
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs