



**Alliance for
Peacebuilding**

[PRESS RELEASE](#)

AfP Hails The Global Fragility Act, A Bipartisan Game Changer In Preventing And Reducing Violent Conflict

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Washington, D.C., USA. – The Alliance for Peacebuilding (AfP) commended the 46 bipartisan Congressional co-sponsors of the Global Fragility Act (GFA) which was passed by Congress as part of the [2020 Consolidated Appropriations Act](#) and signed into law by President Trump on December 20, 2019. Congressional and White House approval of this bill represents a historic victory for the peacebuilding field, which has long advocated for the GFA as a game-changing way forward to prevent and reduce violent conflict. The GFA will create the first-ever comprehensive U.S. government strategy to tackle and prevent spiraling global conflict.

AfP President and CEO Uzra Zeya noted, “The Alliance for Peacebuilding looks forward to working with the U.S. Administration, the U.S. Congress, and civil society partners to ensure meaningful GFA implementation, rooted in evidence and local leadership. The GFA is proof of a growing bipartisan consensus for elevating peaceful prevention in U.S. foreign policy and assistance, and signals that the status quo and securitized approaches of the last two decades have not delivered and need a reboot.”



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An ongoing, 30-year peak in wars and violence has triggered the worst displacement and refugee crisis ever recorded, displacing more than 70 million people. Just fifteen years ago, approximately 80% of humanitarian aid went to helping the victims of natural disasters, but today that ratio is reversed, with 80% of aid going to meet the needs of victims of violent conflict. Violent conflict also fuels violent extremism and remains the primary driver of terrorism, with over 95% of deaths from terrorism occurring in countries already in conflict. When combined with countries with high levels of political terror, the number jumps to over 99%. **By addressing the drivers of violent conflict and taking a sustained, whole of government approach, the GFA can help prevent conflict from occurring or spreading in fragile states, obviating the need for costly military interventions and saving lives and taxpayer dollars.**

What the GFA Accomplishes:

- Focuses U.S. foreign assistance on preventing violence and conflict in fragile countries;
- Saves U.S. taxpayers money by addressing the prevention and the causes of violent conflict rather than the costlier approach of containing it;
- Increases transparency and accountability by mandating biennial reports to Congress and the American people;
- Strengthens research to identify the foreign assistance programs and diplomatic approaches that are most effective at preventing violence and conflict;
- Dedicates \$1.15 billion over the next five years for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in countries at risk of violence and conflict.

Passing this legislation took determination and collaboration from Congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle. We applaud the bi-partisan leadership of the Global Fragility Act's lead sponsors, Senators Chris Coons (D-DE) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC), as well as Representatives Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Michael McCaul (R-TX), the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. Other original co-sponsors of the legislation include Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Marco Rubio (R-FL), and Todd Young (R-IN) and Representatives Bill Keating (D-MA), Francis Rooney (R-FL), Adam Smith (D-WA) and Ann Wagner (R-MO). A bipartisan group of 26 Senators and 20 Representatives co-sponsored the bill, and their support was key to the Global Fragility Act's success.



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The Alliance for Peacebuilding and Mercy Corps co-lead a non-partisan coalition of 67 peacebuilding and development organizations that are dedicated to the passage and successful implementation of the GFA. The GFA Coalition is committed to ensuring successful implementation in 2020 and will work closely with both Congress and the Administration.

Global Fragility Act Coalition

1. Alliance for Peacebuilding
2. American Friends Service Committee
3. American Jewish World Service
4. The Borgen Project
5. CARE
6. Carl Wilkens Fellows
7. Catholic Relief Services
8. CDA Collaborative Learning
9. Center for Civilians in Conflict (CIVIC)
10. Center on Conscience & War
11. Charity & Security Network
12. Chemonics
13. Church of the Brethren, Office of Public Witness
14. Conciliation Resources
15. Conference of Major Superiors of Men
16. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, US Provinces
17. Cure Violence
18. Educators' Institute for Human Rights
19. The Episcopal Church
20. Food for the Hungry
21. Foreign Policy 4 America
22. Franciscan Action Network
23. Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)
24. Futures Without Violence
25. Generations for Peace
26. Global Communities
27. Global Water 2020
28. Grace Initiative Global
29. The HALO Trust USA
30. Humanity United Action
31. i-ACT
32. In Defense of Christians



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33. Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy
34. InterAction
35. International Alert
36. International Civil Society Action Network
37. International Crisis Group (ICG)
38. International Medical Corps
39. International Rescue Committee
40. Jewish World Watch
41. Karuna Center for Peacebuilding
42. Kroc School of Peace Studies, University of San Diego
43. Leadership Conference of Women Religious
44. Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
45. Mercy Corps
46. National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
47. National Latino Evangelical Coalition
48. Never Again Coalition
49. Nuru International
50. ONE Campaign
51. Pax Christi International
52. Pax Christi USA
53. Peace Direct
54. Presbyterian Church (USA)
55. PRBB Foundation
56. Saferworld
57. Save the Children
58. Search for Common Ground
59. ShelterBox
60. STAND
61. Stop Genocide Now
62. United Church of Christ
63. United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
64. Women for Afghan Women
65. World Learning / School for International Training
66. World Relief
67. World Vision



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With over 110 member organizations, AfP brings together the largest development organizations, most innovative academic institutions, and influential humanitarian and faith-based groups to harness collective action for peace. We build 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.