

BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND, CHAIRMAN
JONI ERNST, IOWA, RANKING MEMBER

MARIA CANTWELL, WASHINGTON
JEANNE SHAHEEN, NEW HAMPSHIRE
EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS
CORY A. BOOKER, NEW JERSEY
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, DELAWARE
MAZIE HIRONO, HAWAII
TAMMY DUCKWORTH, ILLINOIS
JACKY ROSEN, NEVADA
JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, COLORADO

MARCO RUBIO, FLORIDA
JAMES E. RISCH, IDAHO
RAND PAUL, KENTUCKY
TIM SCOTT, SOUTH CAROLINA
TODD YOUNG, INDIANA
JOHN KENNEDY, LOUISIANA
JOSH HAWLEY, MISSOURI
TED BUDD, NORTH CAROLINA

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6350

TELEPHONE: (202) 224-5175 FAX: (202) 224-5619

SEAN MOORE, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR
MEREDITH WEST, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

December 6, 2023

The Honorable Samantha Power
Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

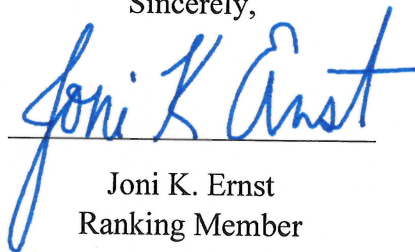
Dear Administrator Power,

On November 1st and November 15th, I contacted the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to request details regarding your agency's taxpayer-funded assistance in support of small businesses in Ukraine. As of today, I have not received the requested information in return. I find it deeply disappointing my repeated requests, on behalf of millions of American small businesses, are unworthy of a substantive reply.

Earlier this week, the White House released a letter indicating that the Department of Defense will run out of resources to procure weapons and equipment for Ukraine by the end of the year.¹ This letter expresses, with urgency, the Biden Administration's request for \$106 billion in new funds for military, humanitarian, and general foreign aid to Ukraine. In light of this request, Americans must know how your agency is spending their hard-earned tax dollars in support of Ukrainian businesses. It is unreasonable to expect Congress to act on a request of this magnitude without a complete understanding of where prior taxpayer-funded assistance has gone.

I urgently request a full response to my letter that you received on November 15th. Clarity on USAID's small business support activities in Ukraine is critical as Congress considers new supplemental appropriations for humanitarian and foreign assistance. Please provide a status update on your response to my information request no later than Wednesday, December 13th.

Sincerely,



Joni K. Ernst
Ranking Member

¹ December 4th Letter from Shalanda Young to Speaker Mike Johnson, Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget, December 4, 2023. https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Johnson_Ukraine-Funding_12.4.23.pdf