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To: 16 District, American Legion

Foreign Relations Report

Foreign relations refers to the management of relationships and dealings between countries. Any results of foreign policy dealings and decisions can be considered foreign relations.

The United States has formal diplomatic relations with most nations. This includes all UN member states and UN observer states other than (i) UN member states Bhutan, Iran, North Korea and Syria and (ii) the UN observer State of Palestine. Additionally, the U.S. has diplomatic relations with the European Union and Kosovo. The United States federal statutes relating to foreign relations can be found in Title 22 of the United States Code. For several years, the United States had the most diplomatic posts of any state.

The United States has many important allies in the Greater Middle East region. These allies are Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Jordan, Afghanistan, Israel, Egypt, Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar. Israel and Egypt are leading recipients of United States foreign aid, receiving \$2.775 billion and 1.75 billion in 2010. Jan 13 2020

A series of extreme claims Iran has made in recent weeks appear to reflect the regime's persistent fears it has not yet responded strongly enough to President Donald Trump's decision to kill prolific Iranian military commander Qassem Soleimani earlier this year, officials and analysts believe.

Budget proposals for fiscal 2021 released Monday afternoon call for \$4.5 billion for the European Deterrence Initiative, a fund started by the Obama administration in the aftermath of Russia's 2014 invasion of parts of eastern Ukraine and annexation of the Crimean Peninsula, which sparked a conflict that continues to inflict casualties on both sides. The latest proposal represents a precipitous drop from the \$6 billion enacted for the current fiscal year and \$6.5 billion the year before. Congress approved funding in line with administration requests for those years.

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Foreign Relations Committee