

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 69

JOINT RESOLUTION

Supporting a Diplomatic Solution in Yemen and Condemning
the Murder of Jamal Khashoggi.

Whereas the ongoing civil war in Yemen has exacerbated that country's humanitarian crisis, in which nearly 12,000,000 people are suffering from "severe hunger," according to the United Nations' World Food Programme;

Whereas there is no military solution to the conflict;

Whereas the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship is important to United States national security and economic interests;

Whereas the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has, in recent years, engaged in concerning behavior, including its conduct in the civil war in Yemen, apparent detention of the Prime Minister of Lebanon, undermining the unity of the Gulf Cooperation Council, expulsion of the Canadian ambassador, suppression of dissent within the Kingdom, and the murder of Jamal Khashoggi;

Whereas misleading statements by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia regarding the murder of Jamal Khashoggi have undermined trust and confidence in the longstanding friendship between the United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and

Whereas such erratic actions place unnecessary strain on the United States-Saudi Arabia relationship, which is an essential element of regional stability: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the Senate—

4 (1) believes Crown Prince Mohammed bin
5 Salman is responsible for the murder of Jamal
6 Khashoggi;

7 (2) acknowledges the United States Govern-
8 ment has sanctioned 17 Saudi individuals under the
9 Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act
10 (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22
11 U.S.C. 2656 note) for their roles in the murder;

12 (3) calls for the Government of the Kingdom of
13 Saudi Arabia to ensure appropriate accountability
14 for all those responsible for Jamal Khashoggi’s mur-
15 der;

16 (4) calls on the Government of Saudi Arabia to
17 release Raif Badawi, Samar Badawi, and the Saudi
18 women’s rights activists who were arrested as polit-
19 ical prisoners in 2018;

20 (5) encourages the Government of Saudi Arabia
21 to redouble its efforts to enact economic and social
22 reforms;

1 (6) calls on the Government of the Kingdom of
2 Saudi Arabia to respect the rights of its citizens and
3 moderate its increasingly erratic foreign policy;

4 (7) warns that the Government of the Kingdom
5 of Saudi Arabia's increasing purchases of military
6 equipment from, and cooperation with, the Russian
7 Federation and the People's Republic of China, chal-
8 lenges the strength and integrity of the long-stand-
9 ing military-to-military relationship between the
10 United States and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and
11 may introduce significant national security and eco-
12 nomic risks to both parties;

13 (8) demands that all parties seek an immediate
14 cease-fire and negotiated political solution to the
15 Yemen conflict and increased humanitarian assist-
16 ance to the victims of the conflict;

17 (9) condemns the Government of Iran's provi-
18 sion of advanced lethal weapons to Houthi rebels,
19 which have perpetuated the conflict and have been
20 used indiscriminately against civilian targets in
21 Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the
22 Bab al Mandeb waterway;

23 (10) condemns Houthi rebels for egregious
24 human rights abuses, including torture, use of

1 human shields, and interference with, and diversion
2 of, humanitarian aid shipments;

3 (11) demands that the Saudi-led coalition and
4 all parties to the Yemen conflict seek to minimize ci-
5 vilian casualties at all times;

6 (12) supports the peace negotiations currently
7 being managed by United Nations Special Envoy
8 Martin Griffiths and encourages the United States
9 Government to provide all possible support to these
10 diplomatic efforts;

11 (13) declares that there is no statutory author-
12 ization for United States involvement in hostilities in
13 the Yemen civil war; and

14 (14) supports the end of air-to-air refueling of
15 Saudi-led coalition aircraft operating in Yemen.

Passed the Senate December 13, 2018.

Attest:

Secretary.

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