

USAID Administrator Samantha Power finds reason to hope this week's resounding United Nations vote condemning Russia's invasion will also signal international solidarity for humanitarian access to Ukraine.

"We need the entire world to stand for access," Power said Thursday at the German Marshall Fund, a Washington think tank.

Power [contrasted the global push for humanitarian protections](#) she wants to see in Ukraine with what has occurred in Ethiopia's Tigray region, where she said some countries have offered rhetoric about humanitarian access, "but just really haven't put much behind it." She noted that **"China could have a critical role to play** in pressing on the humanitarian front," as could African countries, but she noted it is Russia that will ultimately have to feel the pressure.

"Because it is Russian troops that are encircling these towns and forcing civilians to be subjected to shelling and bombardment and food shortages ... it is the Russian Federation that will have to be pressed to open up access," she said, adding that those negotiations will happen "tactically" on a town-by-town basis.