

Re “[One Very Real Problem Lost in the Politics of Aid Cuts: Child Malnutrition](#),” by Nicholas Kristof (The Point, Opinion, [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com), Feb. 10, 2025):

As one of the world’s richest and most powerful nations, America has historically responded to the cries of hunger from abroad. We simply can’t turn our back now when children are starving in Sudan, Gaza, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti and many other impoverished areas.

U.S.A.I.D. should be reopened and the Food for Peace program, which was started by President Dwight Eisenhower, must get a funding increase. Food for Peace supports lifesaving programs including nutrition for infants.

With hunger emergencies escalating worldwide because of war and drought, we need to be taking action. This is no time for petty politics. The foreign aid freeze and dismantling of U.S.A.I.D. must end. We must continue our tradition of helping those in need.

It was the United States that saved millions of lives from famine caused by World War I. After World War II, we again responded to the hunger crisis, when our food aid allowed the Marshall Plan of reconstruction in Europe to succeed. Later, our Food for Peace program saved South Korea, India and other nations from severe hunger during the Cold War.

Today, our food aid programs are no less important. A world where children starve to death is a world in chaos. We cannot have that happen.

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The writer partnered with the United Nations World Food Program on the book “Ending World Hunger.”