

**Trump budget request cuts 30 percent from aid.** *Devex*, 6 April 2026

### **The cuts keep on coming**

That's the **reduction to U.S. foreign affairs spending that Trump lays out** in his [“skinny” fiscal 2027 blueprint to Congress](#).

The request includes **\$35.6 billion** for the [State Department](#) and other international programs, **down about \$15.5 billion from what Congress approved** for fiscal 2026, which ends Sept. 30.

As I say ad nauseam, there are winners and losers in any budget deal. In this case, it would be a lot faster for me to lay out the winners than the losers, so let's get started.

**The main winner is the America First Opportunity Fund** to support national security interests, currently focused on illegal migration, critical minerals, and countering adversaries, as well as supporting U.S. partners such as Jordan and the Philippines.

Wait, did I mention critical minerals? Yes? Well, they deserve a second mention given that **Trump wants \$13 billion for them**, including “resources to rebuild and secure the critical mineral supply chains foolishly ceded to American adversaries by earlier administrations” — though it's unclear exactly how or where that \$13 billion would be distributed.

Now, the losers. Where do I begin? How about with a list:

- Global health: \$5.1 billion, a \$4.3 billion cut from what Congress approved in 2026
- Humanitarian assistance: \$2 billion less
- The [United Nations](#) and international organizations: \$2.7 billion less
- [Treasury Department](#)'s international budget, which funds multilateral development banks: \$642.4 million less
- Food for Peace: zero. The flagship \$1.2 billion U.S. food aid initiative would be eliminated
- [National Endowment for Democracy](#): also gone.

My colleague Adva Saldinger has the complete breakdown, though it comes with the usual but all-important caveat: **It's a request — and not even the president's final budget request**. It doesn't even mention the [Development Finance Corporation](#) or the [Millennium Challenge Corporation](#). And as we've seen, Congress seems [willing to buck the president's requests](#), at least on foreign assistance (and at least for the time being). But it's a shot across the bow for the aid sector from a White House that keeps firing at them.

**Read:** [Trump's budget request calls for 30% cut to foreign affairs spending](#)