

Biden's Request for Another \$100 Billion for Ukraine, Doubts from US the US Congress in the Eake of the Hamas Attacks

By <u>Ahmed Adel</u> Global Research, October 10, 2023 Region: <u>Europe</u>, <u>Middle East & North Africa</u>, <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>Intelligence</u> In-depth Report: <u>PALESTINE</u>, <u>UKRAINE</u> <u>REPORT</u>

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the Translate Website button below the author's name.

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), <u>click here</u>.

Click the share button above to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u> and subscribe to our <u>Telegram Channel</u>. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

US President Joe Biden is reportedly planning a possible "one-and-done" request for aid to Ukraine that would be so large that he would not need to seek further funding approvals from Congress until the 2024 election, The Telegraph <u>reported</u> on October 7. However, considering that Israel declared war on Palestine following Hamas' attack on the same day as the Telegraph's report, there are questions on how much aid can be sent to Ukraine since demand for the US to step up support for Israel will grow.

Reportedly, the new aid request could reach \$100 billion to avoid continued legislative controversies that could impede Biden's re-election bid next year, according to the British newspaper, which cited sources familiar with discussions at the White House.

Biden's proposal would dwarf the \$24 billion funding request that US House lawmakers withdrew from the stopgap spending bill they passed last week to avoid a government shutdown.

"The 'big package' idea is firmly supported by many throughout the administration," said a source familiar with discussions. "Supporters of Ukraine want this to be a oneand-done big bill, and then not have to deal with it until after the next election."

The Biden administration is scrambling to find temporary ways to keep money and weapons flowing to Kiev, supporting Ukraine's fight against Russian forces, until Congress approves a major aid bill. For example, a US State Department grant program could reportedly be leveraged to provide around \$650 million in funding.

The media quoted White House officials as saying that a possible halt in Ukraine funding is just weeks away, which they warned could have devastating consequences on the battlefield. Republican lawmakers have become increasingly critical of Biden's Ukraine policy, with some arguing that massive aid to Kiev only prolongs the bloody conflict at the expense of larger priorities.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy was removed from his leadership role in early October, the first congressional impeachment in US history, reportedly after some of his Republican colleagues heard that he had promised Biden a draft separate Ukraine aid bill that would be submitted after approval of interim financing.

The Biden administration is not expected to decide whether to propose a full aid package for Ukraine until a new speaker of the House is elected, possibly next week, according to The Telegraph's findings. A \$100 billion bill could require the president to make concessions to conservative Republicans on issues such as illegal immigration.

US Representative Lauren Boebert, one of the Republicans who has been critical of Biden's Ukraine policy, suggested in an interview on October 6 that the new Speaker of the House may have to commit to opposing more funding to Kiev. She noted that the Republicancontrolled House of Representatives reached a majority and voted against a \$300 million aid bill for Ukraine last week.

"For the first time, we saw that Ukraine funding alone does not have a majority of the majority's support," Boebert told American podcast host Steve Bannon. "Any speaker has to recognise that and not allow more funding for Ukraine to come to the floor. We are absolutely tired of spending it."

A Reuters/Ipsos poll published on Thursday showed 41% of all American voters support the US sending weapons to Kyiv, down from 46% in May. The next survey will likely see an even more significant reduction as the Ukraine war is a lost cause for the West and Kiev, and more importantly, the world's attention is now shifting back to the Middle East. Inevitably, the powerful Jewish lobby in the US will be demanding major material and financial support for Israel, something Washington will likely accommodate but will have to come at the expense of elsewhere – likely Ukraine.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, a Jew himself, has attempted to link the war in the Middle East to that in Eastern Europe, writing on Telegram:

"Israel's right to defence is indisputable. Terror is always a crime, not just against one country or specific victims, but against humanity as a whole. The world must stand united... so that terror does not attempt to take or destroy life anywhere and at any moment."

This will garner little sympathy in Israel as the country becomes even further self-absorbed in serving its interests and eliminating Hamas. The situation remains volatile, especially as Hezbollah has sworn to attack Israel if a ground assault against Gaza is launched, and US lawmakers, even those who are generally isolationists, will demand strong US support for Israel.

In short, this will ensure that Israel will be provided with all the assistance it needs from the US, even if this comes at the expense of Ukraine, as Washington must carefully allocate

funds that it is struggling to attain in the context of the growing economic crisis in the country.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share button above. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

Ahmed Adel is a Cairo-based geopolitics and political economy researcher. He is a regular contributor to Global Research.

Featured image is from InfoBrics

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Ahmed Adel</u>, Global Research, 2023

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Ahmed Adel

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

<u>www.globalresearch.ca</u> contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca