

ZELDIN AND FOREIGN POLICY

Highlights:

- Lee Zeldin was repeatedly absent from the House Foreign Affairs Committee hearings.
- In 2015, Lee Zeldin praised Trump's foreign policy.
- Lee Zeldin voted against repealing Trump's travel bans.
- Lee Zeldin cast votes that undermined the ability of the U.S. to stand up to Russia in the war against Ukraine.
 - In 2019, Zeldin voted against an appropriations bill that included funding for countering Russian and Chinese influence.
 - In 2022, Zeldin voted against authorizing proceeds from forfeited Russian assets to support Ukraine.
 - In 2022, Zeldin effectively voted against ending the importation of Russian oil.
 - Zeldin voted against billions in aid for Ukraine.

Zeldin Was Repeatedly Absent From House Foreign Affairs Committee Meetings

2015: ZELDIN MISSED MORE THAN HALF OF FULL HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

2015: Zeldin Missed More Than Half Of Full House Foreign Affairs Committee Meetings. According to the New York Post, "Freshman Rep. Lee Zeldin has positioned himself as a foreign policy firebrand with his tough talk on taking out ISIS. But Zeldin has skipped out from his assignment as a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, which is charged with dealing with national security foreign policy. A review by The Post found the Long Island Republican missed more than half of full committee hearings last year." [New York Post, [1/14/16](#)]

2015: Zeldin Was Absent From 12 Of 18 Hearings That Dealt Specifically With ISIS And Syria

2015: Zeldin Was Absent From 12 Of 18 Hearings That Dealt Specifically With ISIS And Syria. According to the New York Post, "Zeldin was a no-show last year at 12 of 18 hearings that dealt specifically with ISIS and Syria." [New York Post, [1/14/16](#)]

2015: Zeldin Praised Trump's Position On Foreign Policy

2015: ZELDIN PRAISED TRUMP'S POSITION ON FOREIGN POLICY

2015: Zeldin Praised Trump's Position On Foreign Policy. According to ABC News, "Freshman Rep. Lee Zeldin, R-N.Y., who has been a prominent opponent of the Iran deal as Congress's only Jewish Republican, broadly praised Trump's positioning on foreign policy. 'He understands that our enemies do not respect weakness,' Zeldin said." [ABC News, [9/10/15](#)]

Zeldin Voted Against Repealing Trump's Travel Ban

2020: ZELDIN VOTED AGAINST REPEALING TRUMP'S TRAVEL BANS

2020: Zeldin Voted Against Repealing Trump's Travel Bans And Prohibiting Religious Discrimination In The Process Of Issuing Visas. In July 2020, Zeldin voted against the No Ban Act that would have, according to Congressional Quarterly, "terminate[d] a number of executive orders and proclamations by the president restricting entry into the United States from certain countries, including Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen. It would explicitly prohibit discrimination based on religion with regard to individuals seeking entry into the United States. It would limit the president's ability to restrict entry of a class of foreign nationals, including to require that such restrictions be temporary, narrowly tailored

and subject to a State Department determination that they are in the interest of U.S. public safety or international stability. It would allow individuals present in the United States who are harmed by entry restrictions in violation of the bill's provisions to seek relief." The vote was on a motion to concur in the Senate amendment. The House agreed to the motion by a vote of 233-183. The bill never became law. [House Vote 153, [7/22/20](#); Congressional Quarterly, [7/22/20](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R.2486](#)]

- **The Bill Would Have Repealed The Trump Administration's Ban On Travel Restrictions From Certain Nations And Prohibited Future Presidents From Implementing Bans Based On Race Or Religion.** According to Congressional Quarterly, "The House passed a measure Wednesday that would repeal the Trump administration's ban on restricting travel from targeted nations and prohibit future presidents from implementing bans based on race or religion. [...] The legislation would lift restrictions President Donald Trump has put on numerous countries over the years, including travel limits initially placed on a group of predominantly Muslim nations." [Congressional Quarterly, [7/22/20](#)]

2020: Trump Administration Added Six Countries To The Travel Ban

2020: Trump Administration Added Six Countries To The Travel Ban. According to the New York Times, "President Trump on Friday added six countries to his list of nations facing stringent travel restrictions, a move that will virtually block immigration from Africa's most populous nation, Nigeria, and from Myanmar, where the Muslim minority is fleeing genocide. Beside Nigeria, three other African countries, Eritrea, Sudan and Tanzania, will face varying degrees of restrictions, as will one former Soviet state, Kyrgyzstan. Myanmar's Rohingya Muslims could also be caught in the crossfire. All six countries have substantial Muslim populations. The total number of countries now on the restricted travel list stands at 13." [New York Times, [1/31/20](#)]

2017: ZELDIN EFFECTIVELY VOTED AGAINST CONSIDERING LEGISLATION CANCELLING PRESIDENT TRUMP'S TRAVEL BAN

2017: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against Considering Legislation Cancelling Trump's Travel Ban. In January 2017, Zeldin voted for a motion to order the previous question on a rule that would have, according to Congressional Quarterly, "provide for House floor consideration of the joint resolution (H J Res 38) that would nullify and disapprove of an Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement rule that requires surface coal mining operations, to the extent possible, to avoid disturbing streams and land within 100 feet of the streams." According to the House Democratic leader, "The Democratic previous question would amend the rule to allow for consideration of H.R. 724, the statue of liberty values act of 2017, which provides that President Trump's immigration executive order shall have no force or effect." The vote was on a motion to order the previous question. The House agreed to the motion, thereby preventing consideration of the Democratic previous question, by a vote of 236 to 183. [House Vote 68, [1/31/17](#); Congressional Quarterly, [1/31/17](#); 115th Congress Previous Question, [1/10/17](#); Congressional Actions, [1/30/17](#); Congressional Actions, [H.J. Res. 38](#); Congressional Actions, [H. Res. 70](#)]

2017: Trump Signed An Executive Order Banning People From Six Muslim-Majority Countries From Entering The U.S.

2017: Trump Signed An Executive Order Banning People From Six Muslim-Majority Countries From Entering The U.S. According to the New York Times, "President Trump on Friday closed the nation's borders to refugees from around the world, ordering that families fleeing the slaughter in Syria be indefinitely blocked from entering the United States, and temporarily suspending immigration from several predominantly Muslim countries. In an executive order that he said was part of an extreme vetting plan to keep out 'radical Islamic terrorists,' Mr. Trump also established a religious test for refugees from Muslim nations: He ordered that Christians and others from minority religions be granted priority over Muslims." [New York Times, [1/27/17](#)]

Zeldin Cast Votes That Undermined The Ability Of The U.S. To Stand Up To Russia In The War Against Ukraine

2019: ZELDIN VOTED AGAINST AN APPROPRIATIONS BILL THAT INCLUDED FUNDING FOR COUNTERING RUSSIAN AND CHINESE INFLUENCE

2019: Zeldin Voted Against The FY 2020 Minibus Appropriations Bill, Which Provided \$590 Million To Counter Russian And Chinese Influence. In December 2019, Zeldin voted against the FY 2020 minibus spending bill, which represented 8 of the 12 appropriations bills. According to Congressional Quarterly, the bill “provides \$290 million for the Countering Russian Influence Fund, \$15 million more than the FY 2019 level. The fund assists countries in Europe and Eurasia in enhancing the capacity of their security forces, including the modernization of NATO partners such as Greece. The funds may also be used by the Baltic states for cyber and democracy programs to counter Russian influence and aggression [...] The measure provides \$300 million for a new Countering Chinese Influence Fund to combat malign Chinese influence activities and increase transparency and accountability associated with the Belt and Road Initiative.” The vote was a motion to concur in the Senate amendment. The House agreed to the motion by a vote of 297-120. The Senate later passed the bill and the president signed the bill into law. [House Vote 689, [12/17/19](#); Congressional Quarterly, [12/17/19](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R.1865](#)]

2022: ZELDIN VOTED AGAINST AUTHORIZING PROCEEDS FROM FORFEITED RUSSIAN ASSETS TO SUPPORT UKRAINE

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Authorizing Using The Proceeds From Assets Forfeited By Entities Associated With Russian President Putin To Support Rebuilding Ukraine. In July 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, which would have “authorize[d] the use of proceeds from assets forfeited by entities associated with Russian President Vladimir Putin to help rebuild Ukraine.” The vote was on passage. The House passed the bill by a vote 329-101, thus the bill was sent to the Senate. The Senate did not take substantive action on the legislation. The FY 2023 Defense Authorization was passed with H.R. 7776. [House Vote 350, [7/14/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [7/14/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 7900](#)]

2022: ZELDIN EFFECTIVELY VOTED AGAINST ENDING THE IMPORTATION OF RUSSIAN OIL

2022: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against The Ending Importation Of Russian Oil Act. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted for the “Brady, R-Texas., motion to recommit the bill to the House Ways and Means Committee.” The vote was on a motion to recommit. The House rejected the motion by a vote of 208-223. [House Vote 69, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 6968](#)]

2022: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against The Ending Importation Of Russian Oil Act. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the “adoption of the rule (H Res 973) that would provide for House floor consideration of [...] the Suspending Energy Imports from Russia Act (HR 6968).” The vote was on the adoption of the rule. The House adopted the rule by a vote of 218-204. [House Vote 64, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 6968](#); Congressional Actions, [H.Res. 973](#)]

2022: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against The Ending Importation Of Russian Oil Act. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the “motion to order the previous question (thus ending debate and possibility of amendment) on the rule (H Res 973) that would provide for House floor consideration of [...] the Suspending Energy Imports from Russia Act (HR 6968).” The vote was on a motion to order the previous question. The House agreed to the motion by a vote of 219-199. [House Vote 63, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 6968](#); Congressional Actions, [H.Res. 973](#)]

ZELDIN VOTED MULTIPLE TIMES AGAINST AID FOR UKRAINE

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing About \$1.4 Billion For Migration Aid To Ukrainian Refugees

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing, Within The Appropriated \$13.6 Billion In Ukrainian Assistance, About \$1.4 Billion For Migration Aid To Ukrainian Refugees, \$1.1 Billion For Foreign Assistance Programs For Ukraine And Neighboring Nations, And \$650 Million To The State Department Foreign Military Financing Program. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the second portion of the Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations, which “Within total funding, it would provide approximately \$1.4 billion for migration assistance to Ukrainian refugees; \$1.1 billion for foreign assistance programs for Ukraine and neighboring countries, including to address economic needs and government continuity; and \$650 million for the State Department Foreign Military Financing program.” The vote was on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with a House amendment. The bill was divided and this vote was the second portion of the bill. The House concurred with the Senate by a vote of 260-171. After resolving differences, the bill was

sent to the president and became law. [House Vote 66, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2471](#)]

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing \$100 Million In Agricultural Aid To Ukraine

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing, Within The Appropriated \$13.6 Billion In Ukrainian Assistance, \$100 Million For Agriculture Department Foreign Agricultural Aid To Ukraine. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the second portion of the Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations, which would “provide \$100 million for Agriculture Department foreign agricultural assistance to Ukraine.” The vote was on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with a House amendment. The bill was divided and this vote was the second portion of the bill. The House concurred with the Senate by a vote of 260-171. After resolving differences, the bill was sent to the president and became law. [House Vote 66, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2471](#)]

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing \$25 Million To Combat Disinformation And Aid Media Capacity In Ukraine

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing, Within The Appropriated \$13.6 Billion In Ukrainian Assistance, \$25 Million To The U.S. Agency For Global Media To Aid Media Capacity And Combat Disinformation In Ukraine. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the second portion of the Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations, which would provide “\$25 million for the U.S. Agency for Global Media to support media capacity and address disinformation in Ukraine.” The vote was on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with a House amendment. The bill was divided and this vote was the second portion of the bill. The House concurred with the Senate by a vote of 260-171. After resolving differences, the bill was sent to the president and became law. [House Vote 66, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2471](#)]

2022: Zeldin Voted Against \$3 Billion In Presidential Drawdown Authority To Provide Emergency Military Aid

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Authorizing \$3 Billion In Presidential Drawdown Authority To Provide Emergency Foreign Military Aid In FY 2022. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the second portion of the Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations, which would “authorize \$3 billion in presidential drawdown authority to provide emergency foreign military assistance in fiscal 2022.” The vote was on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with a House amendment. The bill was divided and this vote was the second portion of the bill. The House concurred with the Senate by a vote of 260-171. After resolving differences, the bill was sent to the president and became law. [House Vote 66, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2471](#)]

2022: Zeldin Voted Against \$6.5 Billion To The Defense Department To Restore U.S. Defense Articles Provided To Ukraine

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Providing \$13.6 Billion To Assist Ukraine Against Russia’s Aggression, Including \$6.5 Billion To The Defense Department To Restore U.S. Defense Articles Provided To Ukraine And For Personnel, Operations, Procurement And Costs Associated To Ukraine. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the first portion of the Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations, which would “provide approximately \$13.6 billion to assist Ukraine against Russian aggression. In this section, it would provide \$6.5 billion for the Defense Department, including \$3.5 billion to replenish U.S. defense articles provided to Ukraine and \$3 billion for personnel, operations, procurement and other expenses related to responding to the situation in Ukraine.” The vote was on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with a House amendment. The bill was divided and this vote was the first portion of the bill. The House concurred with the Senate by a vote of 361-69. After resolving differences, the bill was sent to the president and became law. [House Vote 65, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2471](#)]

- **The Bill Provided A Total Of \$13.6 Billion In Ukrainian Aid For Additional Humanitarian, Security, And Economic Assistance.** According to CNN, “The \$13.6 billion would provide additional humanitarian, security and economic assistance for Ukraine and allies in the region.” [CNN, [3/9/22](#)]
- **Half Of The Ukrainian Aid Would Be Utilized To Deploy Troops In The Region And Provide Military Equipment To Ukraine.** According to CNN, “Roughly half of the aid package would be used to deploy troops to the

region and send defense equipment to Ukraine, according to a summary of the bill provided by the House Appropriations Committee.” [CNN, [3/9/22](#)]

- **The Bill Provided \$3 Billion For European Command Operation Mission Support, The Deployment Of Troops In The Region And Intelligence Aid, And \$3.5 Billion To Restore Defense Equipment That Was Sent To Ukraine.** According to Congressional Quarterly, “The supplemental total includes \$6.5 billion for the Defense Department, including \$3.0 billion for European Command operations mission support, the deployment of personnel to the region, and intelligence support; and \$3.5 billion to replenish U.S. stocks of equipment sent to Ukraine through drawdown.” [Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#)]

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Appropriating \$59.4 Million For The Justice Department To Investigate And Respond To Cyber Threats And Russian Sanctions Violations

2022: Zeldin Voted Against Appropriating \$59.4 Million For The Justice Department To Investigate And Respond To Cyber Threats And Russian Sanctions Violations, Including \$43.6 Million To The FBI. In March 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the first portion of the Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Appropriations, which would “provide \$59.4 million for the Justice Department, intended for investigating and responding to cyber threats and Russian sanctions violations, including \$43.6 million for the FBI.” The vote was on the motion to concur in the Senate amendment with a House amendment. The bill was divided and this vote was the first portion of the bill. The House concurred with the Senate by a vote of 361-69. After resolving differences, the bill was sent to the president and became law. [House Vote 65, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [3/9/22](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2471](#)]

2022: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against The Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act Of 2022

2022: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against The Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act Of 2022. In April 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the “adoption of the rule (H Res 1065) that would provide for House consideration of the Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act (S 3522). The rule would provide for up to one hour of general debate on the bill.” The vote was on the adoption of the rule. The House adopted the rule by a vote of 220-205. [House Vote 140, [4/28/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [4/28/22](#); Congressional Actions, [S. 3522](#); Congressional Actions, [H.Res. 1065](#)]

2022: Zeldin Effectively Voted Against The Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act Of 2022. In April 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against the “motion to order the previous question (thus limiting debate and possibility of amendment) on the rule (H Res 1065) that would provide for House consideration of the Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act (S 3522). The rule would provide for up to one hour of general debate on the bill.” The vote was on a motion to order the previous question. The House agreed to the motion by a vote of 218-204. [House Vote 139, [4/28/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [4/28/22](#); Congressional Actions, [S. 3522](#); Congressional Actions, [H.Res. 1065](#)]

The Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act Of 2022 Authorized The Administration To Lend Or Lease Military Equipment To Ukraine And Other Eastern European Countries

The Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act Of 2022 Authorized The Administration To Lend Or Lease Military Equipment To Ukraine And Other Eastern European Countries. According to the Department of Defense, “Today, President Joe Biden signed into law the ‘Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022.’ The act authorizes the administration, through fiscal year 2023, to lend or lease military equipment to Ukraine and other Eastern European countries. The act would exempt the administration from certain provisions of law that govern the loan or lease of military equipment to foreign countries, such as the five-year limit on the duration of the loan or the requirement that receiving countries pay all costs incurred by the United States in leasing the defense equipment.” [Department of Defense, [5/9/22](#)]

2022: Zeldin Voted Against \$47.3 Billion In Supplemental Appropriations To Support Ukraine

2022: Zeldin Voted Against The FY 2023 Omnibus Spending Package, Which Provided \$47.3 Billion In Supplemental Appropriations To Support Ukraine. In December 2022, according to Congressional Quarterly, Zeldin voted against concurring with the Senate amendment to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, which would “provide \$47.3 billion in supplemental appropriations for aid to Ukraine, including more than \$27 billion for military operations, procurement and development; \$126 million for defense nuclear nonproliferation; \$13 billion for economic support; and \$2.4 billion for refugee assistance.” The vote was on a motion to concur. The House concurred with the Senate amendment by a

vote of 225-201, thus the bill was sent to President Biden and ultimately became law. [House Vote 549, [12/23/22](#); Congressional Quarterly, [12/23/22](#); Congressional Actions, [S.Amdt. 6552](#); Congressional Actions, [H.R. 2617](#)]