



**SOVEREIGNTY
PROTECTION OFFICE**

FLASH REPORT

The role of USAID in exerting global political pressure

12 February 2025





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THE ROLE OF USAID IN EXERTING GLOBAL POLITICAL PRESSURE

Since its creation in 1961, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) **has been part of the machinery that implements US national security strategy.** The agency complements the work of the secret services, using covert and overt pressure through payments disguised as aid and grants. It uses a global network, which it has already helped to set up, as a tool for this purpose. The pressure network operates by taking over the civil, economic, political and media sectors in each country.

USAID Administrator Samantha Power told The New York Times, *“USAID has become America’s superpower.”* And commenting on the decision on the suspension of the agency’s operations, she told CNN *“it’s a disaster for US national interests and national security.”*

The agency’s top leaders have often appeared in important government positions throughout their careers: as presidential advisers, members of national security or foreign policy governing bodies. The gradual rise in importance of the organisation is demonstrated by the fact that its previous leader, Samantha Power, was appointed to the National Security Council of US President Joe Biden.

The organisation has a demonstrable presence in conflict zones around the world, helping to shape local and global processes. USAID, together with the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), which is managed by the US State Department, has been instrumental in the preparation and implementation of the Arab Spring and the political transition in Ukraine, the Euromaidan protests.

In the early days after its founding, USAID was still embedded in the US defence system, exerting pressure with its soft power instruments. As President John F. Kennedy, who founded the agency, put it, its agents were directed to countries where they did not want to send US troops to exert their influence. USAID was originally intended to strengthen the US defence system in accordance with the intentions of the administration in power, but **over time it became a representative of the power interests of the Democratic Party and the economic interest groups linked to it.** The influence of electorally mandated politicians over the agency’s activities and objectives gradually declined, while the organisation increasingly dominated the functioning of state institutions. This is how USAID captured the federal state.

From the 1980s onwards, USAID has also involved private capital serving Democratic Party interests in the maintenance and operation of its pressure network. Large US private foundations such as the Ford Foundation, The Rockefeller Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Oak Foundation and especially the Open Society Foundations



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bought influence in the geopolitical pyramid scheme. With the emergence of these extra-political interest groups, total exclusion of voter control has become possible.

The ideological background of the network intertwined with USAID is also provided by the global distribution organisations (Global Anti-Corruption Consortium, Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, Internews, National Democratic Institute), which play a key role in the development and operation of the lower-level structures they finance. The network funding model identified so far demonstrates that their grant schemes alone limit the range of organisations that can be involved. They only fund objectives that fit in with the pressure activities carried out according to progressive globalist interests.

The growth of the agency's budget reflects both its growing influence in the world and the strategic vision of the domestic and foreign policies of the Democratic Party governments. In 2023, the budget was \$52 billion (HUF 20,280 billion at today's exchange rate), **of which \$3.5 million** (HUF 1.4 billion at today's exchange rate) **was allocated to Hungary.** Between 2020 and 2024, \$20.2 million (HUF 7.88 billion at today's exchange rate) was allocated to Hungarian network organisations. But the actual amount of money directed to Hungary for pressure activities, including indirect support, could be several times higher.

For example, the Autonomy Foundation, the Ökotárs Foundation, the Carpathian Foundation, the Freedom House or the DemNet Foundation for the Development of Democratic Rights, which was founded with the direct involvement of USAID, redistributes some of the funds it receives from the agency. To get the exact numbers, the whole network of influence financed by US public funds needs to be mapped. This mapping activity is taking place internationally, and its domestic aspects are already being investigated by the Sovereignty Protection Office. **Indeed, an essential element of the organisation of the network maintained by USAID is to conceal the origin and the true extent of the resources used by the actors. Therefore, the inquiry into the network operated by USAID cannot be limited to whether the organisation under inquiry received funds directly from the US agency, as the system also incorporates a number of intermediary fund distributors belonging to the network, which often obscure the link between the grantees and the original source.**

The political pressure organisations operating in Hungary, which are also supported by US public funds, do not admit their real goals in the public description of their joint applications with USAID. They hide their activities behind public issues that seem acceptable to society and that cannot be linked to the direct interests of foreign financiers. **However, the informal cooperation and personal relationships between members and funders of the Hungarian pressure network clearly define the purpose of their activities.**

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This informal network of connections ensures that local network actors are loyal and that their worldview fits into the global value system that USAID and similar US agencies and private foundations that support political pressure are enforcing in their network building. This ideology has determined what is expected of the organisations they support. They apply the same principle when choosing which parties or politicians to support in their efforts to gain or retain power.

Significant resources have been devoted to strengthening ideological identification, the resulting methodology and international relationships through training, conferences and scholarships. This was necessary not only to increase the effectiveness of the organisations, but also to **maintain the hard-to-detect communication channels through which the network's objectives and tasks are defined. This process ensures that domestic actors serving the interests of USAID and the private foundations working with the Agency become assets of the network.**

The funding model built by the US Democratic Party forces was implemented in Brussels by George Soros and the leaders of organisations linked to him. Funds similar to USAID were set up under the European Commission to be able to put pressure on the political leadership and public opinion in the member states through the key players of the Soros network. The consultations, which started in 2017, became an established practice by 2021. With the help of the Brussels bureaucrats on the US billionaire's payment list, they have taken control of the European legislature, including the European Commission itself. It was then that, among others, the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme was launched as a direct EU source of funding, with all the US-backed pressure organisations among its distributors and beneficiaries.