

# IMPACT REPORT

RDI envisions a world where the forces of freedom are united and authoritarianism is in retreat.

Our mission is to **unmask and confront the alliance of dictators** threatening freedom around the world.

By doing so, we inspire those in the United States and in other free countries to value and protect their own democracies.

As an idea advocacy organization, we align insightful analysis with direct action, unique networks, and a motivated community to influence national discourse and mobilize key stakeholders. This approach is reflected in our four key pillars of education, advocacy, action, and community building.

# **Supporting Frontline Democracies**

#### **DIRECT AID**

Unlike most advocacy organizations, we combine our advocacy work with on-the-ground efforts to support Ukrainians and others whose freedom is threatened by dictators. Local connections and expertise ensure RDI's aid reaches frontline communities. Our giving philosophy prioritizes aid produced in-country to support local industry and safeguard Ukraine's post-war viability.

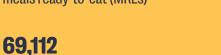
RDI has provided over \$13,000,000 in direct aid to Ukraine since the 2022 full-scale invasion, including:





466,820

meals ready-to-eat (MREs)



sleeping bags for residents, firefighters,

and medical staff at the frontlines



600

spinal block and surgery sets



150

anti bedsore systems

# **RDI Water Filtration Units in Ukraine**

RDI partnered with Rebuild Our Ukraine to build eight mobile water filtration units with the capacity to produce 90,000 liters of drinkable water per day, supporting up to 30,000 people.

At a time when Ukraine's civil infrastructure is under threat, these units enable Ukrainian communities to stay where they are, preventing thousands of Ukrainians from being displaced. Shortly after Russia destroyed the Kakhovka Dam, we moved two of our units to the south to provide safe drinking water to residents affected by Russia's eco-terrorism.



# **Advocacy**

Our innovative and effective political and media campaigns make RDI a sought-after voice in leading outlets and on Capitol Hill.

#### **British Delegation**

RDI brought Prime Minister Liz Truss and other senior conservative politicians to DC to advocate for Ukraine from a conservative point of view. **13 of 22** GOP members of Congress with whom we met **voted for aid to Ukraine**, **Israel**, **and Taiwan**.

### **Making Putin Pay**

A groundbreaking report by noted legal scholar Laurence Tribe establishing a legal framework for seizing frozen Russian assets. The report was widely cited in **mainstream media** and **made it to President Biden's desk** signed by several members of Congress, and RDI Chairman Garry Kasparov was quoted by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee upon committee passage of the **REPO Act, which codified elements of our proposal.** 

# **Courage Over Brutality**

We placed emotionally resonant pro-Ukraine ads online and at strategic locations throughout the DC metro area, achieving **over 30 million impressions.** 

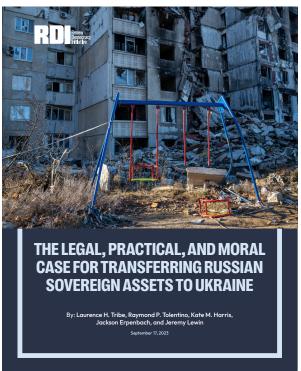
# **Leadership Delegation to Ukraine**

RDI took American thought leaders and journalists to the frontlines in Ukraine, meeting with RDI grantees, key government officials including the Ministers of Defense and State, and senior military officers. The trip boosted morale in Ukraine, empowered participants to more effectively advocate for US support, and yielded positive coverage of Ukraine's war effort in top outlets, including *Foreign Affairs, The New York Times, The Atlantic*, etc.

#### **German Advocacy Campaigns**

RDI organized five roundtables in Berlin, bringing together senior members of the Bundestag with German, American, and Ukrainian thought leaders. Following the roundtables, we launched a significant multimedia effort to pressure Chancellor Olaf Scholz to provide Ukraine with critical military aid. These efforts included a **full-page ad in Bild**, Europe's most circulated newspaper, a video appeal from Garry Kasparov, and a petition signed by thousands. As a result of the campaign, Kasparov and other members of RDI met with senior German officials in Berlin and helped push the German government to commit to additional funding for Ukraine.







# **Leading The National Conversation**

#### **RDI PRODUCTIONS**

The United States is at the center of a global struggle between those committed to open societies and those who want to tear down our institutions. Digital media is a critical arena in this fight, yet democracy supporters remain on the backfoot. We're reversing that dynamic with innovative video and written content that takes the information war to the propagandists.



# **BY THE NUMBERS:**



7.6 million lifetime viewers



501, 926

new viewers on YouTube in 2024



48,400+ YouTube subscribers



130+ original videos across YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram delivering insightful and engaging commentary

#### **CHANGING HEARTS AND MINDS**

Citizen Data tested our content with 1,008 people aged 18-44, recording statistically significant trends, including:

- 7.4% increase in perception that dictatorships are collaborating against democracies
- **5.3% increase** in agreement that democracies should fight back against dictators
- 5.0% increase in the salience of democracy as a high priority compared to other political issues

#### **GUIDING THE NARRATIVE**

RDI drives key messages in support of freedom at home and abroad in outlets like The New York Times, Washington Post, CNN, Politico, Newsweek, MSNBC, and Die Welt.

#### **DEMOCRACY BRIEF**

RDI's flagship newsletter features weekly deep-dive analysis from our team and network of democracy defenders.

- 33,000 subscribers
- 34% open rate in 2024

# **Frontlines Of Freedom**

Frontlines of Freedom unites over 100 political dissidents who survived the world's harshest dictatorships to champion democracy, empowering one another through a growing global network, and inspiring American students, decision makers, and private-sector leaders to stand up for our institutions and freedoms.

# **FOF Conference**

155+ attendees, including dissidents, journalists, policymakers, academics, and business leaders came together to combat Transnational Repression (2024)

# **Partner Institutions**

Johns Hopkins University, Cornell University, Dartmouth University, Yale University, US Military Academy West Point, Georgetown University, The Dalton School, Harlem Village Academies

#### **FOF Partner Organizations**

National Endowment for Democracy, Freedom House, Victims of Communism Museum and Memorial, McCain Institute, George W. Bush Presidential Center, AMEL African Middle Eastern Leadership Project, Grossman Young & Hammond, Center for Al and Digital Policy (CAIDP), World Liberty Congress (WLC), Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE)

# **FOF on Campus**

- RDI-Agora Institute Dissidents-In-Residence:
  - David Smolansky (Venezuela, 2023-24 Dissident-in-Residence)
  - Evan Mawarire (Zimbabwe, 2022-23 Dissidentin-Residence)
  - Sunny Cheung (Hong Kong, 2022-23 Dissidentin-Residence)
- Peace & Dialogue Leadership Initiative: Bringing together West Point cadets and US college students in Israel and the Palestinian territories to better understand America's global role and the civilmilitary divide
- Thousands of students engaged across a dozen campuses

# JOIN US TO REINVIGORATE DEMOCRACY'S SURVIVAL INSTINCT — SUPPORT OUR WORK.







We build communities of thought leaders, students, dissidents, and those who believe in and are committed to the values of democracy and freedom around the world.



# Sensible Disagreement

Leading thinkers make sense of America's left-right divide.



# **Ukrainian Cultural Forces**

Ukrainian soldiers bring their cause home to the US through music.



# Gettysburg with a Four-Star General

RDI's first-ever Battlefield Staff Ride with Advisory Board Member General Stanley McChrystal.



## **Heroes of Democracy Gala**

RDI's annual gala honors those who have advanced human flourishing as well as those who have taken risks in the fight for freedom — honorees have included Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, Senator John Fetterman, and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba.





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