

Impact Report

RDI Renew
Democracy
Initiative®



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)



600
spinal block and surgery sets



69,112
sleeping bags for residents, firefighters,
and medical staff at the frontlines



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.



THE LEGAL, PRACTICAL, AND MORAL CASE FOR TRANSFERRING RUSSIAN SOVEREIGN ASSETS TO UKRAINE

By: Laurence H. Tribe, Raymond P. Tolentino, Kate M. Harris, Jackson Erpenbach, and Jeremy Lewin

September 17, 2023



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 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 AI 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 Dissident-in-Residence)
 - Sunny Cheung (Hong Kong, 2022-23 Dissident-in-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 civil-military 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.



Gettysburg with a Four-Star General

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



Ukrainian Cultural Forces

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



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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