



Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency (DOGE)
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

"Public Funds, Private Agendas: NGOs Gone Wild"

Held June 4, 2025

Chairwoman Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA)

Post-Hearing Review & Recommendations

June 18, 2025

Subcommittee Hearing Review

The Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Delivering on Government Efficiency (DOGE) held a hearing on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, concerning the use of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as a vehicle through which billions of dollars of federal funds are now channeled to achieve partisan political aims. Majority subcommittee members highlighted how recent Democratic administrations, including that of President Biden, have enlisted left-wing NGOs to carry out progressive agendas, including massive funding of the Green New Deal and the facilitation of illegal border-crossing. This funding has been replete with inside deals, with massive federal dollars being channeled to groups connected to prominent Democrat Party insiders, like Stacey Abrams and former Obama OMB and HUD chief Sean Donovan.

Majority witnesses described these dynamics in detail. Power Forward, an NGO with deep ties to Georgia Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams, received \$2 billion under the Biden Administration's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), despite only reporting \$100 in revenue to the IRS in 2023 and being organized that same year.¹ This \$2 billion grant to Power Forward is only part of the larger \$27 billion in green energy dollars that the EPA doled out in the waning days of the Biden Administration.²

¹ Letter from James Comer, Chairman, H. Comm. on Oversight & Gov't Reform, to Timothy Mayopoulos, CEO, Power Forward Communities (Mar. 27, 2025); see Isabel Vincent, *\$375B EPA slush fund handled by John Podesta gave billions to charities founded only months earlier*, N.Y. POST (Mar. 5, 2024).

² Press Release, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Awards \$27B in Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants to Accelerate Clean Energy Solutions, Combat the Climate Crisis, and Save Families Money (Aug. 16, 2024).

Witness testimony also highlighted how NGOs hand-picked by the United Nations to receive funds primarily raised from U.S. taxpayers facilitated human trafficking into the United States. In some cases, they did so in tandem with criminal organizations. These NGOs even set up “immigration malls” along routes into the U.S. which served as journey waystations at which migrants were given cash, debit cards and supplies that facilitated their illegal entry into the United States.

The hearing clearly demonstrated the need to suspend these awards and reform the process that has resulted in a myriad of abuses. The vetting of awardees and the oversight of their activities has been neglected.

It also highlighted the need for agencies to take responsibility and ensure that the grants they are tasked with writing and the recipients they are tasked with selecting are in the sole interest of the United States. While Congress must uphold its obligation to put responsible guardrails on federal funding to departments and agencies, these government agencies must end their abusive practices of doling out hard-earned tax dollars to their friends and family and usurping the will of the American people.

Overall, the Majority’s message is simple: 1) American taxpayer dollars must be spent efficiently and effectively, with full transparency and 2) all NGO grant spending must align with U.S. federal policy to promote the interests of the American people. The Subcommittee will continue to address how taxpayer money is used by NGOs, while furthering the Trump Administration’s efforts to reevaluate and realign NGO grants with federal policy.

Majority witnesses for the hearing were selected for their deep knowledge and expertise, in both the structure and operation of NGOs, and in what activities they have been carrying out with federal funds. The witnesses identified key areas of problematic NGO funding and provided examples of waste, fraud, and abuse. Majority subcommittee members took testimony from witnesses to identify problems and develop solutions to reform NGO funding and bring greater transparency. Witnesses suggested ways to help ensure federal funding of NGOs is more responsible and accountable.

Majority Witnesses:

Mark Krikorian, Executive Director, Center for Immigration Studies
Daniel Turner, Founder and Executive Director, Power the Future
Scott Walker, President, Capital Research Center

Problems Identified/ Solutions Recommended by Witnesses:

Problem: Large awards are inappropriately being channeled to politically connected left-wing NGOs, including those run by former Democrat elected officials and political appointees. These awards are clearly not being made transparently or based solely on merit.

Solution: We need greater transparency of the award selection process and exposure of the political ties of grantee organizations. We also need to ensure ex-political appointees are not using their relationship with deep state bureaucrats to exert undue influence.

Problem: NGOs with agendas antithetical to those of the American people should not be allowed to hijack federal programs to accomplish their aims, such as facilitating illegal immigration.

Solution: Reform the vetting and approval process for NGOs to ensure that grants are awarded to organizations committed to upholding the law and not breaking it or bending it to suit their purposes.

Problem: The Biden Administration EPA disbursed \$27 Billion dollars to NGOs in their final days in office.

Solution: Grants awarded under the Biden Administration should be reviewed and funds should be withheld or rescinded if the award was not properly vetted, or the grant does not align with current federal policy.

Problem: Federal tax dollars are being used by criminal organizations to facilitate illegal immigration.

Solution: NGOs that promote or facilitate illegal immigration into the United States should not receive grant funding.

Problem: In many cases, it is difficult to determine how much funding from which federal programs were dispensed to a grantee. Transparency for federal funds is further lacking when funding decisions and the vetting of recipient NGOs is outsourced to an international intermediary, such as the UN.

Solution: Greater transparency of grant applications and federal awards should be required.

Introduced Legislation:

In January 2025, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Member Tim Burchett (R-TN-02), along with 27 other Republican co-sponsors, introduced H.R. 260 - No Tax Dollars for Terrorists Act. This bill would force the State Department to develop and implement a policy to oppose any foreign aid from going to the Taliban. It would also require the State Department to report to Congress on the foreign countries and nongovernmental organizations that have provided financial or material support to the Taliban and U.S. efforts to oppose such support.

In April 2025, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Member Paul Gosar (R-AZ-09), along with 10 other Republican co-sponsors, introduced H.R. 2841, the Putting Trust in Transparency Act.³ This bill would require the public disclosure of the names and partial addresses of contributors to 501(c) organizations that receive Federal funding. This bill was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

In the 118th Congress, Rep. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA-11), along with two Republican co-sponsors, introduced H.R. 8290, the Foreign Grant Reporting Act.⁴ The bill would require tax-exempt organizations to disclose grants they make to foreign entities. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

³ Putting Trust in Transparency Act, H.R. 2841, 119th Cong. 1 (introduced Apr. 10, 2025).

⁴ Foreign Grant Reporting Act, H.R. 8290, 118th Cong. 2 (introduced May 8, 2024).