

SR-14

US Senate condemns Russia's detainment of journalist Evan Gershkovich, calling for his immediate release. Affirms commitment to press freedom and urges diplomatic pressure. Stands against suppression of freedom of expression.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. FREEMAN of South Carolina submitted the following resolution;

RESOLUTION

US Senate condemns Russia's detainment of journalist Evan Gershkovich, calling for his immediate release. Affirms commitment to press freedom and urges diplomatic pressure. Stands against suppression of freedom of expression.

Whereas, the United States Senate upholds the principles of freedom of the press and the protection of journalists worldwide;

Whereas, Evan Gershkovich, an American journalist, was detained in Russia on March 29th, 2023;

Whereas, the detainment of Evan Gershkovich is an infringement upon press freedom and an act of intimidation against journalists;

Whereas, the detainment of Evan Gershkovich represents a broader pattern of suppression of independent media and journalism in Russia;

Whereas, the United States values the fundamental right of journalists to operate without fear of retribution and supports their ability to report news and information freely;

Whereas, freedom of the press is a cornerstone of democracy, providing transparency, accountability, and a vital check on governmental power;

Whereas, the United States firmly believes in the protection of its citizens abroad and expects foreign governments to respect their rights and due process;

Whereas, the detainment of Evan Gershkovich undermines the United States' commitment to a free and independent press, human rights, and the rule of law;

Resolved, That the Senate -

(1) The United States Senate strongly condemns the Government of Russia for the detainment of Evan Gershkovich and its violation of press freedom.

(2) The United States Senate calls upon the Government of Russia to immediately release Evan Gershkovich and ensure his safe return to the United States.

(3) The United States Senate urges the Department of State to engage diplomatically with the Government of Russia to express its deep concern over the detainment of Evan Gershkovich and to seek his immediate release.