



Slocum FARA account <farakrg@gmail.com>

## KRG-US December 2024 Newsletter

1 message

Kurdistan Regional Government - USA <us@gov.krd>

Thu, Dec 19, 2024 at 2:44 PM

Reply-To: us@gov.krd

To: farakrg@gmail.com



## Kurdistan Regional Government Representation in the United States

### December Newsletter



**Opportunities for Strengthening U.S.- KRG Partnership in 2025 -  
Representation in the United States**

As we head into 2025, the future of the U.S.-Kurdistan bilateral relationship looks bright. Opportunities for partnership are growing, and there is a deep interest among stakeholders to forge new connections that benefit both nations. The Kurdistan Regional Government is looking forward to partnering with the incoming Trump administration, U.S.

[Read More](#)



## **U.S.-Kurdistan Business Council Explores New Investment Avenues in the KRG - Representation in the United States**

Earlier this fall, the U.S.-Kurdistan Business Council (USKBC) brought a delegation of U.S. businesspeople to the Kurdistan Region to explore new avenues of investment and opportunity. This trip, held annually, took on a new significance this year as it featured the one of the largest-ever delegations of businesspeople and also explored new opportunities in a diverse array of industries.

[Read More](#)



## Regional Leaders & Academics Chart a Path for Stability at the Middle East Peace & Security Forum - Representation in the United States

At a time when tensions in the Middle East are escalating and the threat of extremist groups like ISIS remains high, it has never been more critical for regional leaders to work together to end violence and promote a more stable and peaceful region.

[Read More](#)

## A Republican Sweep — Trump's Victory Ushers in New GOP Trifecta

More than a month after the November 5th General Election, the final results confirm a sweeping victory for the Republican Party, marking a pivotal moment in U.S. governance and foreign policy. Former President Donald Trump reclaimed the White House, defeating Vice President Kamala Harris with 293 electoral votes to her 226. This victory, coupled with Republican gains in both chambers of Congress, ushers in a new era of GOP-led leadership that could hold important implications for Kurdistan.

The GOP's victory extend beyond the presidency. Republicans gained a 53-47 majority in the U.S. Senate, flipping four critical seats to secure control. The House of Representatives also remains in Republican hands, with a narrow 220-215 majority. This trifecta of control—Republican dominance in the presidency, Senate, and House—provides the GOP with the means to advance their legislative priorities swiftly. However,

slim majorities in Congress will demand strategic leadership and unity to navigate closely contested policy decisions.

For Kurdistan, this political realignment in Washington could impact significant changes in U.S. foreign policy and security commitments. The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has long maintained a strong bipartisan relationship with U.S. lawmakers, who have emphasized counterterrorism efforts, energy cooperation, and support for stability in the Middle East. The GOP's return to full control may reinvigorate discussions on deepening these partnerships, particularly as Kurdistan remains a critical ally in the fight against ISIS and a key player in regional energy markets.

Of particular interest will be the leadership assignments on key congressional committees that influence U.S. foreign policy, defense spending, and energy strategy. Committee leadership is expected to be finalized before Christmas break. Committees such as the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committees, as well as their counterparts in the House, will play a central role in shaping America's engagement with Kurdistan. Republican leadership may prioritize bolstering security assistance and fostering investment opportunities in the region, aligning with longstanding GOP foreign policy goals.

Additionally, President-elect Trump's administration appointments will provide further clarity on the direction of U.S.-Kurdistan relations. As Republicans prepare to assume control, the KRG Representation office is closely monitoring these developments, anticipating shifts in legislative priorities and policy direction.

The next few weeks will be critical as congressional leadership roles are finalized, committee agendas are set, and the incoming Trump administration outlines its policy framework. The KRG stands ready to engage with Republican leaders to advocate for the mutual interests of Kurdistan and the United States, ensuring that the partnership continues to flourish under this new chapter of U.S. governance.

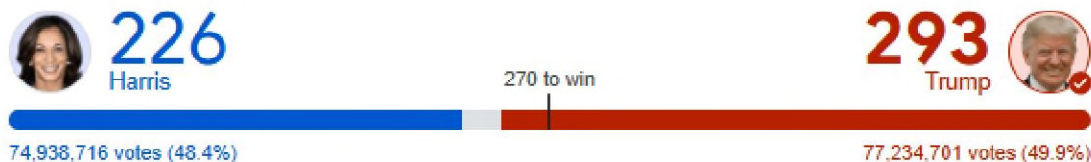
Stay tuned for further updates as we delve into the specifics of committee leadership and their potential implications for Kurdistan. The path ahead promises both opportunities and challenges as the Republican majority charts the course for the next chapter of American foreign policy.

### Presidential results

From [The Associated Press \(AP\)](#) · [Learn more](#)

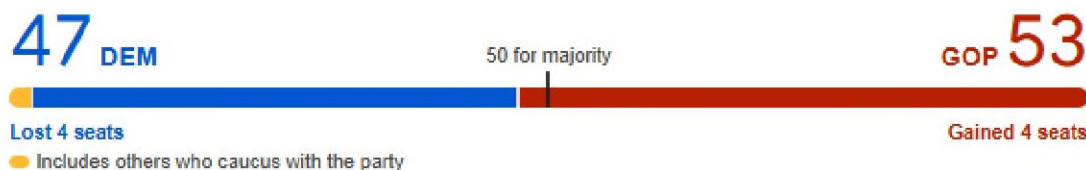
#### ✔ Donald Trump wins

The AP has called this race



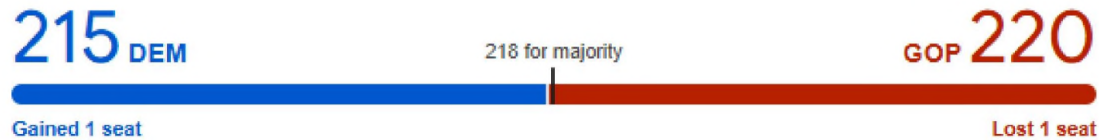
### US Senate results

From [The Associated Press \(AP\)](#) · [Learn more](#)



## US House results

From [The Associated Press \(AP\)](#) · [Learn more](#)



## U.S. Congress Passes FY25 NDAA with Key Provisions Supporting Kurdish Peshmerga Forces

The Kurdistan Regional Government Representation Office in the United States is pleased to share significant progress on the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). On Wednesday, December 11, 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 5009, the legislative vehicle for the FY25 NDAA, by a vote of 281 Yays to 140 Nays. Yesterday, December 18, the U.S. Senate followed suit, passing the bill by a decisive vote of 85 Yays to 15 Nays. The legislation is expected to be signed by President Joe Biden this week.

While the overall \$895 billion price tag is significant, it falls short of the additional \$25 billion that key Senate Republicans, including Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), had pushed for. Both leaders are poised to play significant roles in shaping future Department of Defense budgets, with Senator Wicker set to Chair the Senate Armed Services Committee and Senator McConnell assuming the Chair for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense next year.

This NDAA represents a cornerstone of U.S. national security policy and underscores the enduring partnership between the United States and the Kurdistan Region.

### Top Bill Highlights:

#### Support for Peshmerga Forces:

The FY25 NDAA boosts funding for the Counterterrorism Train and Equip Fund (CTEF) by 57% (\$380.76 million) for Iraq, ensuring that Kurdish Peshmerga Forces continue to receive essential resources to combat terrorism and maintain security.

#### Timely Delivery of Equipment:

The bill includes provisions mandating regular reporting from the U.S. Department of Defense to Congress every 120 days. This ensures accountability and the timely delivery of military equipment specifically to Kurdish Peshmerga forces.

### Why the FY25 NDAA Matters to Kurdistan:

- **Security and Counterterrorism:**

The NDAA reaffirms U.S. commitment to counterterrorism operations against ISIS in Iraq and Syria, highlighting the strategic role of the Kurdistan Region in broader Middle Eastern stability.

- **Regional Stability:**

By supporting Peshmerga Forces, the NDAA enhances regional stability, a critical factor for sustainable development and long-term peace.

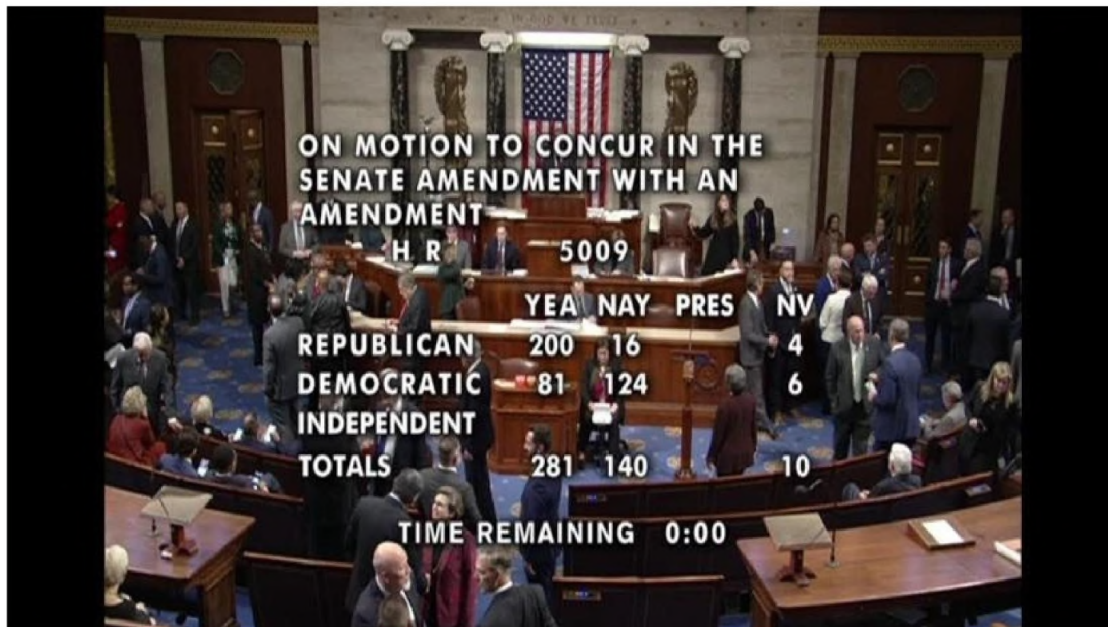
- **Economic Growth and Investment:**

Stability achieved through this legislation creates a foundation for economic development in the Kurdistan Region. A secure environment is key to attracting foreign investment in energy, infrastructure, and other sectors, fostering growth and prosperity.

### Looking Ahead:

With the Senate's passage of this bipartisan bicameral legislation, the FY25 NDAA is now headed to President Biden for final signature.

The KRG Representation Office in Washington, D.C. remains committed to working with Congress and U.S. policymakers to advance shared goals of stability, security, and economic growth. We extend our gratitude to our U.S. allies for their continued support of the Peshmerga Forces and the Kurdistan Region's strategic interests. Together, we are building a stronger, more prosperous future.



### Other KRG News:

- **KRG Representative Attends the American University of Kurdistan 10th year Anniversary Gala.**
- **KRG launches the 16th Day of Activism to End Violence Against Women.**
- **Bipartisan resolution passes by the House to uphold and support fundamental human rights of religious and ethnic minorities in Iraq.**

Sign Up for KRG Updates

Follow us

Share This Email

Share This Email



Share This Email

For inquiries, please contact Silav Ibrahim, Communications Manager, at: [Silav.Ibrahim@us.gov.krd](mailto:Silav.Ibrahim@us.gov.krd)

NOTIFICATION: The Kurdistan Regional Government Liaison Office – U.S.A. is registered as an agent of the Kurdistan Regional Government under 22 U.S.C. § 611 et seq. | [1532 16th Street, NW](#) | [Washington, DC 20036 US](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!