

Did you know...?

American universities and colleges have received **\$43 Billion from foreign countries and adversaries** since 1990. Three of the top five countries that have pumped money into higher education in the U.S. are China, Qatar and Saudi Arabia.

Read more at The National Desk \rightarrow

The Deterrent Act, a bipartisan bill passed by congress to lower the reporting threshold of foreign governments and entities of concern from \$250,000 to \$50,000 is **opposed by higher education groups**, such as ACE.

Read more at ACE →

Approximately \$13 billion in undisclosed foreign funds, a substantial portion from authoritarian regimes, has been linked to a staggering 300% rise in antisemitism at U.S. universities, according to a new study.

Read more at The Jerusalem Post →





China sends more students to study at U.S. universities than any other nation and is the largest source of foreign donations to American higher education, making more than \$1 billion in gifts since 2014.

Last year, former Republican President Donald Trump's Department of Education accused universities of failing to disclose hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign donations, including from China.

Read more at Reuters →

FOREIGN FUNDING OF U.S. ACADEMIA

Overview

Foreign nations have donated \$43 billion to American universities since 1990. The Department of Education published a report in October 2020 that highlighted funding from foreign adversaries was "massively underreported" by elite universities. The conclusions were drawn from investigations into the underreporting of millions of dollars' worth of gifts and contracts from China, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar at twelve prestigious American universities.

Since 1986, Universities were required by the federal government to report gifts and contracts they received from overseas nations but the reporting requirements had been hampered by lax federal oversight. To further increase transparency, Congress recently passed a bipartisan bill tightening the requirements for reporting foreign gifts. Lowering the reporting threshold from \$250,000 to \$50,000. For adversarial countries, the threshold would be \$0. The Deterrent Act passed the U.S. House on December 6, 2023, with 31 Democrats voting with Republicans to pass the bill.

According to a recent study, higher levels of campus antisemitism and a decline in free speech norms are associated with unreported foreign funding of American universities from authoritarian governments. An astounding 300% increase in antisemitism at U.S. universities has been linked to \$13 billion in undisclosed foreign funds from 2014 to 2019. The undisclosed donations had been made by governments in the Middle East, China, and Russia. Harvard, Yale, and Georgetown Universities were among the top recipients of concealed donations.

China, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia are three of the top five countries that have donated billions of dollars to American universities. "Roughly one out of every four of those [gifts and grants] have come from" China, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia, which "often don't have U.S. interests at heart," according to Adam Andrzejewski, CEO of Open The Books. The largest source of funding was Qatar, which contributed about \$5 billion, and Saudi Arabia, which contributed about \$3 billion. Chinese students attend American universities at a higher rate than those of any other nation, and since 2014, the Chinese government has given more than \$1 billion to support higher education in the country.

OVERSEAS FUNDING OF U.S. COLLEGES

Since 1990, American Universities Have Received \$43 Billion From Foreign Countries

According To Open The Books CEO Adam Andrzejewski, \$43 Billion Has Been Given To American Universities Since 1990. "Open The Books CEO Adam Andrzejewski joined The National Desk's Jan Jeffcoat Friday to discuss. 'Foreign influence on gifts and grants since 1990 is a big number. It's \$43 billion and roughly one out of every four of those foreign gifts and grants have come from those three countries who oftentimes don't have U.S. interests at heart,' he said." ("Billions Of Dollars In Foreign Funding Sent To Top US Colleges And Universities," The National Desk, 8/25/23)

<u>America's Top Universities Have "Massively Underreported" Funding From Foreign</u> Adversaries

The Department Of Education Published A Report In October 2020 Claiming That Funding From Foreign Adversaries Was "Massively Underreported" By Elite Universities. "A scathing report from the Trump administration on Tuesday concluded that top U.S. universities have 'massively underreported' funding they accept from China, Russia and other nations described as 'foreign adversaries.' The Education Department released the report amid its effort to enforce a 1986 law requiring U.S. universities to disclose gifts and contracts of \$250,000 or more from foreign sources. After going decades with little federal oversight, the law has become a priority for the Trump administration amid concerns over economic espionage and trade secret theft from abroad." (Collin Binkley, "Feds Say US Colleges 'Massively' Underreport Foreign Funding," *The Associated Press*, 10/20/20)

The Findings Were Based On Investigations Into 12 Elite U.S. Universities And Their Failure To Report Millions In Gifts And Contracts From China, Russia, Saudi Arabia And Qatar. "The department's findings are primarily based on investigations it has opened at 12 schools, including Harvard, Yale, Stanford and Georgetown universities. Federal officials began investigating the schools amid suspicion that they had failed to report millions of dollars in gifts and contracts from sources in China, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Qatar." (Collin Binkley, "Feds Say US Colleges 'Massively' Underreport Foreign Funding," *The Associated Press*, 10/20/20)

According To The Report, The Majority Of Schools Had Business Dealings With Huawei, A Chinese Tech Giant Connected To The Chinese Communist Party. "According to early findings in the report, most of the 12 schools have had financial dealings with Huawei, the Chinese tech giant that some U.S. officials say is a threat to national security, and at least one had ties directly to the Chinese Communist Party." (Collin Binkley, "Feds Say US Colleges 'Massively' Underreport Foreign Funding," *The Associated Press*, 10/20/20)

• "Others Had Deals With The Russian Government And Institutions In Saudi Arabia And Qatar." (Collin Binkley, "Feds Say US Colleges 'Massively' Underreport Foreign Funding," *The Associated Press*, 10/20/20)

The 12 Schools Revealed \$6.5 Billion In Foreign Funding That Had Previously Gone Unreported After Coming Under Federal Scrutiny. "The report did not identify which universities were connected to those entities. Since coming under federal scrutiny, the 12 schools disclosed a combined \$6.5 billion in foreign funding that was previously unreported, the department Said." (Collin Binkley, "Feds Say US Colleges 'Massively' Underreport Foreign Funding," *The Associated Press*, 10/20/20)

<u>After Decades Of Lax Enforcement, The Federal Government Mandated Universities To Report Funding From Foreign Countries</u>

In 2019, The Federal Government Mandated Universities To Report Gifts They Received From Foreign Countries. "The U.S. has taken steps to safeguard American Universities. During the Trump administration, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos mandated Universities to comply with federal transparency reporting. This would ensure that universities report the gifts they receive from foreign countries which includes billions of dollars." ("Billions Of Dollars In Foreign Funding Sent To Top US Colleges And Universities," The National Desk, 8/25/23)

• Colleges Were Required To Report Foreign Gifts And Contracts Of More Than \$250,000. "Colleges are currently required to report foreign gifts and contracts valued at more than \$250,000. The bill, however, lowers that reporting threshold to \$50,000, with some stricter \$0 thresholds for 'countries and entities of concern.' Those countries include China and Iran, among others." (Bianca Quilantan and Michael Stratford, "House Democrats Not Urging Lawmakers To Vote Down College Foreign Gift Reporting Bill," *Politico*, 12/6/23)

Since 1986, Universities Had Been Required To Disclose Gifts And Contracts Worth At Least \$250,000 From Foreign Sources, But Federal Oversight Has Been Minimal. "The Education Department released the report amid its effort to enforce a 1986 law requiring U.S. universities to disclose gifts and contracts of \$250,000 or more from foreign sources. After going decades with little federal oversight, the law has become a priority for the Trump administration amid concerns over economic espionage and trade secret theft from abroad." (Collin Binkley, "Feds Say US Colleges 'Massively' Underreport Foreign Funding," *The Associated Press*, 10/20/20)

<u>In December 2023, Congress Passed A Bipartisan Bill Tightening Foreign Gift Reporting Requirements</u>

The Defending Education Transparency And Ending Rogue Regimes Engaging In Nefarious Transaction Act (Deterrent Act) "Aims To Tighten College Foreign Gift Reporting Requirements." "The bill — H.R. 5933, the Defending Education Transparency and Ending Rogue Regimes Engaging in Nefarious Transactions Act — aims to tighten college foreign gift reporting requirements under Section 117 of the Higher Education Act." (Bianca Quilantan and Michael Stratford, "House Democrats Not Urging Lawmakers To Vote Down College Foreign Gift Reporting Bill," *Politico*, 12/6/23)

• The Bill Lowers The Reporting Threshold From \$250,000 To \$50,000. For "Countries And Entities Of Concern," The Reporting Threshold Is \$0. "Colleges are currently required to report foreign gifts and contracts valued at more than \$250,000. The bill, however, lowers that reporting threshold to \$50,000, with some stricter \$0 thresholds for 'countries and entities of concern.' Those countries include China and Iran, among others." (Bianca Quilantan and Michael Stratford, "House Democrats Not Urging Lawmakers To Vote Down College Foreign Gift Reporting Bill," *Politico*, 12/6/23)

The Deterrent Act Was Passed On December 6, 2023, 246–170, With 31 Democrats Voting In Favor Of The Bill Alongside Republicans. (HR 5933, Roll Call 701, Passed 246-170: R: 215-0; D: 31-270, 12/6/23)

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The Bipartisan Bill Passed By Congress Is Opposed By Higher Education Groups

According To A December 2023 Letter From The American Council On Education, It Wrote That Passing The DETERRENT Act Is The "Wrong Action To Take To Address" Foreign Funding Of U.S. Universities. "We understand that Congress and policymakers are concerned with research security, as well as foreign malign influence, at our institutions,' the groups wrote. 'However, the DETERRENT Act is the wrong action to take to address these issues and we urge you to vote against the legislation." (American Council On Education, "ACE, Higher Ed Groups Oppose The Deterrent Act," Press Release, 12/4/23)

• The Letter Added That The Bill "Puts In Place A Problematic Expansion of Data Collection By The U.S. Department Of Education That Will Broadly Curtail Important Needed International Research Collaboration And Academic And Cultural Exchanges." "While we understand the concern regarding foreign funding to U.S. institutions of higher education is bipartisan,' the groups stated, 'we believe the DETERRENT Act is duplicative of existing interagency efforts, unnecessary, and puts in place a problematic expansion of the data collection by the U.S. Department of Education that will broadly curtail important needed international research collaboration and academic and cultural exchanges." (American Council On Education, "ACE, Higher Ed Groups Oppose The Deterrent Act," Press Release, 12/4/23)

18 Organizations Signed The Letter Calling On Congress To Oppose The Bill. (Ted Mitchell – President Of Americana Council On Education, <u>Letter To Congressional Leadership</u>, 12/4/23)

On behalf of:

American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers American Association of Community Colleges American Association of State Colleges and Universities American Council on Education APPA, "Leadership in Educational Facilities" Association of American Universities Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Association of Research Libraries Council for Advancement and Support of Education Council of Graduate Schools EDUCAUSE NAFSA: Association of International Educators National Association of College and University Business Officers National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education

CONCEALED FOREIGN FUNDING OF U.S. UNIVERSITIES IS LINKED TO ANTISEMITISM ON CAMPUS

<u>Higher Levels Of Campus Antisemitism Are Associated With Unreported Foreign Funding Of American Universities</u>

National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

A Recent Study Found Unreported Foreign Funding Of U.S. Universities From Authoritarian Governments Is "Linked To Higher Levels Of Campus Antisemitism And A Decline In Free-Speech Norms." "Unreported foreign funding of U.S. universities by Qatar and other authoritarian governments is linked to higher levels of campus antisemitism and a decline in free-speech norms, according to a study released on Wednesday." (Andrew Bernard, "Report: Concealed Foreign Funding Of US Colleges Linked To Antisemitism," Jewish News Syndicate, 11/8/23)

• "\$13 Billion In Undisclosed Foreign Funds, ... Has Been Linked To A Staggering 300% Rise In Antisemitism At US Universities." "Approximately \$13 billion in undisclosed foreign funds, a substantial portion from authoritarian regimes, has been linked to a staggering 300% rise in antisemitism at US universities, according to a new study, "The Corruption of the American Mind," which has brought to light this deeply troubling trend." (Zvika Klein, "\$13b. In Hidden Foreign Funds Linked To 300% Antisemitism Rise In US Universities," *The Jerusalem Post*, 11/23/23)

The Report Was Based On Previous Research That Found Middle Eastern Governments, As Well As China And Russia, Had Donated Billions Of Dollars In Undisclosed Donations From 2014 To 2019. "The Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy's study is based on earlier research that discovered that Middle Eastern governments, as well as China and Russia, had made billions of dollars in undisclosed donations to U.S. universities from 2014 to 2019, in violation of U.S. law." (Andrew Bernard, "Report: Concealed Foreign Funding Of US Colleges Linked To Antisemitism," Jewish News Syndicate, 11/8/23)

According To The Report, "Undocumented Funding Correlated With A Deterioration Of Liberal Democratic Norms Around Free Speech And Freedom, As Well As Antisemitism On Campus." Because much of this undocumented money was provided by authoritarian regimes, we examined the levels and sources of such funding and the extent to which this undocumented funding correlated with a deterioration of liberal democratic norms around free speech and academic freedom, as well as antisemitism on campus, the study authors wrote." (Andrew Bernard, "Report: Concealed Foreign Funding Of US Colleges Linked To Antisemitism," Jewish News Syndicate, 11/8/23)

• Additionally, "Receipt Of Undocumented Money Was Associated With Increased Levels Of Campus Antisemitism, And This Relationship Was Larger When The Undocumented Funding Came From Middle Eastern/Authoritarian States." "Receipt of undocumented money was associated with increased levels of campus antisemitism, and this relationship was larger when the undocumented funding came from Middle Eastern/authoritarian states,' they added." (Andrew Bernard, "Report: Concealed Foreign Funding Of US Colleges Linked To Antisemitism," Jewish News Syndicate, 11/8/23)

"Qatar Was The Largest Single Such Donor, Providing \$2.7 Billion In Concealed Funds, While Harvard, Yale And Georgetown Universities Were Among The Top Recipients Of Concealed Donations." (Andrew Bernard, "Report: Concealed Foreign Funding Of US Colleges Linked To Antisemitism," <u>Jewish News Syndicate</u>, 11/8/23)

A Sizable Portion Of The \$13 Billion In Unreported Donations From Overseas Nations Between 2014 And 2019, Including Those From Authoritarian Regimes

According To A Report From The Network Contagion Research Institute (NCRI), More Than 200 American Universities Have Raked In \$13 Billion In Undisclosed Contributions From Foreign Governments." "Over 200 US universities including elite institutions Carnegie Mellon, Cornell, Harvard and Massachusetts Institute of Technology have been accused of raking in \$13 billion in 'undocumented contributions from foreign governments,' according to a new report. A sizable portion of the funds were said to be donated from authoritarian regimes around the globe including Qatar, Saudi Arabia, China and the UAE, the report from the Network Contagion Research Institute (NCRI) claimed." (David Propper, "US Universities Including Cornell, Harvard And MIT Raked In \$13B In 'Undocumented Contributions' From Foreign Donors: Report," New York Post, 11/8/23)

"A Sizable Portion Of The Funds Were Said To Be Donated From Authoritarian Regimes Around The Globe Including Qatar, Saudi Arabia, China And The UAE." "A sizable portion of the funds were said to be donated from authoritarian regimes around the globe including Qatar, Saudi Arabia, China and the UAE, the report from the Network Contagion Research Institute (NCRI) claimed." (David Propper, "US Universities Including Cornell, Harvard And MIT Raked In \$13B In 'Undocumented Contributions' From Foreign Donors: Report," New York Post, 11/8/23)

According To The NCRI Report, These Funds Went Unreported To The U.S. Department Of Education Between 2014 And 2019. The huge windfall of cited money was not recorded with the US Department of Education between 2014 and 2019, the NCRI said." (David Propper, "US Universities Including Cornell, Harvard And MIT Raked In \$13B In 'Undocumented Contributions' From Foreign Donors: Report," <u>New York Post</u>, 11/8/23)

Carnegie Mellon University Received \$1.47 Billion, Cornell University Received \$1.29 Billion, Harvard University Took In \$894 Million And MIT Collected \$859 Million. "Carnegie Mellon University received the most from foreign entities in that time span at \$1.47 billion while Cornell University scooped up \$1.29 billion, Harvard University notched \$894 million and MIT collected \$859 million, according to the report." (David Propper, "US Universities Including Cornell, Harvard And MIT Raked In \$13B In 'Undocumented Contributions' From Foreign Donors: Report," New York Post, 11/8/23)

Qatar Was The Biggest Spender, Contributing \$2.7 Billion. "Qatar donors easily contributed the most to institutions, at \$2.7 billion, though England was second on the list and provided \$1.4 billion." (David Propper, "US Universities Including Cornell, Harvard And MIT Raked In \$13B In 'Undocumented Contributions' From Foreign Donors: Report," New York Post, 11/8/23)

"About \$1.2 Billion Flowed From China And Another \$1.1 Billion Came From Saudi Arabia. ... The UAE Reportedly Contributed \$431 Million." "About \$1.2 billion flowed from China and another \$1.1 billion came from Saudi Arabia, per the report. The UAE reportedly contributed \$431 million." (David Propper, "US Universities Including Cornell, Harvard And MIT Raked In \$13B In 'Undocumented Contributions' From Foreign Donors: Report," New York Post, 11/8/23)

<u>China, Qatar, Saudi Arabia And China Are Among The Top Donors To American Universities</u>

Billions Of Dollars From Foreign Countries Have Gone To American Universities And Three Of The Top Five Countries Giving Are China, Qatar And Saudi Arabia. "American universities and colleges have received billions of dollars from foreign countries and adversaries. Three of the top five countries that have pumped money into higher education in the U.S. are China, Qatar and Saudi Arabia." ("Billions Of Dollars In Foreign Funding Sent To Top US Colleges And Universities," The National Desk, 8/25/23)

According To Open The Books CEO Adam Andrzejewski, \$43 Billion Has Been Given To American Universities Since 1990 And "Roughly One Out Of Every Four Of Those [Gifts

And Grants] Have Come From" China, Qatar And Saudi Arabia, Who "Oftentimes Don't Have U.S. Interests At Heart." "Open The Books CEO Adam Andrzejewski joined The National Desk's Jan Jeffcoat Friday to discuss. 'Foreign influence on gifts and grants since 1990 is a big number. It's \$43 billion and roughly one out of every four of those foreign gifts and grants have come from those three countries who oftentimes don't have U.S. interests at heart,' he said." ("Billions Of Dollars In Foreign Funding Sent To Top US Colleges And Universities," The National Desk, 8/25/23)

- "They're Adversarial To Our Foreign Policy Positions And The American Way Of Life. That's Qatar, Saudi Arabia And China." ("Billions Of Dollars In Foreign Funding Sent To Top US Colleges And Universities," The National Desk, 8/25/23)
- According To Andrzejewski, Those Three Countries Have Given \$2.6-\$3.3 Billion To American Universities Since 2017. "Just since 2017. Actually, those three countries have put an additional \$2.6-\$3.3 billion into America's institutions of higher education,' Andrzejewski said. "Since 1990, they've put \$7 billion worth of money so that the pace of the gifts is actually increasing." ("Billions Of Dollars In Foreign Funding Sent To Top US Colleges And Universities," The National Desk, 8/25/23)

A May 2023 Report From The American Israeli Cooperative Enterprise (AICE) Found The Arab Countries Like Qatar, Saudi Arabia, The UAE, Kuwait And Egypt Were The Top Donors To American Universities. "A 2023 report from the American Israeli Cooperative Enterprise (AICE) is shining a light on foreign donations to American universities and the role they could be playing in influencing college campuses and responses to geopolitical events. The May report, conducted by Mitchell Bard, a foreign policy expert and the executive director of the AICE, found the top donors to American universities are Arab countries like Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait and Egypt." (Ashley Carnahan, "Funding From Arab Countries To U.S. Universities Raises Questions: 'Almost Always Come With Strings Attached," Fox Business, 11/14/23)

- "Qatar Was The Largest Source Of Funding, Donating Roughly \$5 Billion And Was Followed By Saudi Arabia Donating Roughly \$3 Billion." (Ashley Carnahan, "Funding From Arab Countries To U.S. Universities Raises Questions: 'Almost Always Come With Strings Attached," Fox Business, 11/14/23)
- "The Top Five University Recipients Of Arab Donations Were Cornell, Georgetown, Carnegie Mellon, Texas A&M And Northwestern, According To The Report From AICE." (Ashley Carnahan, "Funding From Arab Countries To U.S. Universities Raises Questions: 'Almost Always Come With Strings Attached." Fox Business, 11/14/23)

More Chinese Students Than Any Other Country Enroll In American Universities, And Since 2014, The Chinese Government Has Contributed More Than \$1 Billion To American Higher Education. "China sends more students to study at U.S. universities than any other nation and is the largest source of foreign donations to American higher education, making more than \$1 billion in gifts since 2014. Last year, former Republican President Donald Trump's Department of Education accused universities of failing to disclose hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign donations, including from China." (Patricia Zengerle, "U.S. Senators Want Review Of Chinese Donations To U.S. Universities," Reuters, 5/26/21)

Since 9/11, Qatar Has Been The Largest Foreign Donor To American Universities

According To A 2022 Study Published By The National Association Of Academics, Following 9/11 To 2021, Qataris Donated \$4.7 Billion To American Universities. "According to a study published in 2022 by the National Association of Academics in the United States, a study that did not cause too much noise at the time, in the period between 2001 and 2021, precisely after the September 11 attacks, the Qataris donated a whopping \$4.7 billion to universities in the United States. The recipients, however, did not report part of the money received, as required by law." (Sophie Shulman, "Tuition Of Terror: Qatari Money Flowed Into U.S. Universities – And Now It's Fueling Violence," CTech, 10/30/23)

"Qatar Is The Largest Foreign Donor To American Academia." In fact, Qatar has become the largest foreign donor to American academia in the two decades since 9/11. What has been going on since the outbreak of the war on the campuses of the prestigious American universities, is a multi-

participant event that was organized in advance and waited for the right moment. This moment came after the massacre of October 7." (Sophie Shulman, "Tuition Of Terror: Qatari Money Flowed Into U.S. Universities – And Now It's Fueling Violence," CTech, 10/30/23)

Qatar's Donations Are "Paving The Way For The Deepening Influence Of Its Shadows Over More And More Fields And Geographical Areas." "In the United States, it was believed that deepening the cooperation with Qatar and receiving donations to establish branches of prestigious American universities were another way to expand its soft power, but in practice, it became the opposite. Through its vast capital, Qatar is paving the way for the deepening influence of its shadows over more and more fields and geographical areas." (Sophie Shulman, "Tuition Of Terror: Qatari Money Flowed Into U.S. Universities – And Now It's Fueling Violence," CTech, 10/30/23)

Cornell, Georgetown, Northwestern, And Carnegie Mellon, Universities Who Have Received The Most Funding From Qatar, Have Established Satellite Schools In Doha. "The American universities that received the most significant funding from the Qataris, including Cornell, Georgetown, Northwestern, and Carnegie Mellon, established branches in Doha, the capital of Qatar." (Sophie Shulman, "Tuition Of Terror: Qatari Money Flowed Into U.S. Universities – And Now It's Fueling Violence," CTech, 10/30/23)

"Cornell, Which Belongs To The American Ivy League, Opened A Medical School For \$1.8 Billion, Georgetown Received \$750 Million For A School Of Government And Northwestern Established A Journalism School For Which It Received \$600 Million In 2007." (Sophie Shulman, "Tuition Of Terror: Qatari Money Flowed Into U.S. Universities – And Now It's Fueling Violence," CTech, 10/30/23)