

# As Maui Burns, Biden Demands Another \$24 Billion...For Ukraine!

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*I am not a big fan of Federal Government disaster relief. Too much of the time the money never gets to those who need it most, and too often Washington's armies of disaster "experts" are more interested in pushing people around than helping them.*

Nevertheless, it's hard to look at recent footage of the devastation in Maui and then hear President Biden tell Congress that he needs another \$24 billion for Ukraine. How can this Administration continue to justify tens of billions of dollars for this losing war that is not in our interest while the rest of the United States disintegrates?



Burned cars, Front Street, Lāhainā (Licensed under the Public Domain)

Biden's new \$24 billion request comes on top of well over \$120 billion already spent to fight the US proxy war on Russia in Ukraine. Heritage Foundation budget expert Richard Stern has done the math and determined that Biden's spending on the Ukraine war thus far will cost each and every American household \$900. How many Americans would rather have those \$900 dollars back in their pocket rather than in the pockets of Lockheed-Martin, Raytheon, and Ukraine's oligarchs?

Recent surveys have shown that a majority of Americans could not afford to cover a sudden \$1,000 emergency. Will Americans connect the dots and realize that the reason they can't find that \$1,000 for an emergency is because the neocons have already sent it to Ukraine?

Ukraine has long been known as among the most corrupt countries on earth and not long ago investigative journalist Seymour Hersh wrote that Ukrainian president Vladimir Zelensky has embezzled at least \$400 million in aid from the American people. Corruption scandals continue to break in Ukraine. Just last week Zelensky fired the heads of all local draft boards for corruption. Some press reports suggest that sales of luxury cars in Ukraine have broken all previous records. I wonder why.

No wonder the tide of US public opinion is turning against further involvement in the war.

Recently CNN found that among all Americans, more than 55 percent are opposed to continued aid to Ukraine. Among Republicans the number opposing more aid to Ukraine rises to three-out-of-four. That is why we are finally starting to see more Republican Members raising concerns. I'd like to think they have seen the light that an aggressive and interventionist foreign policy is not in America's interest, but most likely they are worried about losing elections. Whatever their motivation, this turning tide should be welcomed.

Yet the Biden Administration persists in backing Ukraine even as the US mainstream media is increasingly pointing out the obvious: Ukraine is not winning and cannot win, and continuing to pour money into a losing cause will just result in bankruptcy at home and more dead Ukrainians overseas.

Last week Newsweek published an article asking, "Does Ukraine Have Kompromat on Joe Biden?" In the article, Northeastern University Professor Max Abrahms wonders out loud whether Biden's continued support for Ukraine might be related to compromising information held in Kiev about the many Biden family shady business ventures in Ukraine and the region. It is certainly worth considering.

Meanwhile, the residents of Maui that survived the recent horrific fire will take little comfort knowing that the Biden Administration is more interested in sending their money to Ukraine than in helping them recover.

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*Featured image: Lāhainā Lighthouse surrounded by August 2023 wildfire ruins (Licensed under the Public Domain)*

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