
Priorities for Bolstering Our National Security & Protecting the Homeland

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As Governor, Maggie Hassan’s top priority has always been keeping New Hampshire safe and secure – and protecting America’s security will be her top priority in the U.S. Senate. The United States has the strongest armed forces in the world, and we must maintain our military superiority while also remaining the greatest force for good and ensuring that the use of our military might is a last resort.

As Commander in Chief of the New Hampshire National Guard, the Governor has worked hand-in-hand with members of the Guard to stand up for the state’s highly-skilled Guardsmen and women, fought to ensure that members of the National Guard have the resources and equipment they need and advocated for the basing of the new KC-46A air refueling tanker with the 157th Air Refueling Wing at Pease Air National Guard Base. She has also consistently fought for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, including her efforts as a State Senator that helped turn back a misguided effort to close the Shipyard. In the wake of terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world, Governor Hassan has worked with state homeland security officials, the FBI and local police departments, leading New Hampshire’s security efforts to keep Granite Staters safe. And she has worked to put more State Troopers on the road, supported efforts to expand the state’s Information and Analysis Center, instituted active shooter trainings for police departments across the state, and strengthened cybersecurity.

The Governor has also been a strong advocate for veterans, servicemembers and military families. Since entering office, Governor Hassan has helped launch Operation VETS Connect to enhance New Hampshire’s existing efforts to support veteran hiring, worked to hire more veterans service officers at the New Hampshire Office of Veterans Services, provided funding for the construction of a new unit at the state Veterans Home to care for veterans with dementia, and helped make permanent a commission studying the effects of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries suffered by members of the armed forces and veterans in the line of duty. In July, Governor Hassan’s campaign announced more than 300 members of Veterans for Maggie from across New Hampshire, building on her previously announced Veterans for Maggie Leadership Council.

Governor Hassan has continued her focus on keeping New Hampshire and safe, secure and strong throughout her Senate campaign, laying out steps we need to take now to defeat ISIS and making it clear that the United States must do more to wipe out ISIS and other terrorist organizations, hold those who support terrorism accountable while preventing nuclear weapons from falling into the wrong hands, and work with the international community to confront acts of aggression and advance our vital interests while protecting the world’s most vulnerable people. And she has stood up to many in her own party to oppose President Obama’s plan to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay and to support strengthening vetting for all entryways into the country.
In the Senate, the Governor will work to build on her efforts to keep New Hampshire safe with a focus on the following national security priorities: (1) destroying ISIS, (2) protecting the homeland, (3) strengthening our military, (4) confronting aggression, and (5) maintaining America’s global leadership.

These priorities are not exhaustive, but they are essential for keeping our people safe in the face of any threat, foreign or domestic.
1. Destroy ISIS

Governor Maggie Hassan has been clear that the United States must do more to wipe ISIS off the map. New Hampshire has felt the impact of ISIS’ heinous acts of terror all too closely with the murders of James Foley and Steven Sotloff. The United States and our allies must align behind a clear and comprehensive strategy to destroy ISIS and work toward political stability in Syria and Libya to help prevent safe havens for terrorists.

In the wake of the terrorist attack in Paris in November 2015, the Governor laid out a series of steps to wipe out ISIS and help prevent future terrorist attacks. While the United States and our allies have taken steps since then toward rolling back ISIS’ territorial gains, the recent ISIS-inspired attacks in San Bernardino, Orlando, Nice and elsewhere make clear that we must continue to focus on the dangerous and evolving threat posed by terrorist organizations including radical Islamist groups.

Governor Hassan is focused on defeating these terrorists wherever they are, including increasing airstrikes and the use of Special Forces, supporting moderate fighters in the region such as the Kurds, supporting the military’s request for a 50% increase in funding to fight ISIS, surging our intelligence-gathering capabilities, helping Europe address terrorism, and passing a strong Authorization for the Use of Military Force to define our goals and strategy to win the fight against ISIS.

**Intensify airstrikes:** The United States and our allies have been conducting limited airstrikes against ISIS since the fall of 2014, focusing on a range of targets including the group’s leadership, oil facilities and other critical assets. While these airstrikes have had an impact, we need to intensify these efforts and improve targeting to ensure that we are conducting these strikes against ISIS’ command and control structure wherever it exists – in Syria and Iraq, as well as Libya and Afghanistan as ISIS continues to seek new territory. And we need better intelligence on the ground to ensure that these strikes are as effective as possible at disrupting ISIS and supporting moderate local forces on the front lines.

**Increase use of Special Forces:** The fight against ISIS cannot be conducted exclusively from the air. America’s Special Forces are the most skilled military fighters in the world, and they have provided critical training and support for moderate fighters in the region. We must expand these training efforts and step up the use of our Special Forces to conduct targeted raids to destroy ISIS’ command and control structure. Special Operations raids like the 2011 raid to kill Osama bin Laden are critical tools for targeting terrorist leaders and gathering crucial intelligence. In March 2016, U.S. Special Forces in Syria also killed Abd ar-Rahman Mustafà al-Qaduli, ISIS’ second-in-command. The United States should keep conducting these raids and devote sufficient resources to ensuring their continued success.
Support moderate local forces: In addition to conducting our own airstrikes and Special Operations actions against ISIS, the United States must continue to train and support moderate local forces in the region who are leading the fight against ISIS. Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga fighters have proven effective allies in retaking territory from ISIS, and we must continue to support and advise these fighters. At the same time, we must consider how best to expand our support for other moderate forces, including integrating Sunni forces, to help retake and hold ISIS’ Sunni strongholds.

Strengthen intelligence capabilities to keep America a step ahead of threats: Defeating ISIS will require better intelligence to help target our efforts, keep America a step ahead of new threats and thwart ISIS’ attempts to attack the United States and our allies. More Special Operations raids will help provide crucial on-the-ground intelligence, and we should continue to invest in these raids to ensure their continued success. We also need to expand and improve our monitoring of potential extremists at home and abroad, using both human intelligence and technical means – including additional surveillance of the internet and social media.

Help Europe address terrorism head-on: Recent attacks in places such as Paris, Brussels and Nice have highlighted vulnerabilities that Europe needs to address quickly and decisively to protect themselves and reduce the risk of terrorism spreading from that continent to the United States. Our European allies must work to prevent radicalization and better integrate new communities. Governor Hassan also believes that the European Union should consider creating a stronger centralized police and security force, like the FBI, to help address these issues. And the United States must expand our intelligence support and coordination with our European allies to help ensure that we have an appropriately international, cross-border response to this global threat.

Work toward political stability in Syria and Libya: Long-term success in the fight against ISIS will require political and economic efforts in addition to military action. ISIS evolved in Syria in response to the ongoing turmoil in the region and the Assad regime’s brutal crackdown during the Arab Spring, while instability in Libya helped ISIS spread there as well. We cannot let the conditions that allowed ISIS to develop and spread persist. The United States must increase pressure on Russia and the rest of the international community to reach a political solution in Syria that looks beyond the turmoil of the current conflict and prepares for a more stable, long-term solution after Assad has left the stage. We also need to continue working toward a strong unity government in Libya that will help stabilize the country. And we should work with our allies in the region to assist those displaced and otherwise impacted by the conflicts, which means investing in development efforts, building stronger democratic institutions and promoting the rule of law to combat the conditions that help breed extremism.

Pass an AUMF to make clear that we are at war with ISIS: Congress has failed to fulfill its responsibility to take up, debate and pass a strong Authorization for the Use of Military Force (AUMF) against ISIS. The Governor believes there is simply no excuse for this failure in the face of a threat as serious and evil as ISIS. Congress needs to hold hearings with military leadership and determine the necessary terms of an AUMF to define our
goals and strategy to win the fight against ISIS and make clear to our troops and to the American people that Congress is fully committed to doing what it takes to defeat ISIS.

**Take steps to prevent radicalization:** As ISIS continues to evolve and increasingly turns to attacks abroad, it has become even more critical to take aggressive steps to prevent radicalization at home. Governor Hassan supports increasing cyber operations to disrupt ISIS’ online presence and counter their propaganda, making it harder for them to operate and recruit. That includes monitoring potential threats, removing extremist content as quickly as possible and targeting counter-radicalization content to reach at-risk audiences. The federal government must work with private companies to take on this challenge together. Earlier this year Twitter announced it was shutting down 125,000 ISIS-linked accounts, and the government must continue to encourage and enable these private sector efforts to combat terrorism. We should also take steps to address the conditions that lead to extremism among those trapped by the crisis in Syria through continued humanitarian aid efforts. And the Governor will work to ensure that we coordinate with local communities, organizations and law enforcement to prevent radicalization and recruitment at home – including working hand-in-hand with the American Muslim community to confront this threat instead of demonizing an entire religion.
In the wake of terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world, Governor Maggie Hassan worked with state homeland security officials, the FBI and local police departments, leading New Hampshire’s security efforts to keep Granite Staters safe. Those efforts have included expanding the state’s Information and Analysis Center, enhancing safety plans at New Hampshire’s public schools, instituting active shooter trainings for police departments across the state, protecting funding for police training, and strengthening cybersecurity efforts.

The Governor also believes we must take additional steps at the federal level to prevent terrorists from entering our country and stop those who may be here already. That means strengthening security at our borders, improving vetting for all entryways into the country, increasing communication and information sharing, stopping terrorists from getting guns, and upgrading our nation’s cybersecurity.

**Strengthen border security:** The Governor believes it is long past time to fix our broken immigration system and pass bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform – including taking important steps to improve border security. That begins by reversing the threat of sequestration’s cuts to funding for border security. It also means increasing the number of Border Patrol agents, ensuring that they have the tools they need to monitor border crossings, and improving electronic surveillance through radar, camera systems, ground sensors and other technologies. And as New Hampshire continues to fight to stem the tide of the heroin and opioid crisis, Governor Hassan will work to ensure that these efforts at our borders also include a commitment to drug interdiction – taking steps to disrupt foreign drug cartels and stop the flow of deadly drugs into the United States.

**Secure all entryways into the country:** The United States must take additional steps to secure all entryways into the country to ensure that those who seek to do us harm cannot slip through the cracks. The Governor believes that we must continue to strengthen the Visa Waiver Program to make the screening process more rigorous and consider adding new countries of concern where al Qaeda or ISIS have operated, such as Tunisia and Algeria. And she supports improving the vetting process for all those seeking to enter the United States through steps such as increased social media monitoring.

**Improve information and intelligence sharing:** Improving information sharing between federal agencies and across all levels of government was one of the key recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. In the years since, the Department of Homeland Security and others have worked to improve horizontal and vertical information sharing through mechanisms such as Joint Terrorism Task Forces. Governor Hassan has experienced the need for this type of information sharing.
first-hand while working with New Hampshire’s homeland security and emergency management officials. Fifteen years after 9/11, the Governor believes it is the right time to conduct a thorough review of these efforts – a review that takes into account perspectives from the state and local levels as well as those of federal officials – to ensure that we are doing everything we can to improve communication. She also believes we must strengthen our intelligence-gathering capabilities and expand intelligence sharing with our international allies to ensure that we have a strong, cross-border response to global threats such as ISIS.

**Stop terrorists from buying guns:** Governor Hassan supports the Second Amendment and believes that Americans have a right to responsibly own guns. She also recognizes the need to balance the rights of responsible gun owners with the rights of all New Hampshire citizens to be safe in their communities. The attacks in San Bernardino and Orlando helped make it clear that we must take action to prevent terrorists from buying guns. ISIS and al Qaeda have indicated that they are aware of and eager to exploit loopholes in our laws that make it possible for terrorists and dangerous criminals to buy guns in the United States. The Governor supports efforts to truly close the terrorist gun loophole by preventing anyone on the terrorist watch list from buying a gun. And she strongly supports expanding criminal background checks to prevent terrorists from buying guns online or at gun shows.

**Secure captured terrorists:** Governor Maggie Hassan understands that in order to protect Americans, we must be able to secure captured terrorists. The Governor opposes the President’s proposal to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay because it does not do enough to advance our national security interests or prevent dangerous terrorists from returning to the battlefield. Any plan to secure detainees must include information about where detainees will be transferred, how we will prevent them from re-engaging on the battlefield, and how we will handle both current and future detainees.

**Keep our Homeland and National Security Agencies open:** The Department of Homeland Security, CIA and other intelligence agencies perform vital work to ensure the continued safety, security and stability of Granite Staters and Americans across the country. Governor Hassan was disturbed to watch Republicans in Congress play political games with these agencies over the past few years, shutting down critical functions in 2013 and threatening to close the Department of Homeland Security again in 2015 over partisan disputes. In the 2013 government shutdown, intelligence agencies were forced to furlough 70% of civilian personnel, a move the Director of National Intelligence said “seriously damages our ability to protect the safety and security of this nation.” In the Senate, the Governor will work to keep these agencies open and fully functioning, protect critical funding for their work, and ensure that politics does not interfere with our security.

**Support public safety officials:** Public safety officials, including our brave law enforcement officers and fire fighters, are on the front lines every day, protecting our communities and keeping Granite Staters safe and secure at home. Governor Hassan will work to ensure that local and state-level public safety officials are connected with federal officials to help make sure that relevant public safety information is shared.
vertically. The Governor also supports funding federal grant programs, such as the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER), Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE) and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs to help support the efforts of local law enforcement and fire fighters and ensure that they have the resources they need to protect New Hampshire families. And she supports programs that help provide law enforcement departments with the equipment they need to conduct counter-terrorism activities.

Upgrade our cybersecurity: The United States has increasingly been the target of cyber attacks from countries such as Russia and North Korea as well as unaligned hackers. Yet the federal government’s response has fallen short, with a recent report suggesting that only a handful of non-military government agencies are properly employing a new multi-billion dollar system designed to detect and prevent intrusions and enhance analysis and information sharing. Governor Hassan believes these failures are unacceptable. In New Hampshire, she has worked to develop and implement statewide standards for cybersecurity, launched regular cybersecurity training for state employees, and worked to eliminate outdated computers and upgrade software. As a Senator, she will demand stronger oversight and implementation of existing cybersecurity tools within the federal government. The Governor will support bipartisan efforts to elevate the military’s Cyber Command to a Combatant Command to help respond effectively to these rapidly evolving threats. She will also support greater investment in cybersecurity, including technology upgrades and the hiring of high-caliber cybersecurity experts. And she will push the FBI and Department of Justice to focus on cracking down on cyber threats, including cyber attacks originating overseas.

Recommit to inclusive, welcoming values: To truly defeat ISIS and other terrorists, we must also ensure that we do not give in to the fear they are trying to sow. We cannot allow terrorists to undermine the fundamental values that make the United States the greatest country on earth. America’s values and our history of diversity and inclusion are one of our greatest sources of strength, security and stability. We cannot demonize entire peoples or religions, and we must remain firmly committed to aiding the world’s most vulnerable people and maintaining our position as the globe’s leading force for good. Governor Hassan believes that we can simultaneously strengthen our security, ensure the safety of our people, maintain the values that make us strong and demonstrate to all who seek to do us harm that they can never defeat the resilience and spirit that defines New Hampshire and the United States.
Governor Maggie Hassan has strongly supported New Hampshire’s servicemembers, military families and veterans throughout her time in public office. As Commander-in-Chief of the New Hampshire National Guard, Governor Hassan has stood up for our highly-skilled Guardsmen and women, fighting against federal cuts to National Guard resources and advocating for the basing of the new KC-46A air refueling tanker with the 157th Air Refueling Wing at Pease Air National Guard Base. As a State Senator, she fought vigorously against a misguided effort to close down the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. And the Governor has worked to fulfill our obligations to our veterans and support efforts to help returning servicemembers secure good-paying jobs – increasing funding at the state Veterans Home, adding new service officers at the NH Office of Veterans Services, and helping to launch Operation VETS Connect to support veteran hiring.

In the Senate, Governor Hassan will continue working to strengthen our military by supporting military modernization efforts, ensuring that the defense budget provides adequate resources to maintain our military superiority and carry out critical missions, bolstering critical and high-performing assets such as the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, allowing all Americans to serve in the armed forces, and reinforcing our commitment to our veterans, servicemembers and military families.

Ensure a modern military: The United States has the strongest military in the world, and Governor Hassan is committed to ensuring that we maintain our military might. As the nature of the threats facing our country continues to evolve, our armed forces must adapt accordingly. We need an agile, flexible military that is capable of a full range of land, sea and air operations. That means taking steps such as continuing to expand our Special Operations Command and ensuring that our troops have the appropriate equipment to do their jobs. It also means investing in military research through the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and other mechanisms to maintain our technological edge and improving our cyber capabilities to promote cybersecurity and support military operations. And as the military modernizes, we should continue bipartisan efforts to modernize the management structure of the Pentagon as well.

Fully support the National Guard and Reserve Forces: Our military reservists and National Guardsmen and women play an essential role in securing our nation. In New Hampshire, the 157th Air Refueling Wing conducts refueling missions out of the Pease Air National Guard Base and was selected as a host for the new KC-46A air refueling tanker, for which Governor Hassan advocated. The National Guard has a unique dual mission as a resource for emergency response and homeland security as well as supporting overseas operations alongside active duty forces. As Commander in Chief of the New Hampshire National Guard, Governor Hassan has fought against funding cuts that would reduce the Guard’s capabilities and make it harder for the Guard to
perform its unique dual mission. In the Senate, she will continue to support the reserve components of the armed forces and ensure that they have the resources they need to fulfill their missions and have safe and modern facilities.

**Invest in the Portsmouth Shipyard:** The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard makes vital contributions to our nation’s defense and has won national recognition for its excellence at overhauling and modernizing Los Angeles and Virginia class submarines. The Governor has long worked to support the Shipyard, and in the Senate she will continue to advocate for the Shipyard’s highly skilled workers and vigorously fight any attempt to close the facility – including opposing a new Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) round. Governor Hassan will also work to fully reverse sequestration and end the threat of uncertain budgets and furloughs. And she will support new barracks and dry dock refurbishment, ensure that the Shipyard’s personnel get full per diems when they travel, fully fund the submarine fleet that the Navy says it needs, and look for new ways to diversify and expand the Shipyard’s mission going forward.

**Budget for the mission:** To maintain our military superiority, we must ensure that our armed forces have sufficient resources to take on any mission. Over the past several years, arbitrary budget topline numbers, across-the-board cuts and persistent budgetary uncertainty have threatened our military readiness and investments in critical security priorities. The Governor believes Congress must stop playing games with the defense budget, ensure adequate funding to support the national security and defense strategies outlined in Quadrennial Defense Reviews, and ensure sufficient funding for the specific missions and priorities that we ask our military to handle. And given the challenges we face, the Governor supports increasing investments in critical priorities such as the European Reassurance Initiative to support our NATO allies in Eastern Europe and the military’s request for a 50% increase in funding to defeat ISIS.

**Eliminate waste, fraud & abuse:** As with the rest of the budget, Governor Hassan will work to ensure that the Department of Defense is spending efficiently and making smart investments while cutting down on waste, fraud and abuse – freeing up more resources for critical missions such as defeating ISIS. As with other large government agencies, we can do more to review the Pentagon’s spending and ensure the efficient investment of military resources. Examples of wasteful spending such as $43 million spent on a gas station in Afghanistan or $150 million spent on private villas for contractors show the importance of having strong oversight and auditing functions. Congress must do its job to ensure the Defense Department is spending wisely and promptly address issues when they come to light.

**Allow all Americans to serve:** Every American who wants to serve should have the opportunity to do so. Governor Hassan believes that our country is stronger when we live in a more inclusive society where all of our citizens are fully included in civic and economic life – and military service should be no exception. The Governor supports recent efforts to open up the military to more Americans, including the decisions to end Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, to allow women to serve honorably alongside men in combat roles, and to lift the ban on transgender troops. In the Senate, she will stand up against efforts to roll back these reforms and will continue to fight for a fully inclusive military.
Help those who help us: During the war in Afghanistan, the United States has been aided by thousands of Afghans who have served as interpreters for military personnel and American officials. Governor Hassan believes that the brave men and women who put themselves at risk to assist our efforts deserve our gratitude and assistance. She supports the efforts of Senators Shaheen and McCain to authorize additional visas for these interpreters to help those who have helped us and ensure that we can secure this kind of support in the future.

Fulfill commitments to our veterans, servicemembers & military families: As the daughter of a World War II veteran, Governor Hassan is committed to fulfilling our obligations to our veterans by ensuring that they and their families receive the benefits they’ve earned and by supporting efforts to help our returning servicemen and women secure high quality jobs. She has led these efforts as Governor, and in the Senate she will continue to fight to reform the VA, eliminate waitlist errors and hold accountable those responsible for problems at the VA, expand access to mental health care, and build on New Hampshire’s efforts to end veteran homelessness. The Governor will also fight to protect and enhance veterans’ education benefits and crack down on predatory for-profit schools that target veterans, including closing the 90/10 Rule loophole and passing consumer protection measures to educate servicemembers about predatory practices. And she will work to support military families and ease the transition from active duty to civilian life.
4. Confront Aggression

As it has since World War II, the United States must take the lead in confronting rogue states and any regimes that seek to intimidate or overpower their neighbors. Governor Hassan believes we must work with the international community to hold accountable regimes that support terrorism while also working to prevent nuclear weapons from falling into the wrong hands. And we must be ready, willing and able to stand up to aggression from state actors who try to operate outside the international order and undermine American interests.

Governor Hassan’s priorities include preventing Iran from getting a nuclear weapon and cracking down on its support for terrorism, working to end Kim Jong-un’s nuclear program in North Korea and rein in his regime’s dangerous actions, ensuring that China plays by the rules, and checking Russia’s expansionary efforts.

**Prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon:** Like Senator Shaheen and national security and foreign policy experts from both parties, Governor Hassan believes that the imperfect Iran agreement is the best available alternative to prevent the regime from obtaining nuclear weapons. In the Senate, she will work to ensure that this agreement is the first step among many in a broader strategy to protect Israel’s security, block Iran’s support for terrorist activities, and confront Iranian aggression. That means aggressively enforcing the agreement and ensuring that Iran doesn’t violate its terms, strengthening ties with partners in the region to check Iran’s influence, extending the Iran Sanctions Act and imposing stronger sanctions in response to Iran’s ballistic missile tests. Governor Hassan also believes that we must increase aid to Israel, our strongest ally in the Middle East, to help guarantee the country’s Qualitative Military Edge and ability to defend itself and support the Iron Dome missile defense program.

**Work to end North Korea’s nuclear program:** The North Korean regime’s recent nuclear tests and other dangerous and provocative actions cannot be tolerated. We must increase the pressure on North Korea to end its nuclear program while supporting missile defense systems in the region to help protect our allies. While the sanctions imposed earlier this year are encouraging, the Governor believes they must be a part of continued efforts – and we must make sure that these sanctions are being properly enforced to ensure their effectiveness. That means working with our international partners to hold North Korea accountable and pushing the regime to end its hostile actions and human rights abuses.

**Ensure China plays by the rules:** Recent moves by an increasingly assertive China threaten our allies and are deeply concerning to the United States. Over the past few years, China has conducted cyber attacks against the United States, manipulated its currency to its own advantage, and taken unprovoked and aggressive actions in the South China Sea that have increased regional tensions. Governor Hassan believes that when China steps out of line, we must hold the country accountable. That means cracking down on cyber attacks and taking steps to combat currency manipulation. It
also means making it clear that we continue to support freedom of navigation and the free flow of commerce in the South China Sea, and stepping up our pressure on China to reduce tensions in the region. We should continue—and consider increasing—our military exercises in the South China Sea to show China we do not accept its claims, strengthen our relations with important regional allies such as the Philippines and Vietnam, and work to ensure that China is playing by the same rules as every other country. At the same time, we must continue working productively with China in other areas of mutual interest, such as addressing climate change and taking steps to reduce nuclear threats from Iran and North Korea.

Stand up to Putin and contain Russian expansion: In recent years, Russia has sowed instability and threatened our national security interests through their invasion of Ukraine, support for the Assad regime in Syria and provocative actions toward United States military ships and aircraft in places like the Baltic Sea. The United States must stand up to Vladimir Putin’s aggressive acts, making it clear through sanctions and other measures that Russia’s invasion of its Eastern European neighbor was unacceptable and continuing to pressure Russia to play a productive role in Syria. And in the face of heightened Russian aggression, the United States must stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the European Union and our NATO allies. The Governor supports the ongoing European Reassurance Initiative to deploy additional troops to support our Eastern European allies and will fiercely fight back against any efforts to undermine NATO.
5. Maintain Global Leadership

The United States has been the leading voice in world affairs for generations, and Governor Hassan is committed to ensuring that America’s global leadership continues and using all of the foreign policy tools at our disposal to promote our security and minimize risk.

American leadership helped bring down the Berlin Wall. It helped broker peace agreements from the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel to the Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland. And it helped bring the world together in Paris last December to commit to addressing climate change. Our country is safer and stronger when we engage with the world, and the Governor will work to ensure that we bolster relationships with our allies and engage in strategic diplomacy to make sure that the global order reflects American interests and values.

In addition to working with our allies to destroy ISIS and contain aggressive regimes, the Governor supports efforts to bring countries together to address global problems, boost smart economic ties with our partners abroad, support NATO, invest in humanitarian aid and international development to help fight the conditions that breed extremism, and stand up for our values around the world.

Bring countries together to address international problems: In the 21st Century, many of our greatest challenges cross international boundaries. From terrorism to climate change to cybersecurity, these global problems demand truly global solutions. Governor Hassan is committed to working with our international partners through bilateral and multilateral channels to jointly address these threats. The recent Paris Agreement on climate change and the preceding bilateral agreement with China can serve as models going forward for tackling seemingly intractable problems. And the Governor believes we must maintain American leadership of the global institutions that foster these types of agreements while working to adapt these organizations to the realities of the 21st Century.

Boost smart economic ties: International trade, when done right, can help bolster relations between countries as well as help New Hampshire’s innovative businesses compete in the global economy. Governor Hassan has reinvested in New Hampshire’s trade promotion efforts and revitalized the state’s international trade office to help our businesses enter new markets around the globe and create good jobs here at home. She supports the Export-Import Bank because it helps businesses sell their goods abroad at no cost to the American taxpayer and will defend the Bank against partisan attempts to shut it down or prevent it from operating at full capacity. And she will support trade policies that protect New Hampshire’s workers and help our local businesses while opposing trade deals that don’t do enough to support Granite Staters, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership.
Deepen our commitment to Israel: The United States and Israel have an unshakeable alliance built on shared values and security interests. Governor Hassan believes that the United States is and must always be Israel’s strongest and most dependable ally, supporting Israel’s military and diplomatic efforts to endure and thrive in the face of existential threats. This commitment is more essential now than ever in the midst of the ongoing turmoil in the Middle East. The Governor supports strengthening our commitment to Israel’s security and well-being, including guaranteeing Israel’s Qualitative Military Edge and ability to defend itself, increasing funding for Iron Dome, and pushing for more effective anti-tunneling technology, as well as a strong memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Israel for U.S. aid covering the next 10 years. Governor Hassan also opposes the boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign against Israel, and believes that the only way to safeguard Israel’s Jewish and democratic character and secure enduring peace is through bilateral negotiations with the Palestinians toward a two-state solution.

Support NATO: Recent global events have made it clearer than ever that the United States must continue to support a strong NATO force to counter Russian aggression and back our efforts in the Middle East. Statements undermining our commitment to NATO cannot be tolerated, and Governor Hassan will work to make it clear to our NATO allies that the United States will fulfill our mutual defense treaty obligations. The Governor believes we must continue working with NATO to keep Americans and our allies safe, and she supports the ongoing European Reassurance Initiative to deploy additional troops to support our partners in Eastern Europe.

Invest in humanitarian aid & international development: America’s commitment to humanitarian aid and international development around the globe reflects the best of our values – and represents a strategic investment that advances our global interests and reinforces our international leadership. From the Marshall Plan to help our European allies get back on their feet in the wake of WWII to the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) under George W. Bush and recent deliveries of food, water and medication for Syrians trapped by conflict, U.S. foreign aid has provided a helping hand for those in need while supporting our allies and combating the conditions that breed disillusionment and extremism. Foreign aid represents less than 1% of the federal budget, and Governor Hassan will work to continue these efforts and ensure that the United States remains committed to these critical tools of foreign policy.

Stand up for human rights: America’s values are a source of strength in foreign affairs, and Governor Hassan believes we must continue to stand up for human rights around the world. All people should have access to fundamental rights such as freedom of speech and the press, freedom of religion, and equality for women and minorities. The United States must remain committed to promoting robust civil society, democratic institutions and the rule of law worldwide, including supporting individuals and organizations who are leading reform efforts on the ground in challenging circumstances and hostile countries.
For more information about what Maggie’s priorities will be in the U.S. Senate, visit: www.maggiehassan.com/priorities