

Letter: Congress needs to assert its constitutional authority

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In recent years, the United States has been involved in military interventions and foreign aid efforts across the globe with varying degrees of success and controversy. While it is essential for our nation to engage in global affairs and promote stability and prosperity, it is equally crucial that such actions be subject to careful oversight and scrutiny by the legislative branch.

The power to declare war and authorize foreign aid or intervention rests with Congress, as outlined in the Constitution. However, in recent decades, there has been a troubling trend of executive overreach, with presidents bypassing congressional authorization and committing our military and resources to overseas conflicts without sufficient oversight.

It is time for Congress to assert its constitutional authority and ensure that decisions regarding military intervention and foreign aid are made with the utmost deliberation and transparency. This is not to say that immediate threats to national security or humanity should be ignored – in such cases, swift action may be necessary to protect our interests and prevent harm.

However, in situations where there is no imminent danger, Congress must be given the opportunity to debate and authorize any proposed military intervention or foreign aid efforts. This oversight is essential to uphold

the principles of democracy and ensure that decisions with far-reaching consequences are made with the input of the American people's elected representatives.

By providing robust oversight and requiring congressional authorization for military interventions and foreign aid, we can help prevent hasty and ill-advised decisions that may lead to unintended consequences or undermine our nation's values and interests.

It is time for Congress to reclaim its rightful role in matters of war and foreign policy, and I urge our elected representatives to take action to strengthen oversight and accountability in these critical areas.

Terry Brooks

Crescent City