



United States Institute of Peace (USIP)

Timeline of Attacks

- **February 19, 2025:** President Donald Trump [issued an executive order](#) calling for the elimination of the "unnecessary" U.S. Institute of Peace.
- **February 24, 2025:** USIP leadership [met](#) virtually with DOGE representatives and [explained](#) that USIP was an independent, congressionally-established nonprofit corporation, not an executive branch agency.
- **March 14, 2025:** Trump abruptly [fired](#) all 10 Senate-confirmed voting members of USIP's Board of Directors. This left Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and National Defense University President Peter Garvin as the only remaining board members. A [separate, coordinated DOGE](#) attempt to gain physical access to USIP's headquarters failed.
- **March 14, 2025:** The three remaining board members [signed a resolution](#) to remove USIP's acting president.
- **March 16, 2025:** DOGE, with the [assistance](#) of FBI agents and employees from USIP's security contractor Inter-Con, [gained unlawful entry](#) to the USIP headquarters. DC Metropolitan Police [assisted DOGE](#) in securing control of the building.
- **March 17, 2025:** Remaining Trump-aligned board members [appoint](#) Kenneth Jackson as acting president.
- **March 19, 2025:** DOGE [gained access](#) to USIP's internal computer systems.
- **March 21-28, 2025:** DOGE [initiated mass terminations](#), first issuing notices to six senior staffers, followed by "virtually all" of USIP's remaining employees days later.
- **March 25-29, 2025:** DOGE Representative Nate Cavanaugh [was given authority over USIP and instructed](#) the transfer of all its assets, including its headquarters building, to the General Services Administration (GSA) for free. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Russell Vought [signed off on the transfer](#).
- **May 22, 2025:** Following a federal judge's ruling that the takeover was "unlawful," USIP [temporarily regained control](#) of its headquarters.
- **June 27, 2025:** A federal appeals court [stayed](#) the lower court's ruling, returning control to DOGE.

Impacts on Capacity

DOGE's assault resulted in the functional elimination of an independent, quasi-governmental peacebuilding institution. The agency has suffered a near-total dissolution, with between [200-300 employees laid off](#) on two separate occasions. DOGE's [physical occupation and neglect](#) of USIP's headquarters caused hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages, leaving the facility in disarray and "littered with drugs



and cockroaches."

Material Harms

The neutralization of USIP caused immediate and severe setbacks to U.S. foreign policy and global stability. Critical, on-the-ground efforts to mediate conflicts and reduce violence were abruptly terminated. This included ending community violence prevention programs in Latin America and halting conflict mediation services in active war zones such as in the Middle East and Africa. The elimination of the agency's [\\$55 million annual budget](#)—a cost equivalent to what the military spends on three helicopters—effectively [destroyed](#) what a former U.S. Central Command chief [called](#) the "Marine Corps or special forces for foreign affairs and peace-building," creating a significant strategic void.

Notable Names

Ousted Leadership

- **George Moose:** USIP acting president who was removed from his position via a resolution signed by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, and Vice Admiral Peter Garvin during DOGE's chaotic infiltration and takeover of the institute.

DOGE Agents

- **Chris Young**
- **Kenneth Jackson**
- **Nate Cavanaugh**