



## Trump pauses all US foreign aid for 90 days; orders review; NGOs decry move



Donal Trump file pic

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The Donald Trump administration has framed the US freeze as part of a broader effort to realign

US President Donald Trump has announced a sweeping freeze on US foreign aid, effective immediately, through an executive order issued on Monday. The directive excludes military assistance to key allies Israel and Egypt.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio communicated the directive via a cable to all US diplomatic posts, implementing a “stop work” order on existing programmes and suspending new awards. The freeze, which applies to nearly all forms of non-military foreign assistance, affects health initiatives, education programmes, and water distribution efforts.

The directive, halting foreign aid for 90 days pending a review, has sparked widespread concern among humanitarian organisations and government officials, given the US's status as the world's largest donor of foreign aid. Donald Trump's directive, which halts all non-military foreign assistance for 90 days pending a review, has sparked widespread concern among humanitarian organisations. Meanwhile, fears are growing that the funding vacuum could be exploited by geopolitical rivals such as China. Humanitarian organisations are scrambling to understand the full implications of the freeze as concerns mount over its long-term effects.