
The Open Society Policy Center Summary of Lobbying Activities

JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2016 (Q1)

The Open Society Policy Center supports transparency and is proud of the causes and groups it supports.

The Open Society Policy Center (OSPC) is registered under the Lobbying Disclosure Act (LDA) and regularly reports on its activities as required by the Act. However, very few OSPC staff members meet the legal threshold for reporting their lobbying. Consequently, OSPC has chosen to voluntarily post on a quarterly basis the “lobbying activities” as defined by the LDA of its Washington staff regardless of whether they meet the LDA’s reporting threshold. In other words, the lobbying activities listed below go well beyond the requirements of the LDA by including all the OSPC activities that would have been reported under the LDA if all of the OSPC Washington advocates were “registered lobbyists.”

In addition, OSPC reports on an annual basis all of its grants on IRS Form 990 as required by law. However, there is a substantial lag time before Form 990 information becomes available to the public. Accordingly, OSPC also voluntarily makes this information easily and publicly available below on a quarterly basis.

Domestic Policy

Bankruptcy (BNK)

In support of federal legislation allowing Puerto Rico to restructure its debt

Entities Lobbied: Senate, Department of Treasury

Civil Rights/Civil Liberties (CIV)

H.R. 885, the Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2015, pertaining to restoring and strengthening the Voting Rights Act

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

S. 1659: The Voting Rights Advancement Act, pertaining to restoring and strengthening the Voting Rights Act

Entity Lobbied: Senate

Education (EDU)

S. 1177: Every Student Succeeds Act, pertaining to correctional education and school discipline and climate

Entity Lobbied: Senate

S. 1169: Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act, pertaining to correctional education and disproportionate minority contact

Entity Lobbied: Senate

Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act, (unnumbered), pertaining to prevention and intervention services and funding, correctional education and disproportionate minority contact

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

Higher Education Act, (unnumbered), pertaining to Pell grant access and greater access to postsecondary education for incarcerated students and returning individuals

Entities Lobbied: House of Representatives, Senate

Perkins Law, (unnumbered), pertaining to career and technical education and supports for at-risk students

Entity Lobbied: Senate

School discipline and climate, (unnumbered), pertaining to law enforcement in schools and training/professional development

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives, Senate, Department of Education, Department of Justice, White House

Immigration (IMM)

U.S. Policy and appropriations pertaining to refugees

Entities Lobbied: Department of State, White House

Law Enforcement/Crime/Criminal Justice (LAW)

S. 2123: Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2015, pertaining to adjusting mandatory minimums, allowing for judges' discretion in sentencing and expanding pre-release and re-entry programming

Entities Lobbied: Senate, White House

H.R. 3713: Sentencing Reform Act of 2015, pertaining to adjusting mandatory minimums

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

Foreign Policy

Foreign Relations (FOR)

S. 247: Expatriate Terrorist Act, pertaining to stripping citizenship from U.S. citizens who are alleged to have provided assistance to terrorist groups

Entity Lobbied: Senate

U.S. foreign policy concerning human rights and governance issues in Burma

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

U.S. foreign policy concerning funding for multilateral institutions

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

Supporting ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to assist visually impaired persons

Entities Lobbied: Senate, White House, Department of State

U.S. Foreign Policy concerning Ukraine and U.S. assistance to Ukraine

Entities Lobbied: Senate, White House, Department of State

U.S. Foreign Policy Concerning human rights in Syria and Syrian refugees

Entities Lobbied: Senate, White House, Department of State

H.R. 567: pertaining to EU policy on labeling products produced in the West Bank

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

FY 2017 Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, (unnumbered), related to U.S. military assistance, U.N. funding and U.S. assistance to Ukraine, Tunisia and Afghanistan

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

H.R. 4909: House National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2017, provision relating to DOD budgeting of foreign military assistance

Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives

Open Society Policy Center

Open Society Policy Center Grants

Period: January 1 – March 31, 2016 (Q1)

Grantee Name	Purpose	Amount	Period
Center for Community Change Action	To support policy advocacy on access to economic opportunity	\$725,000	1 year
Center for a New Economy	To support policy advocacy on the Puerto Rico debt crisis	\$120,000	6 mos.