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# The Open Society Policy Center Summary of Lobbying Activities

JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2017 (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**

### **Civil Rights/Civil Liberties (CIV)**

Legislation to restore and strengthen the Voting Rights Act

*Entity Lobbied: House*

### **Government Issues (GOV)**

Senate consideration of executive branch and judicial nominations

*Entity Lobbied: Senate*

### **Education (EDU)**

Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act, pertaining to prevention and intervention services and funding, correctional education and racial disparities in enforcement

*Entity Lobbied: Senate, House of Representatives*

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

*Entities Lobbied: House of Representatives, Senate*

Perkins loans, pertaining to career and technical education and supports for at-risk students

*Entity Lobbied: Senate*

School discipline, pertaining to civil rights enforcement, data collection, and law enforcement in schools and training/professional development

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

## **Law Enforcement/Crime/Criminal Justice (LAW)**

Legislation pertaining to adjusting mandatory minimums, allowing for judges' discretion in sentencing and expanding pre-release and re-entry programming

*Entities Lobbied: Senate, White House*

Legislation pertaining to adjusting mandatory minimums

*Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives*

Police reform, pertaining to data collection and removal access to military style equipment, sentencing and community policing

*Entities Lobbied: Senate, House of Representatives*

## **Foreign Policy**

### **Foreign Relations (FOR)**

Burma Human Rights Legislation (unnumbered)

*Entity Lobbied: Senate*

Appropriations for State Department and Foreign Operations for FY 2017

*Entity Lobbied: Senate*

Opposing passage and implementation of modifications to Hungary's Higher Education Act that would limit freedoms of international academic institutions

*Entities Lobbied: Senate, House of Representatives, White House, Department of State*

Reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, (unnumbered), provision to modify the Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2008

*Entity Lobbied: House of Representatives*

H.R.1191: Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2017

Entity Lobbied: House

State Department Authorization

*Entities Lobbied: Senate, House*

Repeal of Section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Act, pertaining to regarding the requirement for extractive sector companies to disclose the payments that they make to governments for the commercial development of oil, gas or minerals

*Entity Lobbied: Senate*

Open Society Policy Center

**Open Society Policy Center Grants****Period: January 1–March 31, 2017 (Q1)**

<b>Grantee Name</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Period</b>
<b>Arizona Wins</b>	To support policy advocacy on Arizona's ballot measure process	\$125,000	2 mos.
<b>Center for American Progress Action Fund</b>	To conduct research and advocacy on nominations	\$350,000	1 year
<b>Center for International Policy</b>	To support Win Without War for foreign policy advocacy	\$250,000	2 years
<b>Center for Popular Democracy Action</b>	To support policy advocacy on access to economic opportunity	\$150,000	1 year
<b>Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, Inc.</b>	To support policy advocacy on ethics in government including with respect to executive branch nominees	\$100,000	1 year
<b>Human Rights First</b>	To support policy advocacy on refugees	\$100,000	1 year
<b>Oxfam-America, Inc.</b>	To support policy advocacy on extractives transparency	\$50,000	6 mos.
<b>People for the American Way</b>	To support policy advocacy on judicial and executive nominations	\$125,000	6 mos.
<b>President and Fellows of Harvard College</b>	To conduct research on the costs of torture	\$50,000	1 year
<b>Sixteen Thirty Fund</b>	To support policy advocacy on the social safety net	\$250,000	1 year
<b>The Advocacy Fund</b>	To provide support to Dēmos Action	\$150,000	1 yr 9 mos.