

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 9087
OFFERED BY MR. SELF OF TEXAS**

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . STRATEGY TO RESTORE STABILITY TO THE**
2 **WESTERN BALKANS.**

3 (a) STRATEGY.—The Assistant Secretary for Euro-
4 pean and Eurasian Affairs shall develop a strategy to re-
5 store stability to the Western Balkans, which shall—

6 (1) prioritize the assignment of United States
7 Ambassadors to countries in the Balkans;

8 (2) include policy recommendations regarding
9 how the United States may support the government
10 of Kosovo’s independence and future membership in
11 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (“NATO”);

12 (3) include policy recommendations to encour-
13 age the government of Serbia to reduce or cease
14 strategic engagement with the governments of the
15 Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of
16 China (“PRC”);

17 (4) include an identification and assessment of
18 areas of cooperation between the government of Ser-
19 bia and the governments of the Russian Federation,

1 the PRC, and the Islamic Republic of Iran, includ-
2 ing strategic collaboration in the technology and se-
3 curity sectors;

4 (5) include a plan for the use of visa, banking,
5 and other sanctions to address the actions of individ-
6 uals or entities in the Western Balkans that may be
7 supporting the interests of the PRC, Russian Fed-
8 eration, and the Islamic Republic of Iran, or ob-
9 structing peace and regional stability efforts led by
10 the United States;

11 (6) include a plan to assess whether the Office
12 of the High Representative has failed to uphold the
13 principles and obligations set forth in the General
14 Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and
15 Herzegovina, commonly known as the “Dayton
16 Agreement” or the “Dayton Accords”;

17 (7) include a plan and review of United States
18 economic and security assistance to Bosnia and
19 Herzegovina, with the aim of supporting the coun-
20 try’s progress toward national sovereignty and self-
21 reliance;

22 (8) encourage the European Union to strength-
23 en the European Union Force Bosnia and
24 Herzegovina to ensure proper enforcement of the
25 Dayton Agreement;

1 (9) build a coalition of willing countries to pro-
2 tect peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

3 (10) include a plan to enhance regional energy
4 security in the Western Balkans, which shall include
5 the potential expansion of Croatia's pipeline network
6 in the Balkans and efforts to replace Russian energy
7 with energy from other sources;

8 (11) prioritize support and cooperation for Eu-
9 ropean energy, transportation, and digital infra-
10 structure, as well as regional economic development
11 by utilizing the Three Seas Initiative founded by Po-
12 land and Croatia;

13 (12) include a review of the effectiveness and
14 potential expansion of the A3 agreement as a foun-
15 dation for future stabilizing agreements in the re-
16 gion;

17 (13) identify potential areas where the United
18 States may support the European Union accession
19 process in the countries of Montenegro and Albania;

20 (14) determine the efficacy of potential sanc-
21 tions targeting individuals and entities who under-
22 mine stability in the Western Balkans, as well as the
23 effect of delaying further sanctions relief for Naftna
24 Industrija Srbije and Gazprom;

1 (15) include a plan for the Secretary of State,
2 in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, to ad-
3 vance policy and operational efforts with NATO to
4 counter hybrid warfare in the Western Balkans re-
5 gion;

6 (16) support the ongoing implementation of the
7 Millenium Challenge Corporation compact with
8 Kosovo, which advances the safety, economic devel-
9 opment, and prosperity of both the American people
10 and the people of Kosovo through strategic invest-
11 ments that promote business growth and regional
12 stability;

13 (17) recognize and support Albania's continued
14 progress to enhance its cybersecurity infrastructure
15 in response to threats posed by state and non-state
16 actors, including those originating from Iran, as a
17 model for advancing cybersecurity resilience and re-
18 gional stability across the Western Balkans;

19 (18) enhance bilateral cooperation between the
20 United States and Albania to strengthen Albania's
21 criminal justice system, improve law enforcement
22 and investigative capacities, and disrupt Albanian
23 organized criminal networks that enable
24 transnational criminal organizations, including in

1 South America, to traffic fentanyl and other illicit
2 narcotics into the United States;

3 (19) encourage the Albania and Kosovo to de-
4 velop and expand their respective defense industrial
5 bases, and to increase their national defense spend-
6 ing in alignment with NATO funding goals;

7 (20) include an affirmation of the strategic im-
8 portance of the continued presence of United States
9 military forces in Kosovo, as a vital pillar of security
10 and stability in the Western Balkans; and

11 (21) continue the implementation of the Export
12 Control and Related Border Security program in
13 Kosovo, including the provision of non-intrusive in-
14 spection technologies such as scanners to the Kosovo
15 Customs Service for deployment at the Merdare bor-
16 der crossing with Serbia, to prevent the trafficking
17 of illicit weapons.

18 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary for
20 European and Eurasian Affairs shall submit to the appro-
21 priate congressional committees a report that contains the
22 strategy required in subsection (a).

