Army Chief of Staff General Mark A. Milley has laid out three priorities: Readiness, adapting the Army for the future and taking care of troops. The Association of the United States Army shares his goals. However, there is a growing divide between the emerging geopolitical realities confronting the United States and the declining resources provided to the Army by Congress. One of our highest priorities is for Congress and the President to strike a deal to remove the threat of budgetary caps and sequestration cuts before they cause irreversible damage to our national security.

AUSA’s priority resolutions outline key and essential actions required to properly fund, maintain, sustain and modernize a combat-ready, all-volunteer American Army that is ready to defend the nation in an unpredictable world.

DEFENSE BUDGET
- Fund the Army FY17 base budget at $135 billion (by October 1, 2016) in order to support the National Military Strategy with reduced risk.
- Provide Overseas Contingency Operations funding as requested to support operational needs.

PERSONNEL
- Endstrength floor: 1,035,000 Total Army (480,000 active; 350,000 Army National Guard; 205,000 Army Reserve)
- Ensure the continued success of the All-Volunteer Force by adequately funding talent management initiatives with respect to recruiting, retention, quality of life (policies, pay and benefits), and retirement.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE
- Fund Operations and Maintenance in order to restore operational readiness to ≥90% across all vehicle and watercraft fleets, and ≥75% across all aircraft fleets.
- Fully fund readiness accounts in order to meet Combatant Commander demand for trained and available units.

INVESTMENT
- Robustly fund RDT&E and procurement to develop, maintain and increase capability overmatch against all potential enemies.
- Fully man, train and fund Army acquisition and contracting workforce.