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Following Yemen Strikes, Biden Must Change Course in the Middle East

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Center for International Policy President and CEO <u>Nancy Okail</u> released the following statement:

"The Houthi attacks on shipping are of great concern, yet with its strikes in Yemen, the United States is in danger of allowing itself to be drawn into another avoidable war in the Middle East.

While the administration clearly anticipated that various adversaries would attempt to exploit the catastrophic Gaza conflict, they have chosen to continue to unconditionally support Israel's assault in the face of domestic and global protest. The escalation we are now seeing across the region was both foreseeable and avoidable and reflects once again the failure of a foreign policy approach that pays lip service to diplomacy and international law while focusing almost entirely on military buildup and 'restoring deterrence.'

The Center for International Policy reiterates our <u>call</u> for the administration to support an immediate cessation of hostilities to enable desperately needed <u>humanitarian aid</u> and facilitate a longer-term ceasefire. We also have serious concerns about the legal authorities under which the current Yemen strikes are being carried out and urge the administration to engage with Congress as the Constitution requires."