MYTH #1: President Trump does not support foreign assistance to Ukraine to counter Russian aggression.

FACT #1: It was President Trump, NOT President Obama, who agreed to provide U.S. lethal assistance to Ukraine.

Regarding Trump Administration policy towards Ukraine, Ambassador Taylor notes, “It was a substantial improvement, in that this administration provided Javelin antitank weapons. These are defensive weapons, and they deter, and I believe successfully deter, Russians from trying to grab more territory, to push forward any further tank attack number one. So there was a military capability. There was also a very strong political message that said that the Americans are willing to provide more than blankets. I mean, that was the previous. And these weapons are serious weapons. They will kill Russian tanks. So these were serious weapons. It was a demonstration that we support Ukraine.”

MYTH #2: Corruption is not something the United States should worry about regarding foreign assistance to Ukraine.

FACT #2: Ambassador Taylor testified that combatting corruption is a “constant theme” in U.S.-Ukrainian policy.

Specifically, Taylor unequivocally states corruption is “…a big issue. And it’s particularly a big issue today with this new administration.”

MYTH #3: The President using Ambassador Volker, Ambassador Sondland, Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, or even Mayor Rudy Giuliani as intermediaries with Ukraine was inappropriate.

FACT #3: It is not uncommon for the President of the United States to use private individuals to assist the President in foreign policy.

In fact, liberal icon President Franklin Delano Roosevelt used private individuals to assist him in foreign policy, particularly given his known apprehension of the State Department.
Ambassador Taylor’s own admission, “It’s not unusual to ask people outside the government to play a role. … There have been examples, we’ve heard about them recently of other civilians doing work for the State Department.” (emphasis added) (p. 61).

MYTH #4: Ambassador Taylor had extensive firsthand knowledge of the President’s intentions as they relate to potential Ukrainian investigations into Burisma and/or the 2016 election.

FACT #4: Ambassador Taylor had no firsthand knowledge of the President’s intentions towards Ukraine as they relate to Burisma and/or investigating Ukrainian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

In fact, any information obtained by Ambassador Taylor was from secondhand and thirdhand sources as well as media speculation. Specifically, Ambassador Taylor states, “As I understand it from one of the – maybe the article in The New York Times about Mr. Giuliani’s interest in Burisma…” and he had “…no other information from what the President was thinking.” (p. 299).

MYTH #5: President Trump’s desire to see the Europeans do more to assist Ukraine is unfounded and not supported by foreign service officers.

FACT #5: Ambassador Taylor confirmed that President Trump’s demand for the Europeans to do more to support Ukraine aligns with U.S. law and policy.

According to Ambassador Taylor, “We want the Europeans to do more for Ukraine, and we want them – the Ukrainians – to do more to fight corruption.” (p. 183).