MIDDLE EAST FORUM DATASET USER GUIDE

Section 117 Foreign Gifts and Contracts by Country and Year

Foreign gifts and contracts that US colleges and universities reported to the Department of Education under Section 117 of the Higher Education Act, totaled by source country and year.

2,522 rows, 8 fields. Download: https://products.meforum.org/datasets/section-117-by-country/section-117-by-country.csv

What It Covers

One row per source country per year. Amounts in US dollars as reported, not adjusted for inflation.

- Institutions reported gifts and contracts from 191 source countries in report years 1,980 to 2,026.
- Amounts are summed as reported by institutions; one gift reported in several filings is counted once per filing.
- The Campus Watch Map carries the institution-level detail.

How to Cite

Middle East Forum, Section 117 Foreign Gifts and Contracts by Country and Year (dataset), Influence Tracker, accessed October 13, 2026, https://products.meforum.org/datasets/section-117-by-country/

How Often It Updates

Rebuilt when the Department of Education posts a new Section 117 file (twice a year); current file complete through September 30, 2026. Generated October 13, 2026.

Codebook

Field	Type	Definition	Allowed Values	Source
`country`	text	Source country as reported.	Country name	Department of Education
`iso3`	text	ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 code.	Three letters or blank	MEF mapping
`middle_east`	text	Whether the country is in MEF's Middle East set.	no; yes	MEF
`year`	integer	Year of the gift or contract.	1980 to 2026	Department of Education
`amount_usd`	integer (US dollars)	Total reported value.	0 to 2,070,997,388	Department of Education
`records`	integer	Number of reported gift or contract records.	1 to 1,745	Department of Education
`mef_page_url`	URL	Country page on the Influence Tracker.	https URL	MEF
`source_url`	URL	Department of Education Section 117 file.	https URL	Department of Education

Corrections

Report an error to info@meforum.org with the row identifier.