

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 26, 2015

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the need to ensure the integrity of the upcoming November 1, 2015 elections in Turkey and the process surrounding these elections. We ask that the United States continue to support and encourage free, open, and fair elections in Turkey.

These elections mark the second time this year that the people of Turkey will be voting for their Parliamentary representation. The first election failed to produce a Parliamentary majority and new elections were called. In advance of these new elections there have been troubling reports of media suppression. Fair elections require government to respect free speech and the rule of law to ensure that ideas are openly discussed in society. The June 7th Turkish elections were notably close and a small electoral shift would have changed the outcome. Any questions about the integrity of new elections could exacerbate regional political tensions and further polarize the political scene in Turkey.

Successful elections in Turkey provide leadership in a region where developing democracies face great turmoil and existential threats from radical groups. However, in light of recent events, concerns have been raised about the Turkish government's dedication to the democratic process. Recently, leading Turkish satellite, cable, and internet broadcasters have announced they will no longer broadcast news channels critical of the government.

Many in the international community have already announced they will take steps in advance of these elections to ensure the voice of the Turkish people is heard. The United States should encourage the Turkish government take all necessary action to ensure truly free elections on November 1st.

Sincerely,



Todd Rokita
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

Brendan Boyle

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Doug Collins

Doug Collins
Member of Congress

Paul Cook

Paul Cook
Member of Congress

Henry Cuellar

Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress

Charles W. Dent

Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

John J. Duncan, Jr.

John J. Duncan, Jr.
Member of Congress

Blake Farenthold

Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress

Mike Fitzpatrick

Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

Bill Flores

Bill Flores
Member of Congress

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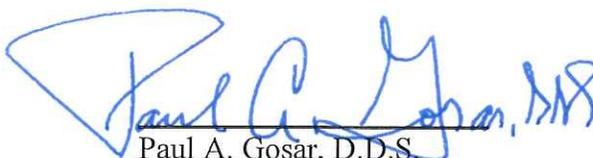
Trent Franks
Member of Congress



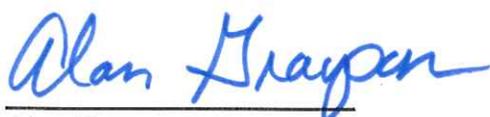
Scott Garrett
Member of Congress



Chris Gibson
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Alan Grayson
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress



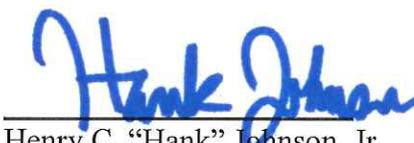
Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress



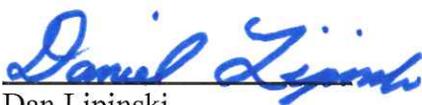
Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



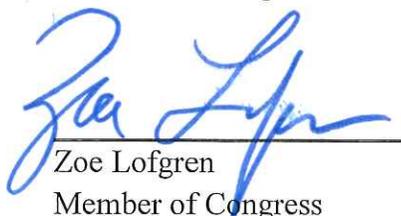
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



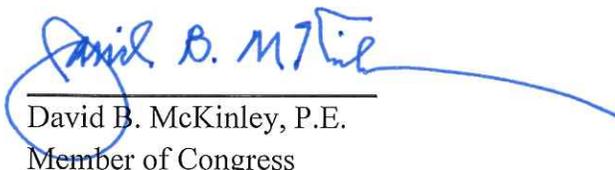
Peter T. King
Member of Congress



Dan Lipinski
Member of Congress

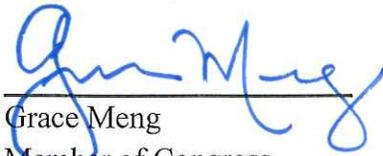


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress

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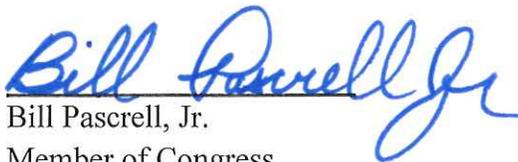
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



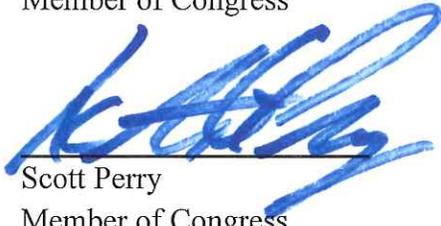
Luke Messer
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress



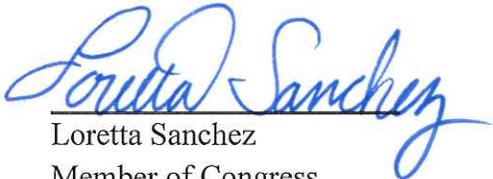
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



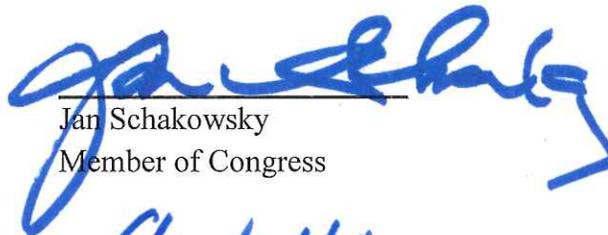
Scott Perry
Member of Congress



Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



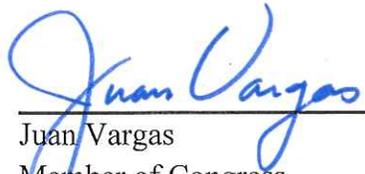
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress

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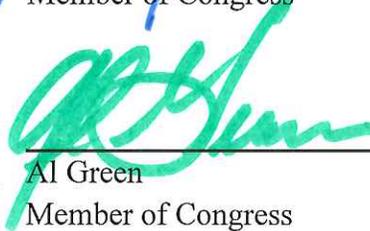
Roger Williams
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Randy Neugebauer
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



Andy Barr
Member of Congress



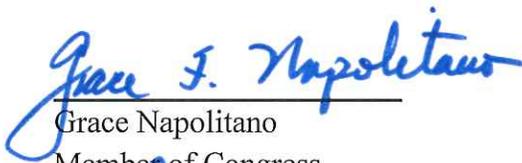
Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Rob Wittman
Member of Congress



Will Hurd
Member of Congress



Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress



David Trott
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress

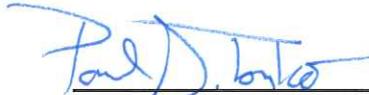


Tom MacArthur
Member of Congress

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Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress



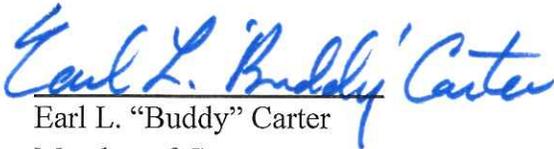
Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



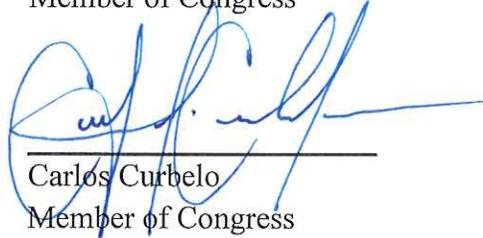
Robin Kelly
Member of Congress



Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Carlos Curbelo
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress