



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

August 5, 2013

Baroness Catherine Ashton
High Representative of the Union for
Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Vice-President of the European Commission
European Union

Dear High Representative Ashton:

We write to thank you and the European Union's Foreign Affairs Council for the recent designation of Hezbollah's military wing as a terrorist organization. This important step helps to align our approaches in the Middle East as we seek to support the stability and peace that the people of the region pursue.

Just one year after the Burgas bombing in Bulgaria killed six people, this is more than just a symbolic message to Hezbollah. We hope that enforcement of this ban, including the accompanying sanctions, will help disrupt Hezbollah's dangerous operations around the world. Blocking Hezbollah from fundraising and travel would make it more difficult for Hezbollah to plan, finance and execute terrorist activities in Europe and elsewhere.

This designation is a significant step in preventing terrorism and loss of life; however, we maintain that there is no difference between Hezbollah's political and military wings. The same leadership oversees the political, social, criminal and terrorist operations. We hope that the EU will consider designating the whole of Hezbollah as a terrorist organization.

We look forward to working with you to support full enforcement of this new designation, and we welcome the opportunity to find ways we can more closely coordinate on fighting terrorism.

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

GUS M. BILIRAKIS
Member of Congress

THEODORE E. DEUTCH
Member of Congress

MIKE KELLY
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress



Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



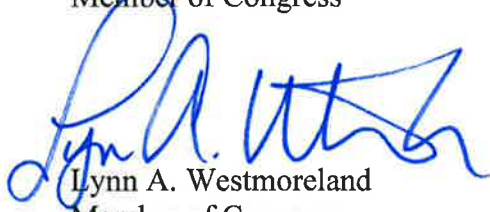
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Steve Pearce
Member of Congress



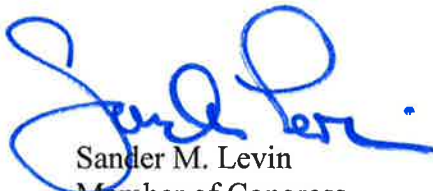
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Member of Congress



Lynn A. Westmoreland
Member of Congress



John Campbell
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



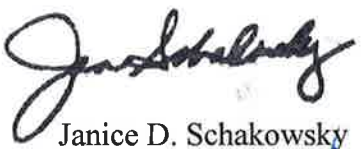
Gene Green
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