

ROBERT PITTENGER
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
9TH DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

224 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1976
FAX: (202) 225-3389

COMMITTEES:
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3309

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DISTRICT OFFICES:
5970 FAIRVIEW ROAD
SUITE 430
CHARLOTTE, NC 28210
(704) 362-1060
FAX: (704) 365-6384

100 W. JEFFERSON STREET
SUITE 1A
MONROE, NC 28112
(704) 917-9573

301 GREEN STREET
SUITE 315
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28301
(910) 303-0669

Ambassador Nikki R. Haley
United States Mission to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ambassador Haley:

We are writing with deep concern over U.S. policy toward Hamas and your recent statements regarding Qatar-based support for Hamas.

Since 1997, Hamas has been designated a Foreign Terrorist Organization. Hamas is responsible for the murders of more than two dozen American citizens and is dedicated to the destruction of the State of Israel. Since 2012, Qatar has hosted senior Hamas terrorist leaders and Qatar's Al Jazeera television network has historically and repeatedly included content that has incited violence against Jews and Israel.

In light of your recent statement to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, we hope to clarify U.S. policy toward Hamas by addressing the following issues:

- How specifically is Qatar implementing the recently signed U.S.-Qatar Terrorism Financing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), including steps being taken to end any Qatar-based support for Hamas?
- What are the key timelines and benchmarks established for action by the MOU and what are the consequences if these benchmarks are not met?
- In your statement, you said that Qatar "does allow Hamas political representatives to be based in Qatar, which Qatar believes limits Iran's influence and pressure over Hamas. Senior Qatari officials have stated that Hamas' presence in Qatar does not imply support for the group." This statement implies the U.S. now recognizes a distinction between Hamas political and military wings and finds Qatar's relations with and sanctuary for Hamas officials to be legitimate, which would be a change in U.S. policy. Can you reassure us that the administration does not recognize a distinction between Hamas' political and military wings and does not support Qatar's relations with and sanctuary for Hamas officials? If so, what steps are being taken to end Qatar's relations with and sanctuary for Hamas officials?

Thank you and we appreciate your prompt reply.

Sincerely,


Robert Pittenger
Member of Congress


Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress



Ted Poe
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



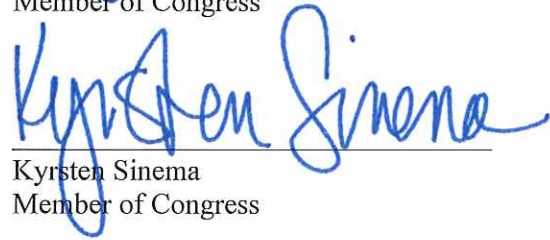
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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



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