



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2014

President François Hollande
Office of the President of the French Republic
Élysée Palace
55, Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré
75008 Paris
France

Dear President Hollande:

We are writing to you at the start of your visit to the United States this week to express our concern with the recent visit of a French trade delegation to Iran. Representatives from over 100 French companies, among them Total, Peugeot, Citroën, and GDF Suez, traveled to Teheran to assess commercial opportunities in the Islamic Republic.

We view these developments with dismay. The regime in Iran has proven time and time again, with its denial of the Holocaust, its support for the Assad regime in Syria, and its role as the world's leading state-sponsor of terrorism, to be not only a source of instability to its neighbors, but a threat to the safety and security of Europe and the United States. This danger has grown exponentially during Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon.

We know France shares our goal of ensuring that Iran does not get a nuclear weapon and appreciate your partnership towards building a strong international sanctions regime. While the interim agreement between the P5+1 group of nations and Iran provides limited sanctions relief, now is not the time to explore broader trade opportunities nor increase business ties with Iran. Congress will be closely monitoring to ensure companies do not go beyond what is permitted in the Joint Plan of Action. We respectfully urge you to ensure that your government and French companies continue to abide by the international sanctions regime our nations have worked on together, and that we continue working together to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

Sincerely,

STEVE ISRAEL
Member of Congress

TED POE
Member of Congress