

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 10, 2014

Secretary Jack Lew
Department of Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Lew:

We write you to express our growing concern regarding the permissive terrorist financing environment present in Qatar, and to ask for your participation in working to address it. If Qatar is to remain a valuable U.S. ally, our government cannot ignore Qatar's support—overtly and otherwise—for those who target America and its allies.

Members of Qatar's ruling family, as well as its citizens and charity organizations, have long supported radical Islamist groups, including U.S.-designated terrorist organizations Hamas, al-Qaeda, and the al-Nusra Front. As early as 2003, Congress was informed that Qatari charities were facilitating the movement of funds to al-Qaeda, and Qatari officials provided employment and documentation for key al-Qaeda leaders, including the planner of the 9/11 attacks, Khaled Sheikh Mohammed. Ruling family members reportedly ran a safe house for terrorists and funneled more than one million dollars to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi—the founder and head of al-Qaeda in Iraq, which eventually spawned the terrorist group Islamic State.

Additionally, Qatar has pledged more than \$500 million dollars to Hamas in Gaza in recent years, and it continues to host Hamas political chief Khaled Meshal, along with other Hamas operatives. Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David Cohen confirmed in March 2014 that "Qatar, a longtime U.S. ally, has for many years openly financed Hamas." Doha has recently pledged an additional \$1 billion for reconstruction in the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip.

Further, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has reported that Qatar's government has demonstrated a complete disregard for its own anti-money laundering and counterterrorism finance laws. Failure to enforce these laws had enabled countless Qatari organizations and persons to easily abet terrorists across the Arab Gulf, Middle East, and North Africa without fear of repercussion. Under Secretary Cohen recently stated that U.S.- and U.N.-designated terror financiers residing in Qatar such as Abdulrahman al-Nuaymi and Khalifa al-Subaiy continue to enjoy impunity from legal action by Qatari authorities.

The United States must escalate its monitoring and sanctioning of individuals, charities, and other organizations sponsoring terrorism in Qatar. We respectfully request that you provide us with a report detailing the extent of public and private financial support from within Qatar for terrorist organizations including Hamas, al-Qaeda, the Islamic State, and the al-Nusra Front, as well as what actions Qatar is taking to enforce its own terror financing laws. We further urge you to aggressively designate terrorist operatives and Qatari financial institutions that allow Hamas to store and transfer funds.

We appreciate the work the Treasury Department has already done to designate and sanction individuals and organizations that support and foment terror and look forward to working with you to make additional progress on this issue.

Very truly yours,



PETER J. ROSKAM
Member of Congress



BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress