

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

April 14, 2015

The Honorable John Kerry  
United States Secretary of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington D.C., 20520

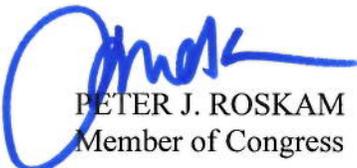
Dear Secretary Kerry:

We write to express our concern regarding Russia's decision to lift its ban on the transfer of advanced S-300 air defense systems to Iran, which will significantly enhance Tehran's military capabilities and threaten to further destabilize the region. This news is particularly concerning in light of ongoing nuclear negotiations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and casts further doubts on Russia's role as a constructive partner in this process.

We have written to you regarding this issue on multiple occasions in the past. In both September 2013 and in January 2015 we expressed our concerns after reports indicated that Russia was considering the sales of the S-300 systems. We noted then and reiterate now that maintaining a credible military threat is a necessary component to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapons capability. Allowing the Iranian regime to acquire this advanced system could significantly impact our ability to take military action against Iran, should this become necessary.

Mr. Secretary, we applaud your swift action to raise objections to this potential weapons transfer and ask that you remain vigilant in ensuring that Iran does not acquire these advanced missile defense systems. Please let us know how we can be of assistance on this matter.

Very truly yours,



PETER J. ROSKAM  
Member of Congress



THEODORE E. DEUTCH  
Member of Congress