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One Hundred Nineteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

February 3, 2025

The Honorable Brian Mast
Chairman
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Mast,

As fellow Members of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, we are deeply alarmed by the Trump Administration's early actions as they relate to matters in this Committee's jurisdiction.

The Administration's freeze on foreign assistance, the acts of retribution against career public servants at the State Department, and the complete and utter dismantling of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) are particularly egregious. As you know, USAID is by statute an independent establishment outside of the State Department. Any proposal to modify that structure requires an Act of Congress.

Given these developments, we request that you convene a hearing with Secretary Marco Rubio and Director of Foreign Assistance Peter Marocco, so that they may explain these chaotic – and in some instances unlawful – policy decisions directly to the Members of Congress and the American people who elected us to represent them here in Washington. It is imperative that this hearing happen before February 13th, when Congress will go into recess.

We understand that we may not agree on every aspect of U.S. foreign policy, or even on the relative value of diplomacy and development for American interests. However, we can agree on the preservation of our Constitution, our Article I duties as a co-equal branch of government, and this Committee's authorities and jurisdiction.

We thank you for your attention to this important matter and look forward to working with you to schedule this important hearing this month.

Sincerely,



GREGORY W. MEEKS
Ranking Member



BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress



GERALD E. CONNOLLY
Member of Congress



WILLIAM R. KEATING
Member of Congress



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JIM COSTA
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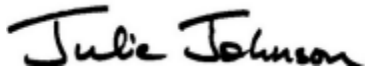
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