

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 22, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C St NW  
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Todd Blanche  
Acting Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Secretary Rubio and Acting Attorney General Blanche,

We write with deep concern in response to public reports that President Donald Trump, Deputy Secretary of State Landau, and other senior leadership in the Trump Administration may have inappropriately interfered in the visa adjudication process to grant an expedited visa to former Polish Justice Minister Zbigniew Ziobro to help him escape extradition from Hungary to face criminal charges in Poland.<sup>1</sup> If true, these actions would not only amount to the abuse and deepening corruption of the U.S. visa process, but also constitute an unprecedented level of interference in the domestic politics and judicial system of two longstanding U.S. treaty allies.

The criminal cases against former Minister Ziobro, as well as the subsequent events surrounding the judicial proceedings against him, are well documented. He faces up to 25 years in prison in Poland if convicted on various crimes including diverting funding intended for crime victims to finance the purchase of Pegasus spyware technology to use against political rivals.<sup>2</sup> In an attempt to avoid prosecution, former Minister Ziobro fled to Hungary in January 2026 and was granted asylum by former Prime Minister Viktor Orban.<sup>3</sup> Following his landslide victory in Hungary's April 2026 elections, then-Prime Minister elect Magyar committed to revoking former Minister Ziobro's asylum on his first day in office and extraditing him back to Poland to face justice in Polish court.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Pamuk, Humeyra and Landay, Jonathan. (2026 May 18). Exclusive: Trump official helped secure US visa for fugitive Polish minister. *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/trump-official-helped-secure-us-visa-fugitive-polish-minister-2026-05-18/>

<sup>2</sup> Walker, Shaun; Kassam, Ashifa; and Krupa, Jakub. (2026 May 11). Poland says it expects US to extradite ex-minister who fled from Hungary. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/may/11/polish-ex-minister-zbigniew-ziobro-flees-hungary-usa>

<sup>3</sup> Easton, Adam. (2026 January 12). Hungary grants asylum to Polish ex-justice minister. *BBC News*. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly9n3r2p7zo>

<sup>4</sup> (2026 April 14). Hungary's new leader vows to extradite Polish politicians wanted on corruption charges. *Poleski Radio*. <https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7784/artykul/3673563.hungarys-new-leader-vows-to-extradite-polish-politicians-wanted-on-corruption-charges>

However, before newly elected Prime Minister Magyar could act, Ziobro had secured a visa from the United States and traveled to New York via Milan, Italy on May 9.<sup>5</sup> On May 10, the day after Prime Minister Magyar took office, Ziobro publicly announced that he had arrived in the United States.<sup>6</sup> Despite the seriousness of the allegations against him, former Minister Ziobro was granted a visa to enter the United States before any conclusive judicial proceedings have played out.

The circumstances surrounding the issuance of the U.S. visa to former Minister Ziobro are troubling. Reports from Polish outlet *Gazeta Wyborcza* indicated that President Donald Trump personally intervened to pressure the State Department to issue a visa to former Minister Ziobro ahead of Prime Minister Magyar taking office, against opposition from some State Department officials.<sup>7</sup> Reporting by *Reuters* from earlier this week suggested that Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau also took a personal interest in the case, considering Ziobro to be politically persecuted, and directed the Consular Affairs Bureau and the U.S. Embassy in Hungary to issue Ziobro a journalist or “I” visa on an expedited timeline for national security reasons.<sup>8</sup>

If these mounting reports are accurate, these events and decisions constitute a massive abuse of power and disregard for the legal immigration processes of the United States by State Department officials and the White House. Furthermore, they threaten to invite a significant diplomatic crisis with Poland, one of the United States strongest and closest allies. We therefore demand the Administration’s compliance with any appropriate extradition requests by the Polish government. We also demand answers to the following questions in writing and an in-person briefing for Members of the Foreign Affairs and Judiciary Committees by no later than June 21, 2026:

1. Was former Minister Zbigniew Ziobro’s visa application process influenced in any way by direct involvement from President Trump or others in the White House? If so, on what grounds was the application process expedited? If on national security grounds, as has been publicly reported, what national security emergency or interests is former Minister Ziobro’s presence in the United States serving?
2. Did Deputy Secretary Landau, at any point, directly engage with the Bureau of Consular Affairs or the U.S. Embassies in Hungary or Poland about the issuance of a visa to former Minister Ziobro? If so, how and when? Provide all documents, records, and communications related to such engagements.
3. Did U.S. Ambassador to Poland Tom Rose, or any other individuals from the U.S. Embassies in Poland or in Hungary, directly engage about the issuance of a visa to former

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<sup>5</sup> Włodarczyk-Semczuk, Anna. (2026 May 20). Fugitive Polish minister flew to US from Italy, prosecutors say. *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/fugitive-polish-minister-flew-us-italy-prosecutors-say-2026-05-20/>

<sup>6</sup> (2026 May 11). Former Polish justice minister who faces prosecution at home says he’s traveled from Hungary to the US. *AP News*. <https://apnews.com/article/poland-former-justice-minister-ziobro-hungary-us-3d78a3a9cb1eb9ee29ff48848844079b>

<sup>7</sup> Wielowiejska, Dominika. 2026 May 10. “Wyborcza” reveals: the behind-the-scenes of Ziobro’s escape to the USA. *Gazeta Wyborcza*. <https://wyborcza.pl/7,75398,32781053,wyborcza-ujawnia-ziobro-uciekł-do-usa-romanowski-zostal.html>

<sup>8</sup> Pamuk, Humeyra and Landay, Jonathan. (2026 May 18). Exclusive: Trump official helped secure US visa for fugitive Polish minister. *Reuters*. <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/trump-official-helped-secure-us-visa-fugitive-polish-minister-2026-05-18/>

Minister Ziobro? If so, how and when? Provide all documents, records, and communications related to such engagements.

4. Is it common practice for high-level Department of State officials to intervene on behalf of alleged criminals to ensure they secure visas to enter the United States?
5. What documentation did former Minister Ziobro present to apply for legal entry into the United States on a visa, including employer and purpose of his visit? Please provide those documents and records.
6. Has the Polish government made any official extradition requests of the U.S. Department of Justice for former Minister Ziobro? If so, when? If so, has the Department of Justice, Department of State, or others provided any official response to the Polish government? Provide all documents, records, and communications related to such requests and exchanges.
7. Will the Department of Justice and the Department of State commit to complying with and carrying out any extradition request by Poland to return former Minister Zbigniew Ziobro to Poland to face justice in Polish courts?

We expect full compliance by the Department of State and the Department of Justice with our constitutionally mandated oversight duties and timely responses to the above inquiries. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



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Gregory W. Meeks  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives



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Jamie Raskin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U.S. House of Representatives

CC: Arne B. Baker, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of State

CC: William M. Blier, Deputy Inspector General Performing the Duties of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice