

**MICHAEL R. TURNER**

3RD DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
STRATEGIC FORCES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND  
GOVERNMENT REFORM

ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP



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

February 28, 2012

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Admiral James Stavridis  
Supreme Allied Commander, Europe  
Office of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe  
Unit 21420, Box 7100 APO AE 09705

Dear Admiral Stavridis,

As members of the U.S. delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, we ask for your assistance on a matter of interest to us, specifically one that relates to a steadfast U.S. ally and a NATO aspirant country, the Republic of Georgia.

During our recent delegation trip to the NATO PA's Joint Committee meeting, we were able to visit the NATO Special Operations Facility Headquarters where the 28 NATO nations, and seven non-NATO allied and friendly countries, conduct special operations training and coordination activities. We were proud to see the important work being done at this facility thanks to American leadership in direct support of our men and women fighting in Afghanistan.

As you know, the Republic of Georgia has one of the largest non-NATO forces in Afghanistan, larger than many NATO member contributions, and they operate without caveats. Yet, while there are seven non-NATO nations represented at this headquarters, Georgia is not.

We understand that all that is required for Georgian participation is a member nation sponsor - which we emphatically believe the United States should do - and an agreement on handling classified information correctly.

We respectfully request you review this matter and let us know if you agree that Georgia is a logical candidate for participation in NATO SOF, and, if so, how we can achieve that.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael R. Turner".

Michael R. Turner  
Chairman, U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary  
Assembly  
U.S. House of Representatives



Jeff Miller  
Member, U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary  
Assembly  
U.S. House of Representatives



Jo Ann Emerson  
Member, U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary  
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Mike Ross  
Member, U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary  
Assembly  
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Carolyn McCarthy  
Member, U.S. Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary  
Assembly  
U.S. House of Representatives