

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2016

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

It is our understanding that Ms. Rose Gottemoeller, Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, has been nominated by you for the position of NATO Deputy Secretary General. We strongly urge you to rescind the nomination, due to Ms. Gottemoeller's history of providing conflicting information to Congress and our NATO allies.

During a December 1, 2015 hearing before the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, Ms. Gottemoeller misled Congress and the public concerning a newly disclosed Russian nuclear weapons system and her knowledge of it during the negotiation of the New START treaty. Ms. Gottemoeller denied prior knowledge of the weapons system. Less than an hour later, she attempted to reverse this testimony in a private classified session. To date, she has failed to correct the public record, despite having the opportunity to do so.

Unfortunately, this latest incident reflects a concerning pattern of behavior in which Ms. Gottemoeller's testimony and actions suggest that she may have repeatedly deceived Members of Congress and our NATO allies. These incidents include:

- Providing seemingly false statements to multiple Congressional committees regarding her knowledge of Russia's 2008 violation of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF);
- Ostensibly withholding information from NATO about Russia's violation of the INF Treaty, which she only later addressed with allies after news reports made public the violation;
- Failing to impose any sanctions on the Russian firms involved with the violation of the INF treaty, despite her promise to do so twice during testimony before Congress.

Given the critical role NATO plays in ensuring a stable security environment in both Europe and North America, it is imperative that the right individuals are selected to execute its important tasks. We therefore ask that any consideration of Ms. Gottemoeller's nomination to the position of NATO Deputy Secretary General be immediately dismissed. We appreciate your timely response.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Gonzales AL-3

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Michael M. ... OH-100

Heena Keskkinen

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Joseph Wilson SC-02

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Dana Rohrabacher CA-4/8

Rob Wittman VA-01

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Rep. Mike Rogers (AL-03) Chairman House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Strategic Forces	Rep. Ted Poe (TX-02) Chairman House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade
Rep. Michael Turner (OH-10) Chairman House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces	Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-27) Chairman House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Middle East and North Africa
Rep. Joe Heck (NV-03) Chairman House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Military Personnel	Rep. Vicky Hartzler (MO-04) House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation
Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02) Chairman House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities	Rep. J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) House Armed Services Committee Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces
Rep. Chris Smith (NJ-04) Chairman House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations	Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (CA-48) Chairman House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats
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