

**Opening Statement of Gregory LoGerfo**  
**Nominee for Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with rank of Ambassador**  
**Senate Committee on Foreign Relations**  
**December 11, 2025**

Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Shaheen, distinguished Members of this committee. It is an honor to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee to be the Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Ambassador at large at the Department of State.

I am grateful to President Trump and Secretary Rubio for their trust and confidence. If confirmed, I will work with this committee and with Congress to advance Administration counterterrorism priorities to ensure the safety and security of the United States and our interests.

I would like to thank my family, friends, and colleagues especially my wife, Randa, and our sons, Frank and Louis, who are here today, for their support over the years, including our time together at overseas missions, as well as during my two unaccompanied tours in Iraq. I would also like to express love and appreciation to my parents, Dr. Frank LoGerfo and Judith Molnar LoGerfo, for their support, and for raising me to understand that as American citizens, we all have the opportunity to reach our potential in the greatest country on earth.

Over 25-years in the Foreign Service, I have had the privilege of advancing American interests in challenging assignments, usually against the backdrop of significant terrorist threats. I joined the Foreign Service shortly before the September 11 attacks. I have seen our counterterrorism successes through American heroism, courage, and sacrifice, as well as setbacks and lessons learned.

The Trump Administration is committed to preventing a major terrorist attack on the homeland and has advanced safety and security at home and abroad by implementing Peace through Strength. The Administration's focus is on destroying and disrupting terrorist networks, holding state sponsors accountable, securing our borders, and degrading the capacity of terrorist groups to threaten the United States.

If confirmed, I will work with our diplomatic partners to advance the Trump Administration's principle that "America first" does not mean "America alone". We have strong counterterrorism partnerships across the globe. I will deepen these relationships to advance American interests and will expand burden sharing by those partners.

The terrorist threat we face today is different from what we faced following the September 11, 2001 attacks. ISIS and al-Qa'ida continue to recruit, radicalize, and encourage their followers across the globe to conduct attacks in their home countries. The New Year's Day attack in New Orleans was a stark reminder of ISIS' persistent reach, capabilities, and ambitions. In addition to the global Jihadi network, antisemitism and anti-government animus have become significant motivating factors in today's terrorist threat environment. President Trump announced in his inaugural speech that the Administration would confront the narco-terrorists wreaking havoc in the Homeland and across the Western Hemisphere, and Secretary Rubio has designated 14 cartels and gangs as Foreign Terrorist Organizations.

Additionally, although Iran has been greatly weakened, Tehran and its terrorist proxies, including the Houthis, Hizballah, and Hamas, continue to destabilize the Middle East and show interest in expanding their reach to other regions. As we execute President Trump's National Security Presidential Memorandum and exert "maximum pressure" on Iran and its

terrorist proxies, we remain focused on potential increased Iranian lethal plotting globally, including against U.S. officials, journalists, Jewish targets, and Iranian dissidents in the United States.

If confirmed, I will perform the role of the Counterterrorism Coordinator in the letter and spirit of the duties described in Section 2301 of Public Law 105-277, to supervise international counterterrorism activities, working within the interagency and with my diplomatic counterparts to advance the Trump Administration's policies to keep our country safe and secure. I will ensure that our foreign assistance resources are spent wisely on effective programs to keep America safe, and that every program is thoroughly vetted and reviewed, and properly briefed to Congress. If confirmed, I commit to working with you to ensure that Congress is regularly informed and consulted on the Bureau of Counterterrorism's efforts to advance Administration priorities.

Chairman Risch and Ranking Member Shaheen, I appreciate your consideration and thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today.