

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 16, 2025

His Excellency Jean- Noël Barrot
Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs
c/o Embassy of France to the United States
4101 Reservoir Road NW
Washington, D.C. 20007

His Excellency Johann Wadephul
Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs
c/o Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
4645 Reservoir Road NW
Washington, D.C. 20007

The Right Honorable Yvette Cooper, M.P.
Secretary of State
Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office
c/o British Embassy Washington
3100 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Minister Barrot, Minister Wadephul, and Secretary Cooper:

We write to applaud the United Kingdom, France, and Germany for initiating the snapback process to return international sanctions on Iran at the United Nations Security Council. This action was necessary in light of the Iranian regime's persistent acts of nuclear extortion. We commend your leadership and support the successful reimposition of international sanctions and restrictions targeting the Iranian arms industry, its nuclear and missile programs, and its terror and proliferation activities.

While we back diplomatic efforts to restore Iran's compliance with its International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) commitments, the international community should not allow hollow gestures and cynical threats from Tehran to stop the snapback process. The regime has abused diplomatic processes for years to avoid penalties. Sanctions relief should only be negotiated after snapback is fully implemented. The regime must fully and verifiably dismantle its nuclear program, restore full IAEA access, terminate its support for international terror proxies, and end its ballistic missile program – at a minimum.

Iran's provocative nuclear threats, its reckless attacks with ballistic missiles, and its wanton aggression through support for terrorism threaten the entire international community. Once snapback is completed, we look forward to working with you to ensure all UN member states and private actors abide by their renewed obligations and hold Iran accountable.

His Excellency Jean-Noël Barrot, His Excellency Johann Wadephul, The Right Honorable Yvette Cooper, M.P.

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We understand your governments' hope that diplomacy would eventually succeed in ending Iran's nuclear program, but after several decades of the regime's intransigence and repeated deceptions, and now its open support for Putin's war against Ukraine, we will count on your governments to lead the charge and advance a passionate enforcement of sanctions against Iran – whether at the European Union, in your respective capitals, or in foreign capitals.

We also remain deeply concerned by the funding mechanism of Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile program: its oil sales – particularly to China – and smuggling operations via third countries. We appreciate the cooperation your governments have already shown in curbing these sales.

In light of the soon-returning international sanctions, we need joint interdiction efforts to prevent Iranian proliferation and acquisition of military, missile, and nuclear goods, technologies, and components. In line with returning UN obligations, we hope you will help us fully shutter Iran's banking sector abroad, including by closing all branches in Europe. Closing off the regime's financial pathways will curb the regime's aggression. More pressure is necessary to ultimately bring Iran back to meaningful and serious diplomatic engagement on the full spectrum of its malign activities.

Thank you again for your leadership at this pivotal moment. We look forward to continued cooperation to ensure the full reimposition of sanctions on Iran and to achieve our shared objective: a permanent dismantlement of Iran's nuclear program, the elimination of its uranium enrichment capability, the termination of its support for international terror proxies, and the end of its ballistic missile program.

Sincerely,



JAMES E. RISCH
Chairman
Senate Foreign Relations Committee



JOHN THUNE
Senate Majority Leader



TOM COTTON
United States Senator



ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator



DAVE MCCORMICK
United States Senator



TIM SCOTT
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