

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

February 4, 2016

Ayatollah Khamenei  
Office of the Supreme Leader of Iran  
Tehran, Iran

Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari  
Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) Headquarters  
Tehran, Iran

Ayatollah Khamenei and Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari,

We are submitting visa applications to travel to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Given the Supreme Leader's role as the head of state and highest ranking political and religious authority in Iran, as well as the IRGC's influential status in both Iranian military, political, and economic life, we are listing you both as contacts in order to facilitate the application process.

The primary reason for our visit to Iran is to observe your elections scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016. What a historic occasion. We look forward to seeing Iranian democracy in action. It would be a shame if there weren't any Americans present to validate that the elections were free and fair, for the first time in the clerical regime's history.

However, we are concerned by reports that the Guardian Council has disqualified the vast majority of "reform" candidates. We welcome the opportunity to be convinced that these elections will be fair and free. We would also like to speak with independent election monitors to ensure their access has been unfettered and that they believe the Iranian people were able to vote without threat or coercion.

Given the rapid changes brought about by the recent implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), we believe it would be of great value for us as members of the United States Congress to also accomplish the following items:

1. **Meetings with Iranian leaders.** Now that Iran is embarking on a new era in its nuclear program, it would be valuable for American leaders to meet with President Rouhani, Foreign Minister Zarif, and Mohsen Fakhrizadeh-Mahabadi, the head of the Iranian nuclear program, as well as yourselves. We would like to discuss Iran's continued work on weaponization, uranium enrichment techniques and delivery systems that continues to take place – work that takes place both inside and outside of Iran.

2. **Appointments with Americans Held in Iran.** While we are pleased that several American hostages have been released from their long and illegal detainment in Iran, we would like to be able to speak, in an unmonitored and lengthy meeting, with Americans who are still held hostage—including businessman Siamak Namazi, a U.S. citizen reportedly held in Evin prison. We would also appreciate information on another American that went missing in Iran in 2007, Robert Levinson. Reports indicate that your government has withheld information on his status. Further, three Americans were recently kidnapped in Baghdad, reportedly by one of your proxy Shia militias. We demand their immediate return and an update on their status.
3. **Visits to Parchin, Fordow, and Arak.** The status of the nuclear facilities at Parchin, Fordow, and Arak were critical points in the negotiation of the JCPOA. It would be of great value to our bilateral relationship, as we work together to monitor U.S. and Iranian compliance with the nuclear deal, to allow us to inspect these facilities. It will be important that these tours are in person, substantive, and not mere photo opportunities.
4. **Briefing on Recent Ballistic Missile Tests.** In October and November 2015, your nation conducted ballistic missile tests that the United States government believes violated UN Security Council Resolutions (UNSCR). The UN has already declared that the October missile test violated UNSCR 1929. Given your government's stated commitment to upholding international agreements, a briefing on the nature of those tests, and your intentions to conduct future tests, would help alleviate the concerns of many in our government.
5. **IRGC Briefing on Detention of American Sailors.** Confusion still exists over the incident on January 12 when your military detained ten U.S. Navy sailors. For example, did the IRGC violate the Geneva Conventions by publishing photos of captured Americans, forcing the female sailor to wear a hijab to cover her head, and demanding the commander film a confession? In our judgment, such violations did occur. A briefing from the IRGC on its protocols for dealing with vessels that have "gone astray," as well as a detailed description of its view of this encounter would be most helpful so that, if we are incorrect about this, we can correct our previous statements on the matter.

With elections being held at the end of this month, we trust a decision to grant our visa applications can be made without delay.

Regards,



Mike Pompeo  
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



Frank LoBiondo  
Member of Congress