

February 9, 2019
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about a rogue administration. Congressional oversight of the executive is essential to our government and your reluctance to acknowledge this brings us a step closer to autocracy. Last month there was your budget shut-down and then in the State of the Union speech you called oversight Presidential Harassment. Last week Acting Attorney General Whitaker tried to browbeat a Congressional Committee into forswearing its subpoena power. Today Secretary Pompeo failed to provide a report as per the global Magnitsky Act on Saudi culpability in the murder of Mr Khashoggi. In each case there was not even an attempt to claim that the executive action was in the interests of the US. With Saudi Arabia only your personal admiration for the perpetrators and their lavish spending at your hotel seem to explain your unwavering support. I imagine that congress will see this reticence as a cue to increase oversight.

Please assure me that you will work with rather than against congress.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our constitutional democracy.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson