

Date: 14 Aug 2018 12:30:52 -0400

From: Senator Dianne Feinstein <senator@feinstein.senate.gov>

To: babson@math.ucdavis.edu

Subject: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein responding to your message

Dear Eric:

Thank you for contacting me to express your thoughts regarding President Trumps foreign policy views. I appreciate the time you took to write, and I welcome the opportunity to respond.

First, let me say that I understand your concerns. My office has been flooded with calls and emails from Americans concerned with the decisions being made by the Trump administration and the lasting effects they will have on our country. If our nation is to continue to thrive, President Trumps foreign policy must reflect the American values on which this country was built.

In my view, President Trumps foreign policy has the potential to cause long-term damage to Americas interests around the world. In particular, President Trump has mismanaged North Koreas nuclear weapons program. His attempts to belittle Kim Jong-Un instead of constructively engaging his government have made the situation more dangerous. He has failed to nominate an ambassador to South Korea, leaving the United States without a permanent, on-the-ground presence in a critical part of the world. Additionally, the Trump administration has advanced the idea of a so-called bloody nose preemptive strike, which I firmly believe would be disastrous.

President Trump has also repeatedly threatened to withdraw from the Iran nuclear agreement, despite previously certifying that the agreement is in our national security interest. Withdrawing from the agreement now, absent an Iranian violation, would cast the United States as a country that does not keep its word and undermine future negotiations with other countries, especially North Korea.

Recently, President Trump declined to fully apply sanctions against Russia, despite signing the legislation mandating them himself. He has refused to punish Russia for its egregious attacks on democracy, both in the United States and abroad.

In nearly every aspect, from his dealings with hostile nations to his proposed draconian budget cuts to foreign aid programs, President Trump has demonstrated an ill-considered and irresponsible foreign policy. Please know that I will not stand aside and watch the major successes achieved over the past eight years be swept away. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which funds the Defense and State Departments, rest assured that I am committed to ensuring that U.S. foreign policy continues to work in the best interests of the United States and our allies.

Once again, thank you for writing. Should you have any other questions or comments, please call my Washington, D.C., office at (202) 224-3841 or visit my website at [feinstein.senate.gov](http://feinstein.senate.gov) [[outreach.senate.gov](http://outreach.senate.gov)]. You can also follow me online at YouTube [[outreach.senate.gov](http://outreach.senate.gov)], Facebook [[outreach.senate.gov](http://outreach.senate.gov)], and Twitter [[outreach.senate.gov](http://outreach.senate.gov)], and you can sign up for my email newsletter at [feinstein.senate.gov/newsletter](http://feinstein.senate.gov/newsletter) [[outreach.senate.gov](http://outreach.senate.gov)]. ■

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,  
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator