

December 1, 2018
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Dear Senator Harris:

I am concerned about incoherent foreign policy. It is heartening to see bipartisan moves in congress to wrest some control of foreign policy from the President. Nearly two years ago congress insisted on keeping some minor sanctions against Russians and after a long hiatus there are now rumblings of actions responding to both Saudi abuses in Yemen and Chinese abuses in Xinjiang. This administration eviscerated the State Department, systematically ignored human rights abuses and sabotaged a number of hard won treaties designed to keep the US engaged. In the case of Iran reimposition of sanctions has now undermined the architects of a shaky revival leaving hyperinflation, increasing executions and a more firmly entrenched theocracy. Diplomacy requires both carrots and sticks. The Magnitsky Act gives congress a good stick. Maybe safeguards keeping congress in the loop before treaties are breached would be a balancing carrot.

Please assure me that Congress will weigh in on foreign policy.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our efforts toward a stable world.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson