



UNCLASSIFIED  
THE DIRECTOR  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

01 February 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

I am writing in response to your press conference Tuesday where you suggested there was something untoward in officials from Russian intelligence services meeting with their U.S. counterparts. Let me assure you there is not.

We periodically meet with our Russian intelligence counterparts for the same reason our predecessors did - to keep Americans safe. While Russia remains an adversary, we would put American lives at greater risk if we ignored opportunities to work with the Russian services in the fight against terrorism. We are proud of that counterterror work, including CIA's role with its Russian counterparts in the recent disruption of a terrorist plot targeting St. Petersburg, Russia - a plot that could have killed Americans. We continue to work together on issues such as aviation security and preventing foreign fighters returning to both Russia and America.

When those meetings take place, you and the American people should rest assured that we cover very difficult subjects in which American and Russian interests do not align. Neither side is bashful about raising concerns relating to our intelligence relationships and the interests of our respective nations. We vigorously defend America in these encounters and pull no punches - we never will.

Security cooperation between our intelligence services has occurred under multiple administrations. I am confident that you would support CIA continuing these engagements that are aimed at protecting the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Pompeo".

Michael Pompeo

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