

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 23, 2016

H.E. David O'Sullivan  
Ambassador of the European Union  
to the United States of America  
2175 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Ambassador O'Sullivan:

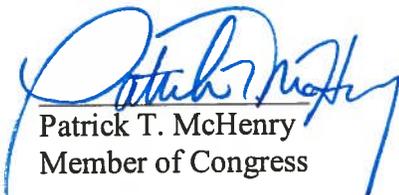
We are writing to urge the European Union to designate Mahan Air as an entity providing material support to terrorist organizations and lethal aid to Assad's regime in Syria, and to take action to prevent it from flying to Europe. As European countries increase business ties with Iran, it is vitally important that the EU take a clear stand against any Iranian entity providing support for Iran's continuing nefarious activities.

Mahan Air was designated by the U.S. Treasury Department for providing material support to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC-QF) in 2011. It has also been carrying weapons and personnel to support Hezbollah and the Assad regime in Syria. The *Wall Street Journal* recently reported that Mahan Air often flies its planes to European destinations within hours of returning from an arms delivery to Damascus. Saudi Arabia recently announced it will ban Mahan Air from flying to its airports. Mahan Air's status as a U.S. proscribed terrorist entity was not changed by the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, and for good reason.

Mahan Air currently flies to at least four countries in the EU, and it has announced plans to expand to additional countries within the EU this year. By designating and barring this airline, the EU will strike a serious blow against the Assad regime and help prevent continued suffering in Syria by weakening one of Assad's vital links to his allies. By providing arms to the Assad regime and Hezbollah, Mahan Air is directly contributing to the dire humanitarian situation faced by the Syrian people, and the proliferation of terrorism across the Middle East.

We greatly value our partnership with the European Union, the vital role that US-EU cooperation plays in countering terrorist financing, and our joint efforts to end the suffering in Syria. Preventing Mahan Air from flying to Europe would send a clear message to Iran that the EU is committed to countering Iran's support for terrorism and those that have caused such grave suffering in Syria. We urge you to work with European governments to promptly end Mahan Air's operations in Europe, and to signal to European businesses that the EU will remain vigilant in acting against Iranian companies supporting terrorism and Assad's regime.

Respectfully,



Patrick T. McHenry  
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



Edward R. Royce  
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



Robert Pittenger  
Member of Congress



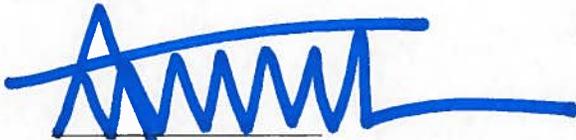
Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



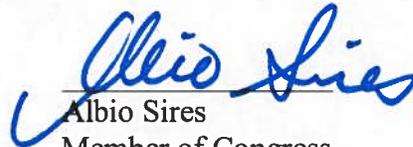
Michael G. Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



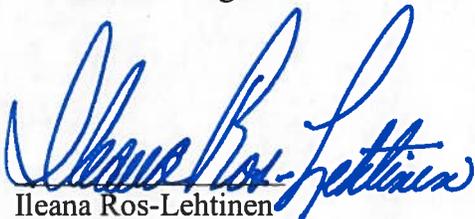
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



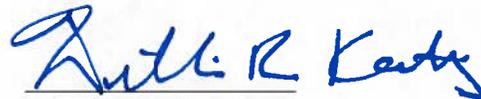
Ted Poe  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress



William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



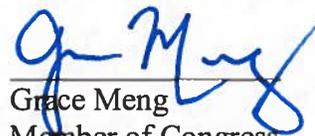
Peter T. King  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

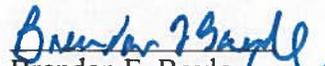


Randy K. Weber, Sr.  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

  
Paul Cook  
Member of Congress

  
Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress

  
French Hill  
Member of Congress

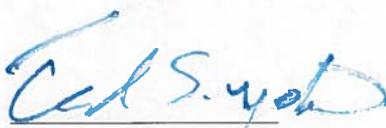
  
Ron DeSantis  
Member of Congress

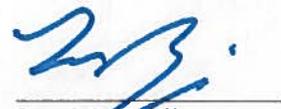
  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

  
Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress

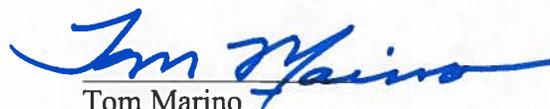
  
Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress

  
Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress

  
Ted S. Yoho  
Member of Congress

  
Lee M. Zeldin  
Member of Congress

  
David Schweikert  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Marino  
Member of Congress