

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 1, 2020

The Honorable John Ratcliffe
Director of National Intelligence
Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20511

Dear Director Ratcliffe,

On June 11th, we wrote to you as Members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence requesting specific information regarding how foreign adversaries are heightening and exploiting tensions and social unrest in American communities to further foreign interests. You recently responded with a classified letter, which we have reviewed. While we cannot share the contents of your response publicly due to its classified status, we appreciate your willingness to respond, which we hope exemplifies our shared and bipartisan concern over foreign meddling in domestic affairs as we approach the 2020 election.

However, we strongly believe that keeping all of this information classified will severely hinder our ability to combat foreign meddling and will potentially allow the United States government to repeat the same mistakes as in 2016. **For this reason, we respectfully urge the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to publicly release similar but unclassified material which will strengthen public awareness of exploitation by foreign actors and interference in our political process. Further, we ask that you immediately share this information with all state election agencies, state election officials, and any relevant industry stakeholders so that they can take preventative steps to combat foreign interference.**

As it has been confirmed by your office, the intelligence community as a whole, and the Senate Intelligence Committee's recent bipartisan report, the Russian government took extensive actions to interfere in our elections in 2016. They took advantage of political uncertainty in America to drive further wedges into our country by spreading false information, and they are continuing to do it today.

In light of this information and previous briefings, we request that DNI provide as much unclassified information about attempts to influence or interfere with the 2020 election to election officials, state governments, and the public, as swiftly as possible. In 2016 there was minimal action until October, which provided lack of time for a sufficient and nonpartisan response. This year, we urge you to provide such information in a timely manner to allow election officials and the general public to more effectively brace themselves against all forms of foreign election interference. The intelligence community, private sector, and state officials must work together to ensure America is in a stronger position this November to resist any foreign interference.

As members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, it is our duty to ensure the intelligence community is working for the public and upholding high ethical and moral standards. For this reason, and as previously noted, we urge you to publicly share as much unclassified information as possible with the American citizenry, state election agencies, state election officials, and any relevant industry stakeholders no later than September 15th, 2020, and we ask that you promptly inform our offices of the specific actions you have taken in response to this request.

Thank you for your time, and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress