

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 11, 2012

Field Marshal Mohamed Hussein Tantawi  
President of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces  
of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
Cairo

Dear Field Marshal Tantawi:

We write to condemn the recent raids by Egyptian authorities of 10 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including three U.S. groups: the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, and Freedom House.

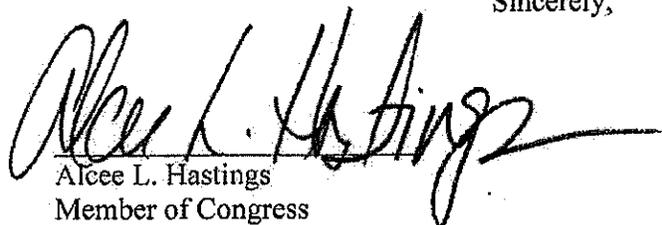
These raids were a direct attack on civil society and seriously call into question whether your government is committed to a transition to a democratic Egypt. They mark a considerable step back from even what was allowed under the Mubarak regime.

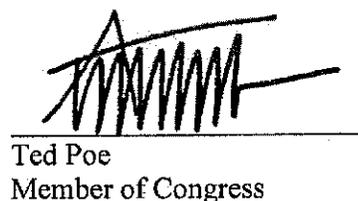
We believe that the investigations of these NGOs must cease immediately, that confiscated property be returned, and strongly urge your government to allow civil society to act unfettered.

Since 1975, Egypt has received well over \$50 billion in U.S. aid – much of it for the military. As stipulated by Congress in the Fiscal Year 2012 appropriations bill the U.S. State Department must certify that, “the Government of Egypt is supporting the transition to civilian government including holding free and fair elections; implementing policies to protect freedom of expression, association, and religion, and due process of the law.” Cracking down on the very groups that promote these conditions gives us great concern.

It is our sincere hope that your government will immediately reverse its actions, and demonstrate a strong commitment to democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. Furthermore, we hope and expect that the Government of Egypt recognizes the role of NGOs in creating and preserving a free society and that it will respect their independence in the future. Finally, we trust that the United States can be a committed partner in those endeavors for many years to come.

Sincerely,

  
Alice L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

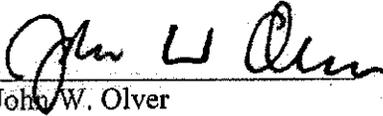
  
Ted Poe  
Member of Congress



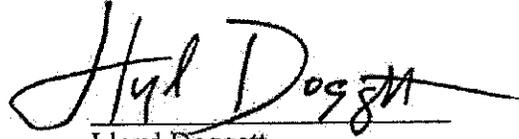
John Carter  
Member of Congress



Gary Peters  
Member of Congress



John W. Olver  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



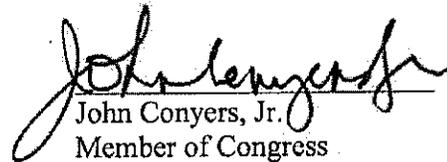
Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



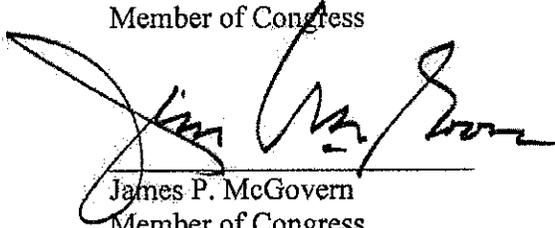
Michael E. Caputo  
Member of Congress



Gus Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress



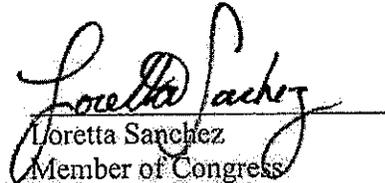
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



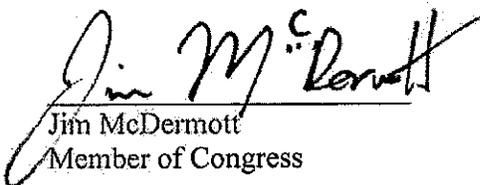
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



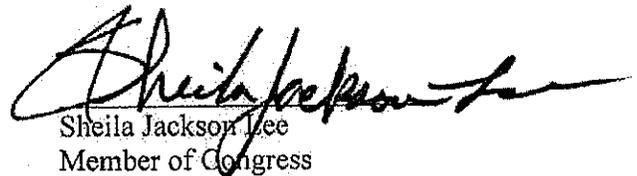
Frank R. Wolf  
Member of Congress



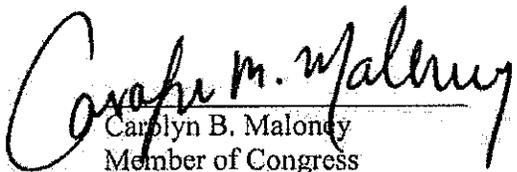
Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



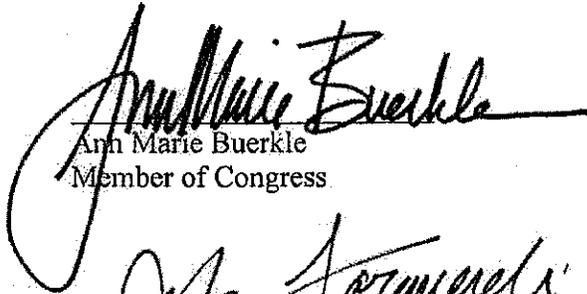
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



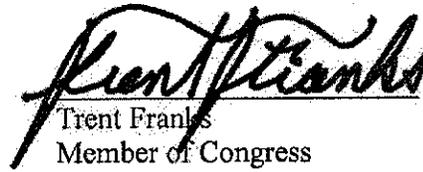
Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



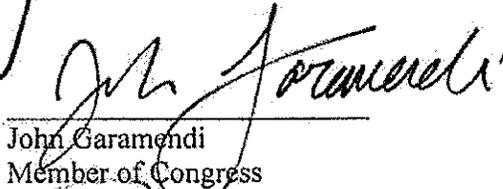
Hansen Clarke  
Member of Congress



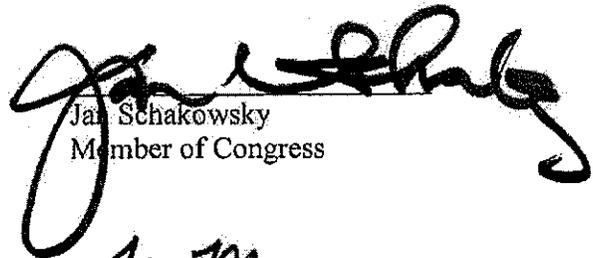
Ann Marie Buerkle  
Member of Congress



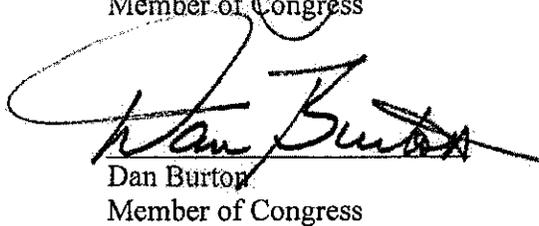
Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



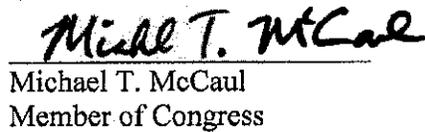
Dan Burton  
Member of Congress



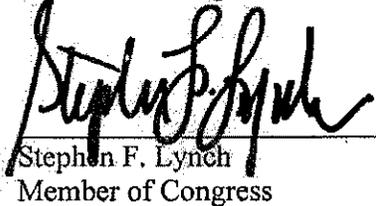
James P. Moran  
Member of Congress



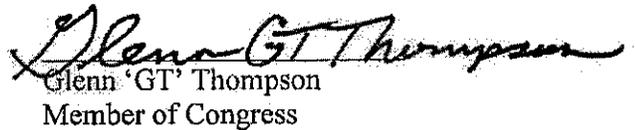
Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson  
Member of Congress

Cc:

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton  
Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State

The Honorable Anne W. Patterson  
U.S. Ambassador to Egypt, Embassy of the United States of America, Cairo, Egypt

H.E. Sameh Shoukry  
Ambassador of Egypt to the United States, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Major General Mohamed Elkesky  
Defense, Military, Naval, and Air Attaché, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt