

July 26, 2017  
Cairo, Egypt.



The United States Congress,  
Washington D.C.  
U.S.A.

Dear

It was a pleasure meeting you and your office staff during our visit to Washington last month. We appreciated the opportunity to have a candid conversation with you towards the benefit of our bilateral relations, which always remains a strategic alliance grounded in a mutual commitment to goals that we share because they are vital for advancing our common belief in peace, prosperity and stability in the Middle East.

With this understanding, however, Egyptians were taken back by the recent security warning issued by the U.S. State Department last week, with no prior coordination what so ever with any Egyptian entity nor their counterparts, or with any explanation regarding the reasons that led to it. Today, Egypt and the United States are economic and security partners, working together towards developing the region and defeating the shared threat posed by global terrorist networks. We are confident that Congress is aware that Egypt remains a force for stability and moderation at a time when large parts of the Middle East and North Africa are experiencing unprecedented security challenges. Warnings as such, even when they are mere re issuances office prior statuses present higher challenges to an ally struggling to commit to global and regional stability, not to mention of course reform and rebuilding of institutions that require the backing and commitment of our long lasting friends.

We are by no means denying the fact that Egypt, just as any other country in the world, is suffering from terrorist attacks and continues to ensure as much security as is possible anywhere in our world, for its nationals and non-nationals. However, the U.S. Embassy in Cairo explained that this warning was triggered by the three church bombings that occurred during this year, which led to the unfortunate loss of life of less than 100 Egyptians, which is non comparable to the number of shootings Chicago and Baltimore have witnessed in one year, resulting in approximately 950 Americans dead according to recent statistics of gun violence in 2016. But perception is always worse than the truth in this part of the world.

allow us to end our letter to you with a reminder that Egypt has long been among the United States' most reliable and influential allies. We look forward to further strengthening this relationship with the new administration and Congress.

Wishing you a very enjoyable and relaxed recess.

Sincerely,

Members of Parliament,  
The Arab Republic of Egypt:

Members of Foreign Relations Committee

MP Dalia Youssef

MP Tarek El Khouly

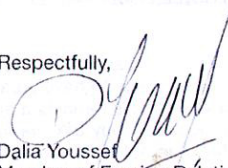
Members of Various Committees in Parliament

MP Yasmin Abou Taleb, Tourism

MP Hala Abou Ali, Economic

MP Samia Rafia	MP Mohamed Al Sallab, SME
MP Tarek Radwan	MP Ingy Fahim, Education
MP Evelyn Matta	MP Osama Heikal, Media, Culture & Antiquities
MP Mohamed Al Orabi	MP Magdy Morshid, Health
MP Amna Nosseir	MP Ahmed El Siginy, Local Development
MP Ghada Agamy	MP Ibrahim Hegazy, Education
MP Anissa Hassouna	MP Mohamed Mohie Eldin, Industry

Respectfully,

  
Dalia Youssef  
Member of Foreign Relations Committee,  
Parliament of the Arab Republic of Egypt.