

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 15, 2013

The Honorable John Kerry  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry:

We write to you today to express our gravest concern over the recent developments jeopardizing the Republic of Georgia's continued commitment to democratization. These developments ultimately threaten Georgia's recent democratic advances.

Through North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) partnerships and cooperation with the European Union, the United States has played a leading role in the spread of democracy throughout the world. However, at the NATO Chicago Summit last May, there was minimal emphasis on the importance of expanding NATO and continuing efforts to establish stability within emerging democracies. The developments in Georgia, which include the investigations and arrests of former government officials and civil servants, require the immediate attention of the United States.

In the interest of protecting the rights and the liberties of the Georgian people and preserving the fledgling Georgian democratic institutions, we ask that you take steps to affirm the United States interests in a free and democratic Georgia. We encourage you to utilize the full diplomatic resources of the State Department to respond to this emerging crisis.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress  
Chairman, US Delegation, NATO PA



Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress  
Chairman, Transatlantic Legislators Dialogue



Bill Shuster  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chairman Congressional Georgia Caucus



Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chairman Congressional Georgia Caucus