



Armenian National Committee of America
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

May 13, 2022

The Honorable Bob Menendez
Chairman
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman
Senate Armed Services Committee
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable James E. Risch
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jim Inhofe
Ranking Member
Senate Armed Services Committee
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez, Ranking Member Risch, Chairman Reed, and Ranking Member Inhofe:

I am writing, on behalf of Americans of Armenian heritage, our community allies, and coalition partners to give voice to our growing alarm at reports that the Administration may act favorably upon the Republic of Turkey's request to buy 40 Lockheed Martin-made F-16 fighter jets and nearly 80 modernization kits for its existing warplanes, and the State Department's notice of pending Foreign Military Sales to Turkey of air to air missiles and radar/avionics upgrades.

Such sales would contravene U.S. law – including the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) – rewarding Ankara for its repeated, unrepentant, and ongoing violations of U.S. sanction – materially undermining U.S. interests and allies across the region.

continued

While Turkey and its highly-paid foreign agents here in Washington are busy striving to spin this sale to an increasingly hostile power as somehow advancing American national security, the facts and the law point to exactly the opposite conclusion. Erdogan will, without hesitation, deploy these weapons systems in ways that undermine U.S. interests and undermine American values.

We ask that you ensure that any American arms sales to Ankara come with narrowly defined statutory conditions and bilaterally agreed upon restrictions, including guarantees that U.S. weapons will never be deployed against Armenians, Syriac-Assyrians, Greeks, Cypriots, the Kurds, or domestic civilian populations.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We remain ready to meet with you or your staff to discuss this matter in greater detail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Aram Hamparian', is written over the typed name and title. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible due to the cursive nature of the handwriting.

Aram Hamparian
Executive Director