

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

April 19, 2023

The Honorable Antony Blinken
Secretary of State
The United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken,


We are writing regarding the unjust detention of U.S. Legal Permanent Resident and Russian dissident Vladimir Kara-Murza, who was recently sentenced to a 25-year prison sentence in Russia. It is our desire that Mr. Kara-Murza, who has been wrongfully detained by President Putin's regime for his anti-war speech, receive the official status of wrongfully detained under the Levinson Act (22 U.S.C. 1741 et seq.) and that the U.S. government use its resources, including those under the July 19, 2022, Executive Order, to free him.

A 41-year-old anti-Putin politician, journalist, and filmmaker, he was arrested on his trip to Russia because he used a series of speeches around the world to publicly oppose political repression in Russia and the invasion of Ukraine. After his arrest, he was charged with treason. His wife and three children remain in the United States, where the family has lived for years.


Since his arrest in April 2022, Mr. Kara-Murza has suffered from unjust treatment. His health has declined, and he has lost 40 pounds. As a result of two poisonings President Putin inflicted on him during trips to Russia in 2015 and 2017, he had already been diagnosed with polyneuropathy. He has now lost feeling in both feet and one arm. Even under Russian law, such a diagnosis should lead to his release. It is very likely he will die soon unless he is released. Unfortunately, yet predictably, the Russian courts have violated their own law to keep him detained.

As Mr. Kara-Murza faces his 25-year sentence, he remains steadfast in his beliefs. His only crime is using his voice to oppose Putin's evil. It is in the U.S. national interest to save his life and liberate him from Russian captivity. As a first step to that end, we strongly urge that he be designated under the Levinson Act as "unlawfully and wrongfully detained."

Sincerely,





ROGER F. WICKER
United States Senator




BENJAMIN L. CARDIN
United States Senator


JAMES E. RISCH
United States Senator


JEANNE SHAHEEN
United States Senator

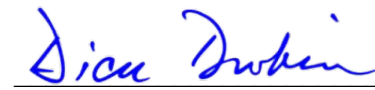

MITCH MCCONNELL
United States Senator

/s/
JACK REED
United States Senator



JOHN THUNE
United States Senator

/s/
BOB MENENDEZ
United States Senator


CHARLES E. GRASSLEY
United States Senator


RICHARD J. DURBIN
United States Senator


MARSHA BLACKBURN
United States Senator

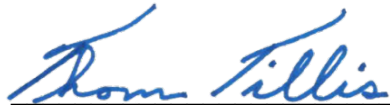

AMY KLOBUCHAR
United States Senator

/s/
LINDSEY GRAHAM
United States Senator

/s/
MARK WARNER
United States Senator


MARCO RUBIO
United States Senator


CHRISTOPHER A. COONS
United States Senator



THOM TILLIS
United States Senator



TIM Kaine
United States Senator



DAN SULLIVAN
United States Senator

/s/

MICHAEL BENNET
United States Senator



RICK SCOTT
United States Senator



TAMMY BALDWIN
United States Senator



PETE RICKETTS
United States Senator



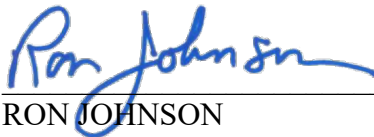
RAPHAEL WARNOCK
United States Senator

/s/

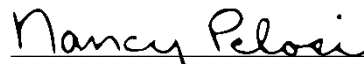
TED BUDD
United States Senator

/s/

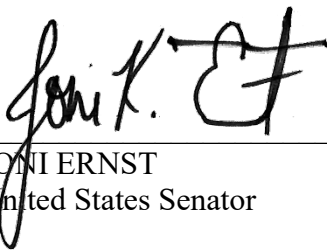
MARTIN HEINRICH
United States Senator



RON JOHNSON
United States Senator



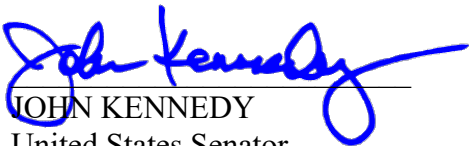
NANCY PELOSI
Member of Congress



JONI ERNST
United States Senator





STEVE COHEN
Member of Congress

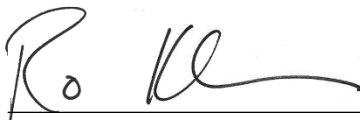

JOHN KENNEDY
United States Senator


JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress

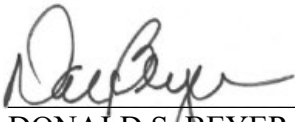

MITT ROMNEY
United States Senator



JENNIFER WEXTON
Member of Congress


TOMMY TUBERVILLE
United States Senator


RO KHANNA
Member of Congress


KEVIN CRAMER
United States Senator

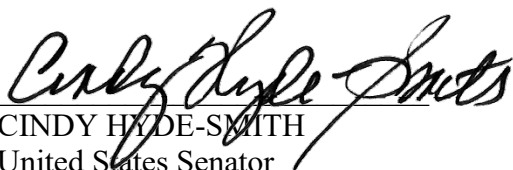

DONALD S. BEYER, JR.
Member of Congress



JOHN BOOZMAN
United States Senator


LLOYD DOGGETT
Member of Congress


MIKE LEE
United States Senator

/s/
ANDRE CARSON
Member of Congress


CINDY HYDE-SMITH
United States Senator


BETTY MCCOLLUM
Member of Congress




TODD YOUNG
United States Senator



EMANUEL CLEAVER, II
Member of Congress



J.D. VANCE
United States Senator



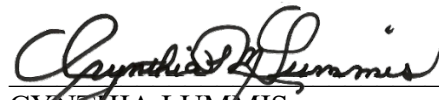
BARBARA LEE
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ERIC SCHMITT
United States Senator



MARC VEASEY
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CYNTHIA LUMMIS
United States Senator



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United States Senator



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Member of Congress



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United States Senator



JASON CROW
Member of Congress



MARKWAYNE MULLIN
United States Senator



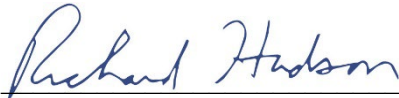
COLIN ALLRED
Member of Congress



TIM SCOTT
United States Senator



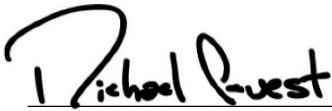
JOE WILSON
Member of Congress



RICHARD HUDSON
Member of Congress

/s/

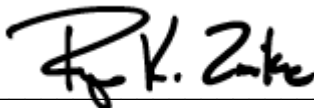
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Member of Congress



MICHAEL GUEST
Member of Congress



MIKE EZELL
Member of Congress



RYAN ZINKE
Member of Congress



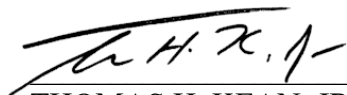
MAX MILLER
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CHRIS SMITH
Member of Congress



DON BACON
Member of Congress



THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.
Member of Congress