

Hassan Farazian

September 6, 2013

Senator Bob Corker
525 Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Corker:

I would like to commend your public interventions in making the case for an open debate about the conduct of U.S. Foreign Policy through a series of articles, interviews, and engagements. Although a supporter of president Obama, I too, have been extremely disappointed by the U.S. Foreign Policy or what I think should appropriately be viewed as—the lack of it.

A foreign policy must be coherent, focused, and above all, realist along with a plan of action. As most foreign policy analysts would tell you, any foreign policy with a Bad Plan is better than one without it. Unfortunately, the “American Foreign Policy” has dwindled down to “No Fly zone,” drone, and arming a non-existent coherent “opposition” in the Middle East. All these, and probably a few other meaningless adverbs and adjectives, in the right context are currently the strategy to a foreign policy that does not exist or is very well kept secret. In short, several worthless, irrelevant, and even damaging strategies have become the essence of this administration’s non-existing U.S. Foreign Policy—in a void.

As the international and domestic debate about current Syrian dilemma has demonstrated, American leadership, credibility, prestige, and above all, sages, has been rightfully questioned by adversaries, enemies, and even very fragmented “allies.” While two of the most solid American assets in the Middle East, i.e., Egypt and Turkey, have become serious liabilities, Turkish leadership has embarked on the wrong path of creating both regional and perhaps eventually domestic challenges for its Western NATO Alliance.

Thus, it has continued to fan beyond the point of no return the Shiite-Sunni conflict that has and continues to bring Turkey ever closer to a direct conflict with either Iran or Syria. In the long run, therefore, this can be yet another unspeakable crisis for the U.S. and NATO—exactly in that order—which either has to escalate an unimaginable conflict or ignore it once again to the detriment of U.S. and Nato’s creditability, again in that order. Hence, with its looming Kurdish and other domestically religious and ethnical schism / liability—easily exploitable by outside forces in case of an open conflict, it is not at all exaggerated to contemplate a very impatient yet restraint Turkish military—so far—to go the same way as its counterpart in Egypt against the ruling Islamist government.

The spectrum and depth of a foreign policy debate being beyond this correspondence, I am forwarding to you a letter I have recently, sent to President Obama, along with two

commentaries to both *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Economist*, as well as a paper on Nuclear Non-Proliferation I wrote over two and a half decades ago which in my humble opinion is still valid with regards to Iran. I sincerely hope they can all contribute positively to the ongoing debate. Pertinently aware of your demanding schedule, I thank you for your diligent attention towards my, again humble, views.

I continue to wish you and all your colleagues the very best in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Hassan Farazian, Ph.D.

Enclosure: Paper on Nuclear Non-Proliferation, Letter to President Obama , commentaries to WSJ and the Economist.