



ORDER OF AHEPA
SUPREME LODGE HEADQUARTERS
AMERICAN HELLENIC EDUCATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION

November 26, 2019

Honorable Mike Pompeo
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

On behalf of the members of the **American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (Order of AHEPA)**, the leading international grassroots service association of American citizens of Hellenic heritage and Philhellenes, I write to follow-up on our October 8, 2019 letter which included an inquiry on the status of the United States imposing sanctions on Turkey for its violations of CAATSA.

Press accounts report Turkey tested the S-400 missile defense system against F-16 aircraft yesterday. A reporter raised this unsettling development at today's press briefing to which you replied, rightfully, "It's concerning." We understand the Administration's position is to hold out hope Turkey's blatant violation of United States law, and its threat to United States security, can be resolved diplomatically. However, it is clear Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is apathetic to the United States' security concerns and stands in defiance of U.S. law. Therefore, respectfully, the United States must not wait until Turkey puts the S-400 missile system into "full operationalization" as you stated in today's press briefing. We furthermore respectfully disagree with a senior State Department official's statement that "there's not an absolute trigger" on when CAATSA has to occur,¹ and even if the official is correct, yesterday's S-400 test must change that position. The United States must not pursue a policy of appeasement with Turkey and wait until it is too late. Instead, the United States must send a strong message and not delay imposition of sanctions on Turkey under CAATSA.

Our Ask

The American Hellenic community continues to be alarmed about Turkey's provocative behavior that challenges American security interests and threatens NATO allies and strategic partners of the United States in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East.

Secretary Pompeo, we ask you to utilize your authority, as delegated to you by President Donald Trump by Executive Order on September 21, 2019, to work in consultation with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, to impose sanctions on Turkish entities pursuant to Section 231 of CAATSA.

AHEPA is open to further discussion on these matters. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

George G. Horiates, Esq.
Supreme President

¹ Background Briefing on Political-Military Affairs, November 21, 2019, <https://www.state.gov/Background+Briefing+on+Political-Military+Affairs>