

# United States Senate

July 29, 2021

Honorable Janez Janša  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Slovenia  
Gregorčičeva 20  
1000 Ljubljana  
Slovenia

Dear Prime Minister Janša:

We write to express our deep concern about Hezbollah's activities in Europe. It is well documented that the terrorist entity—which seeks a full and absolute destruction of our ally, Israel—has extensive activities of concern on European soil, ranging from narcotics trade to terrorism. We believe that this common threat yields common ground, and that the United States and Slovenia must partner with our allies in Europe to take bold steps to lead in obstruction of Hezbollah's broad terrorist intents on the continent.

As you know, Hezbollah is first and foremost an organized, potent force for terrorism and destabilization in the Middle East. Armed and equipped with one of the most advanced military arsenals in the world, the group's 45,000-fighter militia is positioned to enact violence and destruction at will. In recent years, Hezbollah has dug attack tunnels into Israel, engaged in the Syrian Civil War in support of dictator Bashar al-Assad, and procured sophisticated, precision-guided munitions that threaten the Jewish state. The terrorist organization has also exacerbated internal crises in Lebanon, blocking desperately needed government formation and reforms—despite the country's imminent financial collapse.

The terrorist group's activities extend far past Lebanon's shores, to all corners of the world. In Europe, Hezbollah maintains an extensive network of operatives, weapons, and illicit trade. Most concerning are the group's terrorist acts directed at European populations and targets, including through its trafficking and storage of ammonium nitrate across the continent. In 2012, Hezbollah carried out a horrific bus bombing in Bulgaria, leaving six dead and 32 injured. Hezbollah funds this and other unconscionable violence in part through its multi-billion-dollar cocaine enterprise that traverses from Latin America's Tri-Border Area to Europe, with millions in proceeds laundered through luxury goods bought in the European Union (EU) and resold in Lebanon and elsewhere.

We applaud your recognition of these stark threats by your complete designation of Hezbollah's military and political wings as a terrorist organization in December. Your leadership on the issue in the EU is a courageous step alongside those taken by Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and the Czech Republic—as well as non-EU states across Europe and the globe—that we in the United States praise loudly and profoundly. These steps taken to designate, sanction, and ban Hezbollah not only make a public statement about the

indisputable link between the group's political and military branches, but also deny any further legitimate resources and credibility to a terrorist entity that seeks considerable harm for the U.S., Europe, and the world.

With Slovenia's assumption of the presidency of the Council of the European Union on July 1, we urge you to continue your sound leadership on this matter, and place countering Hezbollah terrorism onto your agenda for Brussels. Working hand-in-hand with our allies on the Council, Washington and Ljubljana can sow a united front that prioritizes transatlantic cooperation and counterterrorism over appeasement and inaction. Together, we can enact substantive change that confronts Hezbollah's activities in Europe and in turn, safeguards our borders and protects our citizens.

Sincerely,



---

Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



---

Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator

JEWISHINSIDER