Dear Secretary Blinken and Secretary Yellen:

We write to you today regarding the biased and erroneous arrest warrants the International Criminal Court (ICC) issued for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant. We are deeply outraged that the ICC would even attempt to equate democratically elected officials acting in self-defense with terrorist leaders who purposefully and heinously slaughtered innocent civilians, including more than forty Americans. Today, Hamas still holds hostages, including five Americans believed to be alive, and the bodies of three others.

The charges against Israeli leaders are baseless. They reflect the ICC’s well-documented historical bias against Israel. The evidence is clear: Hamas terrorists are responsible for wreaking havoc and sowing destruction. Almost eight months ago, terrorists killed, raped, decapitated, burned, and kidnapped more than 1,200 people, including Americans. Hamas has built tunnels under hospitals, launched missiles from homes, and used civilians as human shields. This tragic conflict could end tomorrow if Hamas would put down their weapons, free the hostages, and allow more humanitarian aid into the region. Instead of working toward peaceful, just resolution, the ICC is playing politics.

If the pre-trial chamber approves the sham warrants, this will only embolden our adversaries, including the Iranian-backed proxies across the region, to continue their terrorist campaign against freedom and democracy. The ICC’s message gives Hamas further cover to walk away from the table, prolonging negotiations for a pause to release the hostages, including the Americans.

Above all, these warrants are an affront to due process, a clear maneuver by a biased organization masquerading as a neutral arbiter of justice cannot go without consequences. While we applaud the Administration for its strong words opposing these warrants, action is also required. Just last week, President Biden said, “Let me be clear: whatever this prosecutor might imply, there is no equivalence — none — between Israel and Hamas.”

ICC officials have in the

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past been sanctioned after engaging in a pattern of vindictive and unnecessary investigations.\textsuperscript{2} Current ICC officials must be held to the same standard. We urge the Administration to consult with Congress to immediately impose sanctions against the ICC’s Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan and any other officials who have demonstrated undue bias in their actions.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress

Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress

Marcus J. Molinaro  
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

Don Bacon  
Member of Congress

Jared Golden
Member of Congress

Kathy Manning
Member of Congress

Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel
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Susie Lee
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz
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Greg Landsman
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Vicente Gonzalez
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Juan Vargas
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Marie Gluesenkamp Perez
Member of Congress

Dean Phillips
Member of Congress