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ACTION

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MR FELTMAN
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October 26, 2015

President Vladimir Putin
23, Ilyinka Street
Moscow, 103132
The Russian Federation

Dear President Putin:

I have read in an Associated Press story this morning that President Assad is willing to hold "elections and discuss constitutional changes... after the defeat of 'terrorist' groups".

As expressed in my letter to you of October 1st, a case can be made that the Damascus regime has been trying to rule by terror so that, by President Assad's logic, the regime itself must be defeated before elections and constitutional changes can proceed.

The Damascus regime has aimed to fight to the death, even if it means taking the whole country down with them. I propose a different path toward finding a future in Syria for their constituency. President Assad might pledge to step aside before elections are held and, now, neutral international helpers might be brought in to the government in Damascus to give credibility to that pledge, and to bring to an end all attempts to rule by terror.

Yours Very Respectfully,

Mary Hayden Hall

cc by email: President Putin, President Obama, Secretary Kerry, Senator Warren, Senator Markey, Congressman Neal

cc by standard mail: President Assad, Chairman Naryshkin, First Secretary Zyuganov, Leader Medvedev, Leader Mironov, Leader Zhirinovskiy, Novaya Gazeta, The Daily Hampshire Gazette, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; The House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Permanent Missions of Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Qatar, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia to the United Nations; Embassy of Turkey to the United States; Office of the Secretary General to the United Nations



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