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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6225

June 28, 2019

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

As I have expressed previously, I remain concerned about the pattern of secrecy surrounding President Trump's meetings with Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin. In our democracy, the American people, through their representatives, have a right to know what President Trump has discussed or agreed to on behalf of the United States when he meets with President Putin. The lack of transparency surrounding their previous discussions should not be repeated. Therefore, it is imperative that all possible steps are taken to create and preserve records that may provide insight into what was discussed or agreed to on behalf of the United States during their interactions at the G20 Summit in Osaka.

I call on you and the State Department to preserve all records related to the meeting, including preparatory materials, notes, transcripts, readouts, memoranda, communications, and other relevant documents and data. This includes any records required to be preserved pursuant to the Federal Records Act and the Presidential Records Act, as well as records regarding the planning of the meeting; records that contain information regarding proposed topics or talking points; records that reflect what was actually discussed, such as notes from the note taker and the interpreter or transcripts; and any records related to follow-up communications or topics from the summit. In undertaking this effort, I ask that you ensure all reasonable steps are taken to prevent any inadvertent destruction or deletion of records.

In addition, to ensure that this Administration is taking these responsibilities seriously, and so that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee can carry out its oversight responsibilities, I request that you provide the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with a list of the names and titles of all individuals who were present for any interactions at the G20 in Osaka, as well as a list of individuals who are in possession of any records relating to any such interactions.

I look forward to your prompt and full response following the G20 Summit.

Sincerely,



Robert Menendez
Ranking Member