

P E T I T I O N

Addressed to Donald J. Trump, President of the United States of America

This date, April 23, 2017, we the undersigned, founding members of Indispensable U.S.A., an organization committed to America's leadership of the global political, economic, and security order as the best means of preserving liberal democracy, rule of law, human rights, and economic prosperity in America and around the world, do request the following actions:

1. That you, as President, unequivocally state your support for the alliances and institutions through which the United States has exercised its global leadership for over seventy years. Your Secretaries of Defense and State and Ambassador to the United Nations have all spoken publicly several times on the importance to America of these alliances and institutions and have committed America to continued leadership of them. In contrast, you have been quiet about the value of our alliances, and sometimes openly critical of our allies. For example, you have called the European Union as mostly a vehicle for German economic aggrandizement at America's expense. There is a gulf, in other words, between the statements made by Administration officials and by yourself, whose voice speaks loudest. As a consequence, we believe that neither the American people nor our foreign friends are fully confident our country will stand by its commitments in times of peace or war. We risk a gap of trust between America and our allies, one that authoritarian states like Russia and China can take advantage of.
2. That you, as commander in chief, condemn Russia's cyber-warfare against the 2016 election for what it was: an invasion of America's democracy. Our democracy is the heart of Americans' constitutionally guaranteed freedoms. Were our democracy to become compromised, our very way of life would be at risk. In our view, Russia's actions were meant not only to influence one election. They are tactics in Vladimir Putin's long-term strategy to subvert American democracy itself by dissolving public faith that our government is prepared to protect our dearest freedoms. We are extremely concerned that you have failed to publicly support investigations of Russia's transgressions by the FBI and the Congress. We find it unfortunate that you have even labeled Russia's cyber-warfare as "fake news". Unless the United States fully understands the nature and scope of Russia's actions, and takes measures to prevent their recurrence, Russia is likely to attack again in the future.

We thank you very much for considering our petition.