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Engel Statement on Russia Hacking Report (/press-releases?ID=F2143F36-398D-481B-AF0B-19E89BCAF994)

January 6, 2017

WASHINGTON—Representative Eliot L. Engel, Ranking Member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, today made the following statement on the Intelligence Community Assessment of Russia’s involvement in the recent election:

“There is no doubt that Russia interfered illegally in our election to boost Donald Trump’s campaign. The American people have accepted the findings of our Intelligence and Law Enforcement Communities, and Republican leaders should do the same. Now we need to build on the Intelligence Community’s report with a thorough bipartisan investigation in Congress. The Foreign Affairs Committee should help lead this effort.

“The United States also needs to respond to this attack. We cannot allow Putin’s aggression to go unanswered. Next week, I’ll reintroduce legislation (<https://foreignaffairs.house.gov/news/press-releases/hfac-democrats-offer-sanctions-bill-targeting-election-meddlers>) to impose tough sanctions in response to illegal foreign interference in our elections. I hope House leadership will commit to quick action on this measure.

“Lastly, it’s time for the President-elect to face facts about this assault on our democracy and stop attacking our Intelligence Community. Our intelligence officials are courageous public servants whose work protects Americans and enhances our country’s security. Instead of siding with Putin and convicted criminal hacker Julian Assange, Mr. Trump should be listening to our Intelligence Community leaders and heeding their counsel.”

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