

ALCEE L. HASTINGS
20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON RULES
SENIOR MEMBER

UNITED STATES
HELSINKI COMMISSION
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER

FLORIDA DELEGATION
CO-CHAIRMAN
SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0920

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

- 2353 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0923
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-1313
FAX: (202) 225-1171
- 2701 W. OAKLAND PARK BOULEVARD
SUITE 200
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL 33311
TELEPHONE: (954) 733-2800
FAX: (954) 735-9444
- TOWN OF MANGONIA PARK
MUNICIPAL CENTER
1755 EAST TIFFANY DRIVE
MANGONIA PARK, FL 33407
TELEPHONE: (561) 469-7048

www.alceehastings.house.gov

January 8, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Kerry:

I write to you today as the current Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and the former President of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's (OSCE's) Parliamentary Assembly, to address the current democratic crises unfolding in Haiti.

With allegations of fraud and electoral misconduct coming from Haiti's electorate in the aftermath of its October 25, 2015 elections, Haitians have once again been forced to contend with the seemingly Sisyphean task of establishing free and fair elections in their country. The people of Haiti have struggled for decades to create legitimate democratic institutions for themselves and future generations, and though the push for truly free and fair elections in Haiti may be difficult, the United States must do all that it can to ensure that Haiti moves closer to such elections in the coming days and months, as the country works to hold a presidential runoff election.

The United States' unyielding support for the establishment of strong democratic institutions in Haiti will help to cement confidence in such institutions and in the overall democratic process as it takes further root throughout Haiti. Our active support for legitimately elected governments in Haiti will also solidify government capacity, transparency and legitimacy, all of which are vital for a successful and democratic Haiti. Therefore, I urge you to do all that you can to ensure that the process leading up to the election, and the election itself, are conducted in a manner that is acceptable to all involved.

Finally, I respectfully request a briefing on Haiti's elections and thank you for your commitment to maintaining a strong relationship between the United States and Haiti.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alcee L. Hastings".

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress