



THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN GENEVA

January 12, 2018

Mr. David Kaye
Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression
Human Rights Council

Dear Mr. Kaye:

Thank you for your joint letter on November 6, 2017, expressing your views related to freedom of expression in the United States. Please find the U.S. response attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason R. Mack".

Jason R. Mack
U.S. Deputy Permanent
Representative to the UN Human
Rights Council

SUBJECT: U.S. Response to the Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression regarding the United States

Thank you for your joint letter on November 6, 2017 with Mr. Edison Lanza, Special Rapporteur on freedom of expression of the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights, expressing your views related to freedom of expression in the United States. We appreciate the role you play in promoting and protecting freedom of opinion and expression around the world.

Upholding and promoting a free and open press is a fundamental value of the United States. Free press rights are in our Constitution and laws and reflected in our international human rights obligations. The United States has a strong record of accomplishment of advocating for and protecting freedom of expression, including for the media. As Secretary of State Rex Tillerson stated on World Press Freedom Day, May 3, 2017, “ethical and transparent media coverage is foundational to free and open societies. It promotes accountability and sparks public debate. Societies built on good governance, strong civil society, and an open and free media are more prosperous, stable, and secure.”

The United States continues to uphold freedom of expression domestically and promote it around the world.