



enough

The project to end genocide and crimes against humanity

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A PROJECT OF THE CENTER FOR AMERICAN PROGRESS

June 29, 2015

The Honorable Ed Royce
Chairman, House Foreign Affairs Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
2310 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eliot Engel
Ranking Member, House Foreign Affairs Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
2462 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Royce and Ranking Member Engel,

On behalf of the Enough Project, I write in support of your recent introduction of H.R. 2494, the Global Anti-Poaching Act. This important legislation takes a stand against some of the worst human rights violators, who have turned to the slaughter of elephants and the trafficking of their ivory as a means to finance their killing and terror.

Rebel groups and terrorist organizations named in H.R. 2494, including Sudan's Janjaweed militia, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and the Séléka rebel movement in the Central African Republic, are all connected to wildlife trafficking networks. These groups are notorious for committing human rights violations including murder, rape, widespread abductions of children and adults, large-scale massacres, and the pillaging of various natural resources. The atrocities they commit contribute to the instability of a turbulent region and the spread of conflict across borders.

As an organization working to end and prevent genocide and mass atrocities in central and eastern Africa, we are deeply concerned about the networks of funding that enable these groups to sustain their operations. It is imperative to creatively utilize tools at the disposal of the United States to address the human toll of such illicit networks. The passage of H.R. 2494 would create real consequences on atrocity perpetrators sustaining themselves through wildlife trafficking by taking steps such as making wildlife trafficking a predicate offense for money laundering, and supporting the professionalization of partner countries' wildlife law enforcement rangers.

The Enough Project looks forward to continuing to work with you and others to put an end to ivory trafficking, and we thank you for your ongoing dedication. Through leadership like yours, the United States can be a positive influence for real change on this issue.

Sincerely,

John Prendergast
Founding Director, Enough Project