

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE
EUROPEAN UNION

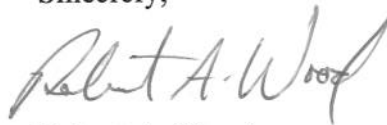
September 20, 2013

Mr. Juan Fernando López Aguilar
Chairman, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz, 60
B-1047 Brussels, Belgium

Dear Mr. López Aguilar,

In response to your invitations for U.S. Government officials to participate in the LIBE Committee's hearings on alleged NSA programs, I regret that we cannot offer any encouragement for official U.S. participation. As you know, the U.S., EU and EU member states are engaged in an Ad Hoc Working Group to discuss certain intelligence oversight activities. The Working Group has met twice and is currently meeting in Washington. We believe the Working Group is the appropriate channel for these discussions and look forward to continuing the constructive dialogue already underway there. We greatly value our cooperation with the EU and want to reinforce the strong U.S. and EU partnership. The United States Government recognizes and appreciates the important role that the European Parliament plays in this relationship, and my colleagues and I always welcome the opportunity to engage with Members and the Parliamentary leadership in appropriate venues.

Sincerely,



Robert A. Wood
Chargé d'Affaires, ad interim