

June 12, 2019

Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

We write as groups that have worked to protect the Mueller investigation and to ensure the Mueller report was made available to Congress and the public. We are now working to help ensure that the American people are informed about the findings of Volume I and Volume II of the Mueller Report.

The Mueller report documented that Russia's cyberattack on our country was undertaken to disrupt and damage our democracy, to hurt presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, and to help presidential candidate Donald Trump.

We believe it is essential to bring the printed pages of the 448-page Mueller report to life through public, televised House hearings so that the American people can make informed judgments about the activities that followed the decision by Russia to attack the 2016 presidential election.

Hearings by the Senate Watergate Committee played a similar informational role for the American people. The Committee held extensive televised hearings that educated the American people about the abuses of President Nixon and his administration. The panel began its public hearings on May 17, 1973 [and held hearings](#) on a regular basis until August 7, 1973. "[Thirty-seven witnesses](#) testified during the period, hundreds of exhibits and documents were introduced into the record," according to the committee's final report, "and over 3000 pages of testimony were transcribed."

Importantly, 319 hours of Senate Watergate Committee hearings were [broadcast](#) live to the American people and 85 percent of U.S. households watched some portion of them. The hearings told the story of the Watergate break-in and the massive cover up authorized by President Nixon in its wake. These broadcasts riveted the nation.

Today, we have the benefit of the 448-page Mueller report to serve as a guidepost for televised hearings by the House.

We strongly applaud House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerry Nadler's [announcement](#) that the Committee "will hold a series of hearings on 'the alleged crimes and other misconduct' in Mueller's report." They began this week with a hearing on whether Trump committed obstruction of justice.

Similarly, we welcome House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff's announcement that his committee will be "doing a series of hearings on Volume I of the Mueller report," starting with a focus on the counterintelligence implications. These hearings also began this week.

Effectively covering the material in the 448-page Mueller report and related matters will require continued attention from a number of committees with relevant jurisdictions.

We urge that such House committees hold a series of public hearings in the coming weeks on matters within their jurisdiction. We believe that a sustained approach of two to three hearings a week between the relevant committees will help ensure the necessary level of public education and attention with respect to the Mueller report.

We also believe that these hearings should be public, including those conducted by the Intelligence Committee. We understand that this is not the norm for a committee that is charged with oversight of the most sensitive of matters. However, given the public interest in these issues and the need to help the public understand what has transpired, public hearings are necessary. The recently announced open hearing scheduled for June 12 is an excellent model for how to move forward.

As organizations that have followed the Mueller investigation, we would like to suggest for consideration some examples of potential hearing topics that we believe would help build on the excellent work already underway.

We thank you for your leadership on this and many other issues.

House Judiciary Committee

- Hearing on what President Trump knew about Russia's attack on the United States and his campaign staff's contacts with Russia-linked operatives
- Hearing on the June 9th meeting in Trump Tower with representatives of the Russian government
- Hearing on the various efforts by President Trump to remove Mueller as Special Counsel and to greatly narrow his jurisdiction

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

- Hearing on Russia intelligence operations against the United States
- Hearing on campaign information provided to Russian agents by the Trump campaign

House Government Oversight and Reform Committee

- Hearing on Russian money donated to the Trump inaugural fund
- Hearing on the Trump administration's decision to scale back election security and foreign interference offices at the Department of Homeland Security

House Foreign Affairs Committee

- Hearing on Trump administration efforts to roll back sanctions against Russia
- Hearing on how the Trump administration's foreign policy advances Russian foreign policy objectives
- Hearing on the origins and impact of Trump's 2016 Mayflower Hotel foreign policy speech

House Financial Services Committee

- Hearing on the Trump Organization's business ties to Russia
- Hearing on why the Trump administration has not implemented congressionally mandated sanctions against Russia

Sincerely,

Action Group Network
American Oversight
Center for American Progress
Coalition to Preserve, Protect & Defend
Common Cause
CREW
Defending Democracy
Democracy 21
Equal Justice Society
Loyal Opposition
March for Truth
People For the American Way
Protect Democracy
Public Citizen
Stand Up America
Sunlight Foundation