Thank you, Madam Chair. Indeed the relationship

between the United States and Russia a comprehensive and a complex

one and you can look at it whether the glass is half full or half

empty. But the reset agenda has produced, as Mr. Berman said, a

New START treaty, diplomatic cooperation on issues ranging from

North Korea to Iran, a transit agreement to facilitate the logistical

supplies for international forces in Afghanistan, and cooperation in

Arctic resources.

As a result of the U.S. engagement with Russia, Russia canceled

the sale of advanced S–300 surface-to-air missiles to Iran, and

agreed to U.N.-based sanctions in carrying economic loss in the

process.

What begs the question is, what is actually the alternative to

reset? Pausing the reset entails curbing U.S. engagement and hereby

our strong support for economic reforms and limitization and

modernization that is already underway in Russia. This rule would

strengthen Russia’s regressive elements with vested interest in

maintaining the status quo for personal gain as opposed to expanding

prosperity and economic opportunity across a wider section of

Western population.

It is important to note that even Russia’s political opposition has

expressed support for the Obama administration’s reset policy, notably

at a recent meeting in Moscow with members of this committee.

They also support Russia’s WTO accession precisely because

this enhances the rule of law paradigm in Russia and they

support a repeal of the Jackson-Vanik amendment because it undermines

U.S. moral credibility in Russia.

And I think that with this complicated issue, we need to look at

what the alternative would be. The alternative would be to regress

or continue to progress. I yield back the balance of my time.

Thank you. I just want to note for the record that

I agree with Mr. Rohrabacher.

Let me just ask real quick because some of—I guess

the reason we are here is asking whether or not the administration

is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction. So I will

ask each panelist first, what are your thoughts? Should we pause

reset or continue with reset?

Let me go on. I don’t want to lose my time.

So should we pause reset or should we continue it?

Mr. Ambassador.

You are headed toward what my next question was.

And I guess I will go to Dr. Cohen real quick, because the opposition

and a lot of the human rights groups seem to be in favor of

continuing reset. So I am wondering if we pause reset, then who

really would be the beneficiaries and what would happen on the

ground when you see individuals who are most affected by what

has taken place saying, reset is a good thing? What would happen

if we did pause, who would be the beneficiaries?

Dr. Swett.

Let me ask because I only have 20 seconds left. Just

asking, should Russia get into the WTO? Yes or no? I only have

14 seconds. Yes or no, Dr. Swett?

Ambassador, yes or no?

Dr. Cohen?