



Hon. Senator James Risch  
483 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**March 16, 2022**

Dear Senator Risch,

We were deeply disturbed by your remarks attacking President Biden's diplomacy with Iran, which included racist slander of Iranians and the Persian language. You said: *"I don't speak Farsi. If I did, I doubt I could use the words 'good faith.' I don't know that they exist because I have never seen good faith on the part of the Iranians."*

Such comments are beneath the dignity of a U.S. Senator. Iranians have a rich cultural heritage stretching back millennia, and grounding in one of the world's first monotheistic faiths. So to see you slander the Persian language and suggest that no Iranian could deal in good faith, much less have words for it, is beyond insulting.

We thought we would share a translation of the words you thought Iranians are incapable of:

حسن نیت

Sincerely,

National Iranian American Council  
Win Without War  
Action for Palestine  
American Muslim Bar Association  
Americans for Peace Now  
Armenian-American Action Network  
Atlantic Council  
Central Valley Islamic Council  
CODEPINK  
Eagle management consulting  
Iranian American Bar Association  
Islamic Cultural Center of Fresno  
J Street  
National Lawyers Guild - Miami Law Chapter  
Peace Action  
Peace Corps Iran Association  
Ploughshares Fund  
Project South  
ReThinking Foreign Policy  
The Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign

And the following 8840 individuals:

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