



## RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

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PETITION No.: **421-01389**

BY: **MR. BEZAN (SELKIRK-INTERLAKE-EASTMAN)**

DATE: **MAY 29, 2017**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **SIGNED BY THE HONOURABLE CHRYSIA FREELAND**

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Response by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

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SUBJECT

**International sanctions**

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**ORIGINAL TEXT**

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**REPLY**

Canada has always been a strong advocate for human rights and anti-corruption internationally. Canada has repeatedly and forcefully spoken out against human rights violations around the world, including in Russia, where Canada has called for accountability for those involved in the Magnitsky case.

That is why the government supports Bill S-226, which would authorize the imposition of sanctions specifically for violations of international human rights obligations in a foreign state or for acts of corruption.

Canada has a wide range of tools to promote and protect human rights, and will continue to consider how to most effectively respond to situations of human rights violations.

Canada actively engages with Vietnam on the protection of human rights at all levels. As an example, the Canadian Embassy in Vietnam is part of the "Group of Four" (Canada, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland), which works closely together in support of human rights and is part of a larger group of like-minded countries working on this issue in Vietnam.

The government is committed to ensuring that Canada plays a leading role with its allies, in responding effectively to international crises, including through an effective and coherent Canadian sanctions program.