



**AMBASSADOR
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

N 1055

Canberra, "*12*" November, 2015

Hon Senator Jacqui Lambie, Tasmania
Shop 4/22 Mount Street
P O Box 256, Burnie TAS 7320

Dear Senator,

Thank you very much for your letter and a proposal to meet.

Regretfully my work schedule makes it tough to have the requested meeting as it is overloaded with prior engagements. Several delegations are coming to Australia in the near future, including the Russian Chief Justice Mr Vyacheslav Lebedev. However, please allow me to share some ideas on the issue you raised which I consider extremely timely.

I do agree with your statement that the bombing campaign is hardly by itself going to defeat the ISIL. There is an urgent need to combine the efforts of the entire international community to destroy the extremists which constitute a great menace to the global stability and peace. I have paid close attention to the motion you started in the Senate on the 21st of October concerning the possible interaction with my country on the Middle Eastern track. I would like to reiterate that Russia is open for coordination and claims upon the other parties concerned to create the broader coalition with common counterterrorist goals.

From my perspective such coalition should be launched, however considering the magnitude and the pace of internal crises in Syria and Iraq the

modalities are to be discussed collectively and would require the United Nation's approval. In this context Canberra's vocal position in the U.S-led coalition could be triggering or even decisive.

As for the "Biscuit Bombing" per se, I also agree that humanitarian initiatives will contribute to a better Australia's international standing. However the current situation in the air as well as the dynamics in Syria can hardly allow any humanitarian air drops or cross-border humanitarian reliefs. Especially it can bring the disastrous consequences over if it is implemented without proper UN sanction and delivered not through the relevant international channels.

As I'm sure you are well aware, madam Senator, under international humanitarian law (IHL), the consent of the state in whose territory humanitarian operations are to be implemented is strictly required. It is clear as well that before any relief actions we need to gain a road map to the political solution in Syria and comprehensive cease-fire.

If I may suggest, Australia could use its diplomatic leverage to mobilise the motion to gain this consent of the legitimate and UN recognised government in Damascus. This government has already proved itself credible and reliable in the situation of settling down the issue of the elimination of chemical weapons. So, for us it's hard to understand why in the circumstances with imminent ISIL threat to the world it's portrayed by certain states differently?

Russia would be very supportive of such Australia's actions.

Sincerely yours,



Vladimir MOROZOV