## <u>Press Releases: Secretary Pompeo's</u> <u>Call With Albanian Foreign Minister</u> <u>Ditmir Bushati</u>

Readout Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC December 21, 2018

The below is attributable to Deputy Spokesperson Robert Palladino:

Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo called Albanian Foreign Minister Ditmir Bushati today to commend the Albanian government for expelling two Iranian officials, including the Iranian Ambassador to Albania, in response to an Iran-sponsored plot to carry out a terrorist attack in Albania. Following recent arrests that disrupted Iranian-backed plots in Denmark and France, Albania's actions send a clear message that Iranian terrorism is unacceptable on European soil. Secretary Pompeo congratulated Foreign Minister Bushati on Albania's confirmation as OSCE Chair-in-Office in 2020. We look forward to working with Albania at the OSCE to champion Western values.

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