

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2207

September 29, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable Mike Waltz
Ambassador
United States Mission to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Secretary Rubio and Ambassador Waltz,

I write to congratulate you both upon the conclusion of the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly High-level Week. I appreciate your leadership during these preliminary conversations with other world leaders about some of the most pressing issues we collectively face today.

It is my strong belief, as the General Assembly begins its intensive working period, that conversations surrounding artificial intelligence (AI) should include robust efforts for plans and collaboration towards an international agreement. While there has been productive dialogue between industry and world leaders about the future of AI, it is imperative for the United States to chart the path forward.

For generations, our nation has consistently led the way on emerging technology, and AI should be no different. We must compete and win the AI race not only to better our own nation, but to ensure our adversaries who wish to do us harm cannot weaponize the technology against us. The dangerous reality is that AI – in the wrong hands – can be used to carry out highly sophisticated cyberattacks on our energy grid, deliver a lethal biological weapon into our communities, or undermine our banking system. Even employees from America's top two AI labs warn that this technology is racing to a finish line for humanity.¹

¹ Ramkumar, Amrith. "Anthropic Researcher Quits Over 'Out-of-Control' AI Fears." *The Wall Street Journal*, 9 Sept. 2026, www.wsj.com/tech/ai/anthropic-researcher-quits-over-out-of-control-ai-fears-707b7628

I believe we must take these warnings seriously if we want to mitigate this serious risk to our national security, which is why our goal should be to encourage innovation and economic growth while ensuring that these AI systems are being developed and used responsibly.

The 81st Session of the UN General Assembly is uniquely positioned to begin these conversations with other countries. This should not only happen with our allies, but our adversaries as well. While we may have disagreements, we should all work towards the common goal of ensuring this technology is properly regulated for the common good and safety of all countries. These exchanges should include ideas for an international AI treaty, incident report sharing, risk management techniques, and human control over offensive and nuclear weapons. Beginning these discussions will ensure we are all prepared.

This next frontier in emerging technology has the ability to propel this world into a golden age or send us into collapse. I respectfully request that you both work to create regular and consistent multilateral dialogue on AI moving forward. It is critical that we begin these talks before it is too late.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I would welcome the opportunity to sit down with either of you or your teams to further discuss the potential impacts of AI on American national security and world peace.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact my office at 202.225.4872.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Barrett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tom" and last name "Barrett" clearly distinguishable.

Tom Barrett
Member of Congress