MICHELLE STEEL
45TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
STEEL.HOUSE.GOV

COMMITTEE ON WAYS
AND MEANS

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0548

1127 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

November 3, 2023

Javier Gallardo
Chaiman
International Port Community Systems Association
The Chapel
Maybush Lane
Felixstowe IP11 7LL
United Kingdom

Dear International Port Community Systems Association Executive Committee:

I write to urge you to take action to halt the spread of LOGINK, a Chinese Communist Party (CCP) controlled digital platform for maritime data-sharing. As a Member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, House Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party, and with a Congressional district in close proximity to the Port of Los Angeles, I have discovered serious concerns and security threats with the digital platform.

It's alarming that you would work with LOGINK to "develop innovative IT solutions for trade facilitation and cooperation on technical issues" as you described when your organization announced its partnership in 2017. The expansion of LOGINK, if left unchecked, could give the CCP a roadmap to gain a stranglehold on the arteries of global trade, a key aim of their Belt-and-Road Initiative (BRI). With the data that a global LOGINK system could provide, the CCP could efficiently identify vital transportation nodes necessary to control the physical movement of goods.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, "China's expanding grip on data about the world's cargo flows is sparking concern in Washington and among industry officials that Beijing could exploit its logistics information for commercial or strategic advantage."

The widespread adoption of the LOGINK platform creates a strategic risk for commercial and military interests for the United States and our critical allies including Japan and South Korea. I would hope the IPCSA shares these same concerns. Unfortunately, the CCP currently has the ability to exploit their control over LOGINK and gain valuable intelligence regarding supply chains impacting and manipulating international trade as well as risking the U.S. Department of Defense' use of commercial transportation and military logistics.

I am working with my colleagues in Congress to ban the use of LOGINK by our military and commercial ports. I have called on the Departments of Transportation, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Department of Commerce to work with organization to stop the use of LOGINK and work on a more secure and safer alternative to LOGINK.

I urge your organization to immediately end its relationship the National Public Information Platform for Transportation & Logistics by the Ministry of Transport of China.

Sincerely,

Michelle Steel

Member of Congress