

**RELEASE IN  
PART B6**

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**From:** Anne-Marie Slaughter [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 26, 2011 7:31 AM  
**To:** H  
**Cc:** Abedin, Huma; Sullivan, Jacob J; Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** two more thoughts on Libya before I head to Liberia/Sierra Leone with the Women's Tech Del

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The flurry of activity yesterday was great. But just two additional thoughts. First, as I wrote before, we have to see this not just as responding to obligation or outside pressure, but as an actual *opportunity* to impress the young people across the middle east whom you said at Doha are the majority of the population. If we think about this in moral terms, we will be much more cautious, thinking about precedent and legalities. But if we think about it in strategic terms, as a chance, in Mark Malloch Brown's terms yesterday in the FT, to "detoxify America's brand in the Middle East," then we should be willing to contemplate bolder policy steps. This is a moment we can seize. Second, and relatedly, we are doing lots of things to try to increase the pressure on Gaddafi. But that is not quite the same thing as doing things that will be actively felt as support by the protesters in the streets. Think of how many cases there are where prisoners, oppressed minorities, women etc. have told us how important a speech or affirmation of support by the U.S. is. Old-fashioned moral support can go a long way for people who are putting their lives on the line. To that end, UN resolutions and sanctions may have less impact than public statements. Fareed Zakaria suggested on CNN yesterday that POTUS call for Gaddafi's resignation. I would go with that and with a more public statement that Gaddafi has forfeited his legitimacy as a leader by violating the responsibility to protect; that we are with the protesters, that we admire their courage and their spirit, etc. Something that can be tweeted from person to person.

All best,  
AM