Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Rules, issued the following statement following the Supreme Court dismissal of a suit seeking access to old photos showing detainees being abused while in US custody. Slaughter tried to prevent the White House from blocking the photos and spoke out in favor of openness earlier this year on the House floor.

“I am disappointed. I had hoped that the White House would revisit this and come down on the side of transparency and openness. To set aside the Freedom Of Information Act for short term political gain is not in keeping with the ideals of this new Administration and our obligation to put the abuses of the past behind us. This is a setback for the First Amendment and for freedom of the press.”