

Dear Mr President,

It is with great pleasure that the Grand Duchess joins me in sending our sincere congratulations on the day of your inauguration as the 46th President of the United States of America.

The strong friendship between our two countries can be traced back to the beginning of the twentieth century with crucial American support during both World Wars. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and my grandmother, the Grand Duchess Charlotte, shared a close bond built upon mutual respect and an interest in peace in Europe. Brave American soldiers, led by General Patton, helped to liberate Luxembourg from the Nazi occupation and many sacrificed their lives for the freedom of both our countries. The Allied victory at the Battle of the Bulge not only marks one of the last stages in the collapse of an oppressive political regime, but it also symbolises the triumph of democracy and the rule of law.

Given our countries' shared commitment to democratic ideals, it was disheartening to witness the recent attacks on the American institutions, which culminated in the storming of the Capitol. I have strong faith that under your Presidency democracy will prevail. I look forward to continuing and strengthening the longstanding relationship and deep friendship between our two countries. It is my firm belief that global issues such as the defence of democratic values and peace, the dangers of climate change and the tackling of a devastating pandemic have to be addressed through international cooperation.

On behalf of the Luxembourgish people, I wish you determination and faith for the accomplishment of your role as President of the United States of America.

> Henri Grand Duke of Luxembourg

> > Luxembourg, 20 January 2021

His Excellency Mr Joseph R. Biden President of the United States of America