

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY

**The Honorable Barack H. Obama**  
**President of the United States of America**  
**The White House**

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Budapest, 4 July, 2015

Dear Mr. President,

Allow me to congratulate you and the people of the United States of America on behalf of the Hungarian people as you celebrate Independence Day on July 4.

Although 239 years have passed since the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, that charter has remained not only a symbol of freedom for Americans, but also a source of inspiration for those fighting for liberty throughout the world. The historic date of the fourth of July still carries the messages of civic courage, a deep commitment to virtues and true patriotism in the face of oppression.

As we live in a rapidly changing, volatile and unpredictable world, these ideals have never been more relevant. There are many burning questions we have to deal with today. From the brutal acts of terror in the Middle East to the intensifying refugee crisis on Europe's borders and the looming threat of climate change we have many challenges to stand up to. In these circumstances, the strength of our transatlantic alliance is of crucial importance.

Mr. President, our countries have been joined by a history of cooperation and friendship spanning long decades. As NATO allies, Hungary and the United States share the commitment to protecting peace and democratic values. We fight and work shoulder to shoulder to promote human rights, the rule of law and sustainable development across the globe.

The people of the United States can always count on Hungary to stand up in defense of the many values that we share. I am pleased to reaffirm that our country is also ready to further deepen its mutually advantageous cooperation with the United States. It is in this spirit that the people of Hungary join you in celebrating your Independence Day.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



János Áder  
President of the Republic  
of Hungary