

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dear Mr. President:

Together with the American people, I offer best wishes to you and the people of Hungary as you celebrate the foundation of the Hungarian state this St. Stephen's Day August 20. St. Stephen's success in anchoring Hungary in Europe more than 1,000 years ago remains a historic achievement.

On this day, we celebrate the important relationship between the United States and Hungary, our stalwart ally and valued partner. This relationship is based on a shared commitment to democracy made stronger through our economic partnership and common resolve to advance security in places like Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Balkans.

As members of the transatlantic family of nations, we must continuously strive to uphold the fundamental principles and values that underpin democracy and freedom. We recall our commitment to ideals and institutions that support the state and society, such as rule of law, tolerance, and a system of checks and balances. We must champion these principles in Europe and globally. This fortifies not only our already strong bilateral relationship, but also the NATO Alliance more broadly.

Please accept our most sincere congratulations on this joyous occasion.

Sincerely,
Barack Obama