BARACK OBAMA

October 28, 2008

Hungarian American Community Leaders

Dear Friends,

I appreciate the opportunity to share a few thoughts with you as leaders of the Hungarian American community. Your community is an important part of the fabric of American life and Hungary is an important ally of the United States.

Over the years, many Hungarians have come to the United States and lived the American dream, contributing so much to American science and medicine, to our cultural life, to our universities, and to so many other fields. America is a better place thanks to your remarkable contributions.

America will face many challenges in the next few years, and I look forward to a closer strategic relationship between our country and Hungary, and even deeper friendship among our peoples. Building on the common interests and values that bind our two countries, we can continue strengthening democratic institutions throughout Central and Eastern Europe. Together, we can build respect for human and minority rights in that region and throughout the world.

Hungary is a strong ally and a valued member of NATO that has "returned to Europe" as a member of the European Union, and a full partner in the transatlantic community. Hungarian troops have served shoulder to shoulder with U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hungarian Americans can be rightly proud of these sacrifices.

Joe Biden and I look forward to working with the Hungarian American community as we work to address the critical issues that the U.S. and Hungary will face in the next president's term. Thank you again for the opportunity to share these thoughts, and I hope to have your support on Tuesday.

Sincerely,



Barack Obama

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BIDEN

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