

Her Excellency Anu Prattipati
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
Embassy of the United States of America
Prishtina, Republic of Kosovo

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts, and on my own behalf, I have the distinct honor to extend to you, to the Embassy of the United States of America in the Republic of Kosova, and, through you, to the President of the United States of America, The Honorable Donald J. Trump, the Government of the United States, and the American people, our warmest congratulations on the occasion of the 250th Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America.

This historic anniversary is far more than the commemoration of the birth of a nation. It is a celebration of a legacy that has profoundly shaped the modern world through an enduring commitment to liberty, democracy, constitutional government, education, scientific discovery, innovation, entrepreneurship, and respect for human dignity.

The principles proclaimed in 1776 inspired not only the American nation but also generations of people across the globe who aspired to freedom and self-government. Throughout its history, the United States has demonstrated that societies flourish where political liberty, the rule of law, free inquiry, and individual initiative are protected.

One of America's greatest contributions to humanity has been its unparalleled investment in education, science, and innovation. Its universities, academies, research institutions, libraries, museums, and cultural organizations have become global centers of excellence, educating generations of scholars, scientists, artists, physicians, engineers, jurists, and public leaders. Their commitment to academic freedom and the unrestricted pursuit of knowledge has transformed medicine, technology, economics, environmental sciences, and countless other fields, benefiting humanity as a whole. As Benjamin Franklin wisely observed, "*An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.*" This principle continues to define the American contribution to global progress.

For the people of Kosova, this anniversary carries a particularly profound significance.

Throughout the twentieth century, the United States consistently championed the universal values of liberty, democracy, human rights, and the dignity of every individual. During the decades of ideological division in Europe, America's steadfast commitment to these principles inspired hope among peoples living under authoritarian rule. Those ideals resonated deeply among the Albanians of Kosova.

Following the revocation of Kosova's constitutional autonomy in 1989, when systematic repression intensified, the United States became one of the strongest international advocates for the rights and freedoms of the people of Kosova. Across successive administrations and with enduring bipartisan support in the United States Congress, America consistently affirmed that the grave violations of human rights in Kosova required the attention and action of the international community.

American diplomatic leadership throughout the 1990s, culminating in its decisive role within the international intervention of 1999, helped bring an end to mass atrocities, and opened the path toward freedom and peace. That commitment continued through sustained support for Kosova's reconstruction, democratic institutions, the rule of law, higher education, economic development, and civil society. The prompt recognition of the Republic of Kosova in 2008 and the continued bipartisan support for its sovereignty and democratic development remain enduring expressions of the close friendship between our two countries.

As the highest scientific and artistic institution of the Republic of Kosova, the Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts highly values the longstanding academic and cultural partnership between Kosova and the United States. American universities, research institutions, educational exchange programs, and cultural organizations have contributed significantly to the development of higher education, scientific research, and professional excellence in Kosova. These intellectual ties remind us that the greatest influence of nations is measured not only by their political or economic achievements but also by their contribution to knowledge, culture, and the advancement of civilization.

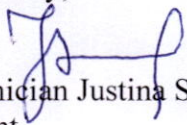
Today, as humanity faces profound geopolitical challenges and unprecedented technological transformation, the values that have long characterized the American experience remain as relevant as ever: freedom, democracy, academic excellence, scientific integrity, innovation, and international cooperation. They continue to inspire societies striving for peace, prosperity, and human dignity.

As the United States celebrates the 250th anniversary of its independence, the Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts joins in honoring not only the remarkable history of a great nation but also the universal ideals that continue to illuminate the path toward a freer, more just, and more enlightened world.

For the people of Kosova, this anniversary is also an occasion to express our profound gratitude to a nation whose steadfast friendship has accompanied us through the defining moments of our modern history. Confident that our shared commitment to freedom, democracy, knowledge, and peace will continue to strengthen the bonds between our two countries, we look forward to further expanding cooperation between our academic, scientific, and cultural institutions for the benefit of future generations.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and my sincere wishes for the continued prosperity of the United States of America, the well-being of its people, and the enduring friendship between the United States and the Republic of Kosova.

Respectfully,


Academician Justina Shiroka Pula
President
Kosova Academy of Sciences and Arts

