

The Honorable Rep. Gregory Weldon Meeks  
Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs  
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Rep. Michael McCaul  
Lead Republican of the House Foreign Affairs Committee  
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Sen. Bob Menendez  
Chair of the Foreign Relations Committee  
United States Senate

The Honorable Sen. Jim Risch  
Ranking member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee  
United States Senate

April 28, 2021

Dear Mr. Chairman!

In these uncertain and volatile times, we believe it is even more important than ever to reaffirm close transatlantic ties and strengthen the cooperation between the U.S. and Central and Eastern Europe.

The Three Seas Initiative was born out of the shared interest of twelve EU countries – Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia – to develop transport, energy and digital infrastructure on the EU north-south axis in order to increase the economic growth and resilience of the entire region. We are enthusiastic of the U.S. involvement in this initiative, thus investing in regional security and fostering economic growth.

Implementation of strategically significant projects calls for a solid political commitment, an open dialogue with the private sector, and a robust Investment Fund. The Fund imparts the highest value-added to the Three Seas Initiative and empowers the strategic and economic dimension for this strategically important Initiative. Today, the Three Seas Initiative countries have contributed to the Fund and it benefits from nearly \$1.2 billion in investments that have been committed to it.

Three Seas countries have identified a number of projects in the fields of transport, energy and digital communication sector that have good prospects for success. Investments are necessary to move these projects closer to reality. We are certain that the success of the Initiative lies in continuous involvement of strategic partner — the United States. Support pledged by the United States for the Three Seas Initiative and the Investment Fund is very important for the region. It provides encouragement and confidence. Now more than ever it is important to make the transatlantic bond stronger.

The U.S. DFC (Development Finance Corporation) decision to invest \$300M into the Three Seas Initiative Fund was a powerful demonstration of the enduring United

States commitment to the vision of a Europe that is undivided, free, prosperous and secure. We salute to the robust bipartisan support from the United States that has been directed towards the Three Seas Initiative and which creates an environment conducive for long-term support and progress. Furthermore, we are hopeful that the new U.S. Administration will support this pledge and will contribute into the Fund by the next Three Seas Initiative Summit in Sofia, Bulgaria.

It is crucial to reinforce the U.S. support to the Three Seas Initiative; we encourage the House Committee on Foreign Affairs to support the Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act (TTSA). The Act will contribute to development and promotion of secure digital and telecommunications services in the Three Seas Initiative countries thus safeguarding critical telecommunication networks of the region.

We deeply appreciate the strong messages sent out by the United States administration on the Three Seas Initiative and stand ready to embrace further fruitful cooperation. We believe that your personal involvement will help to mobilize resources within the community of like-minded democracies and employ the right tools to boost well-being and prosperity, thereby making the Three Seas region a better place to live, work and develop.

Please accept, Mr. Chairman, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Ondrej Vesely  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic

Peter Fischer  
Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security  
Senate of the Czech Republic

Marko Mihkelson  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
Riigikogu (Parliament) of the Republic of Estonia

Rihards Kols  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia

Žygimantas Pavilionis  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania

Zsolt Nemeth  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
National Assembly of Hungary

Bogdan Klich  
Chair of the Foreign and European Affairs Committee  
Senate of Poland

Marek Kuchcinski  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
Sejm of Poland

Monika Gregorčič  
Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia