

MINISTER
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY

The Honorable Condoleezza Rice
Secretary of State of the United States of America
Washington, D.C.

Budapest, January " ", 2009

Dear Madame Secretary, *Dear Cond,*

I am writing to thank you for your highly valued efforts and great co-operation in making the Hungarian-U.S. ties an ever-closer alliance over the past few years.

Having you at the helm of the U.S. diplomacy, Hungarian opinions have always been asked for and listened to in Washington and our specific interests have effectively been supported and promoted by the American diplomacy.

The success of Hungarian-U.S. relations is built on commonly shared core values, pivotal interests and strategic objectives: strengthening security, confronting terrorism and promoting democracy, human rights and freedom around the globe. We have a shared vision of the world and we have been working hard in order to make it a more liveable and a more loveable place for peoples, nations and individuals alike.

Your exceptional contribution to making the visit of President Bush to Hungary possible in 2006 and your indispensable role in the decision on including Hungary in the Visa Waiver Program in 2008, just to name a few, will surely go down in our history books as great events and achievements in the Hungary-U.S. relations.

I am certain that good relations can be generated by common interests but can only be enhanced and made special by personalities. I have enjoyed working with you in promoting bilateral ties, discussing regional or global issues either in Washington, Budapest or at the Women Leaders' conferences in New York.

I wish you every success in your future endeavors and let me reassure you: I will remain open to further co-operation with you in international issues and I do hope that we will be able to count on your interest and attention towards Hungary and the Hungarian-U.S. relations, as well.

Yours sincerely,


Dr. Kinga Göncz