



The Honourable Barack Obama
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
United States of America

23 January 2013

Dear President,

I wish to congratulate you on your election to a second term of office as President of the United States.

As you commence this important mandate, I would like to reiterate our ambition and support for the launch of EU-U.S. trade and investment negotiations. An EU-U.S. trade and investment agreement would address three major challenges facing the Transatlantic economy.

First, it would boost economic growth significantly and help create much needed employment in our respective economies, which are already deeply integrated and enjoy a relationship that generates more than \$5 trillion in sales annually.

Second, it would strengthen the competitiveness of our main industries which face tough competition from rapidly emerging countries.

Third, it would restore Transatlantic leadership in trade by establishing clear rules for open markets and cooperation on smart regulation combining high public policy standards with the free flow of goods and services.

The European business community looks forward to learning about your trade priorities in your State of the Union Address on 12 February where we hope that you will give a strong signal and your political support to the launch of EU-U.S. trade and investment negotiations.

I also hope that you will find the opportunity to visit the capital of Europe where you have a standing invitation to address the business community at BUSINESSEUROPE.

Yours Sincerely,

Jürgen R. Thumann