

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 20, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the C5+1 diplomatic forum, which brings together the United States and the five countries of Central Asia, we urge you to host and personally attend a C5+1 Leaders' Summit in Washington, D.C. this year.

Your engagements with the presidents of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, and high-level meetings by Secretary Rubio and other senior administration officials, have underscored the importance of Central Asia. The 10th anniversary of this platform is a unique opportunity to deepen relations with Central Asia and advance U.S. strategic objectives in the region, including security cooperation, economic ties, soft power, and good governance. A Leaders' Summit with meaningful outcomes will strengthen regional cooperation and maximize the diplomatic potential of the 10th anniversary, setting the tone for strengthened U.S. engagement in the region for the rest of your presidency.

Launched in 2015, the C5+1 platform was sustained during your first term through annual foreign ministerial meetings in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020. Elevating our engagement to the presidential level would send an important signal. Given that the customary C5+1 Foreign Ministers' meeting did not take place at the UN General Assembly this year, it is even more important that you host a consequential Leaders Summit, which would be the second leader-level meeting in the history of the C5+1.

To ensure a successful C5+1 Leaders' Summit, we urge your Administration to prepare Summit deliverables that enhance longstanding areas of cooperation in coordination with the Central Asian countries. We hope to see clearly defined commitments from private sector and government stakeholders under the purview of the C5+1 Critical Minerals Dialogue to enhance the development, processing, and refining of critical minerals, including tungsten, antimony, lithium, and rare earth elements. In line with our June 30, 2025 letter to Secretary Rubio, we believe announcing your firm commitment to work with Congress to fully repeal the outdated Jackson-Vanik amendment would bring C5+1 relations to new heights and advance a legacy achievement by removing one of the last vestiges of the Cold War.

Given the persistence of ISIS-K in the region, we encourage the U.S. to boost counterterrorism and security cooperation with Central Asia, reinforcing the United States as an important partner for regional stability. We also hope to see new agreements with the Central Asian countries to bolster people-to-people ties and expand U.S. soft power, such as additional American Peace Corps volunteers and the expansion of educational and cultural exchange programs, while addressing the accreditation issue surrounding U.S.-sponsored journalists and other U.S.-funded news broadcasters. Finally, the United States should fill any vacant regional Export Control Officer positions and work within the C5+1 to strengthen end-use monitoring processes to ensure the security of sensitive U.S. technologies in the region.

Your decisive leadership and personal engagement in convening a C5+1 Leader's Summit can elevate a key anniversary to a breakthrough moment on the global stage, charting the course for U.S. relations with Central Asia for the next decade. We hope you will take advantage of this pivotal opportunity, and we stand ready to work with you to support stronger U.S. ties with Central Asia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sydney Kamlager-Dove'.

Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Ranking Member
South and Central Asia Subcommittee

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill Huizenga'.

Bill Huizenga
Chair
South and Central Asia Subcommittee

cc: The Honorable Marco Rubio, Secretary of State