

April 30, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitchell McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Speaker, Mr. Leader, Madam Pelosi, and Senator Reid:

As senior officials in the transatlantic relationship, former U.S. Ambassadors to European countries, the European Union, and NATO who served under Republican and Democratic administrations, each of us has witnessed first-hand the tremendous diplomatic, economic, and security benefits that transatlantic relations bring the United States. For that reason, we strongly support the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and call on Congress to renew Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) so that this agreement can be completed successfully.

The economic relationship between the United States and the European Union is already the world's largest, accounting for one third of total goods and services trade and nearly half of global economic output, while supporting more than 13 million American and European jobs. TTIP would bolster this relationship even further by providing greater compatibility and transparency in trade and investment regulations, while maintaining high levels of health, safety, and environmental protections. It would enable the United States and the European Union to continue taking the lead in setting global trade rules and standards, and reinforce our shared commitment to democracy, freedom, and the rule of law.

For each of us, the opportunity to serve our country and contribute to a stronger transatlantic relationship was the greatest honor of our careers. TTIP represents a unique opportunity to boost economic growth and strengthen the national security of the United States by reinforcing our relationships with our most important allies. At a time when deeper transatlantic ties are

becoming a necessary means for the West to meet a range of global challenges, we ask you to expeditiously support TPA based on a clear framework for concluding the negotiations of this vital agreement.

Signed,

Nicholas Burns, former (ret.) Ambassador to NATO and former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

Richard Burt, former U.S. Ambassador to Germany

Ivo Daalder, former U.S. Ambassador to NATO

James Dobbins, former U.S. Ambassador to the European Community

Karen Donfried, former Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for European Affairs

Lee A. Feinstein, former U.S. Ambassador to Poland

Robert Hunter, former U.S. Ambassador to NATO

William Kennard, former U.S. Ambassador to the European Union

Robert Kimmitt, former U.S. Ambassador to Germany, former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and former Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Treasury

Charles Ries, former U.S. Ambassador to Greece

Kristen Silverberg, former U.S. Ambassador to the European Union

Alan Solomont, former U.S. Ambassador to Spain

Louis Susman, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland

Craig Stapleton, former U.S. Ambassador to France

Robert Tuttle, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland

Kurt Volker, former U.S. Ambassador to NATO

Jennone Walker, former U.S. Ambassador to the Czech Republic