



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 9, 2018

Dr. Rita Luthra  
Longmeadow, Massachusetts

Dear Dr. Luthra,

Thank you for taking the time to express your views regarding foreign policy and our Nation's military.

My Administration is devoted to strengthening America, protecting our people, and advancing our interests abroad. A central principle of my national security policy is peace through strength. I am committed to seeking diplomatic solutions to our critical international challenges, but we must rebuild our military in order to demonstrate America's resolve and ensure that we remain the greatest fighting force in the world. As President George Washington said, such preparation is "the most effectual means of preserving peace." That is why I am working with the Congress to provide our military leaders with the means necessary to protect our country.

Another central principle of my national security policy is America First. Now, America First does not mean America alone. Rather, it is a commitment to protecting and advancing our vital interests while also fostering cooperation and strengthening relationships with our allies and partners. It is a determination to stand up for our people and our way of life that deepens respect for America. As we do this, we must also restore our leadership role because the world is safer when America leads. American leadership is necessary to address the serious problems we face—from rogue regimes to terrorist groups like the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and al-Qa'ida. Working with others is essential to meeting these challenges, as is ensuring that our partners and allies are contributing their fair share to our mutual defense.

Thank you, again, for your suggestions. Please visit [www.WhiteHouse.gov/america-first-foreign-policy](http://www.WhiteHouse.gov/america-first-foreign-policy) to read more about my foreign policy vision and proposals, and please visit [www.WhiteHouse.gov/making-our-military-strong-again](http://www.WhiteHouse.gov/making-our-military-strong-again) to learn more about my plan to strengthen our military. As President, I am focused on growing our economy, strengthening our leadership, and protecting our citizens—and we know that no challenge will outmatch the fight and spirit of the American people.

Sincerely,

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