

Albania, November 5, 2022

Dear President Begaj and Prime Minister Rama,

On behalf of the American people, I would like to extend our deep appreciation to you and the people of Albania for our strong cooperation in advancing bilateral prosperity, regional stability, and global security. As NATO Allies, we have worked together to defend freedom and democracy around the world. And in the face of Russian aggression against Ukraine, we have stood strong on the UN Security Council, including co-authoring resolutions related to Russia's unjust and unprovoked war and tackling other global challenges. Albania has also stepped up to provide generous assistance—including helping the Ukrainian people and temporarily hosting Afghans—making our world a safer place.

Since Iran's disruptive cyber attacks started in July, the United States has been committed to supporting Albania's efforts to investigate, remediate, recover, and respond—and we will continue to stand with you against further Iranian threats of any kind. The United States remains committed to providing significant and continuing support to bolster Albania's cybersecurity defenses, including by offering financial assistance and setting up a cybersecurity working group. We have sent Ambassador Nate Fick and a White House representative to Tirana to engage with your new cyber coordinator on a long-term plan forward.

In the years ahead, I look forward to deepening our strategic partnership even further. The United States will continue to support Albania's efforts to assume greater regional leadership by promoting stability and energy security in the Western Balkans. And we will continue to support Albania on its path toward joining the European Union.

Thank you for your friendship and partnership as we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our countries establishing diplomatic relations this year. I look forward to the years ahead.

Sincerely,

//s//

Joseph R. Biden Jr.