



*Embassy of the United States of America
Zagreb, Croatia
Office of the Ambassador*

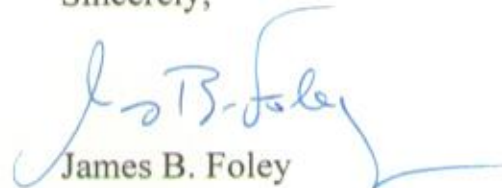
January 12, 2010

Dear Dr. Josipović:

I have the honor to forward to you the enclosed letter from the President of the United States Barack Obama.

Allow me to take this opportunity to add my personal congratulations and best wishes to you on the occasion of your election as President of the Republic of Croatia.

Sincerely,


James B. Foley

His Excellency
Ivo Josipović,
President-elect of the Republic of Croatia,
Zagreb.

Dear Dr. Josipović:

Please accept my warmest congratulations on your election to become Croatia's next President. I trust that the friendship and partnership between our two countries will grow under your leadership in the years to come.

I was pleased to be present at the NATO Summit in Strasbourg-Kehl in April 2009 when Croatia was welcomed as a new ally. NATO membership underscores Croatia's important role in promoting peace and stability in Southeast Europe and around the world. I want to particularly thank you for Croatia's vital contribution to our effort in Afghanistan.

The United States strongly supports your nation's Euro-Atlantic aspirations, and commends Croatia's reform efforts, particularly in fighting corruption and improving the rule of law. I look forward to working with you on our shared vision and goals, and wish you every success as you take up your new responsibilities as President.

Sincerely,

/s/

Barack Obama