March 31, 2021

Dear Mr. President

We write today with great appreciation for the commitment you made to strive for gender parity in your national security leadership. Your nominations and appointments thus far have served as a signal of your focus on elevating well-qualified women to leadership positions in your Administration. We celebrate our colleagues named to important roles, and thank you for what you have done so far.

Among the national security leadership positions that remain, perhaps the most impactful are your overseas ambassadors. As you know, Ambassadors serve as the face of the United States to the world. Their demographics say a lot about the values and priorities of the Administration, including commitment to diversity, gender parity, and professionalism.

The Leadership Council for Women in National Security (LCWINS) and Women Ambassadors Serving America (WASA) have joined together in this letter to request your commitment to gender parity among United States Ambassadors. Our vision of gender parity means that a man or a woman has an equal chance, at all times, of ascending to each ambassadorship. This should be true across all geographic regions, in posts both large and small. As you build out your diplomatic leadership, we hope you will pay attention to growing allies within the U.S. government who will also focus upon the diversity America’s representatives to the world should demonstrate. This includes looking at how men and women are distributed at our diplomatic missions; no post should be viewed as gendered, internally to the U.S. government or externally to the world.

Our joint vision is to see American diplomatic representation across the globe that is as diverse as America itself. Please join us to make this a reality by committing to gender parity in your ambassador appointments.

Lindsay Rodman
Executive Director, LCWINS

Piper Campbell
Co-chair, WASA

and the following former Ambassadors of the United States:

**LCWINS Executive Committee**
- Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley
- Ambassador Nina Hachigian
- Heather Hurlburt
- Beverly Kirk
- Jamie Jones Miller
- General Lori Robinson
- Shelly O’Neill Stoneman (Co-Chair)
- Tamara Cofman Wittes (Co-Chair)