

Inaugural address, January 20th, 2021

Class 10bG, Geschwister-Scholl-Schule/Rodgau

My countrymen, it is time to introduce a new word. So let me welcome you once again by saying not only 'my countrymen', but also 'my countrywomen'!

Taking the oath of office in your cherished presence fills me with pride and happiness. Having you by my side in this moment is of inestimable value for me and shall be of symbolic meaning for our country.

When your children and grandchildren will be looking back at the 20th January 2021 they shall say, "That moment was the beginning of an era which has finally brought peace and freedom and well-being upon all the people living in our country."

In the past years, plenty of wounds have been cut and they are longing to be closed. Plenty of tears have been cried and they are longing to be dried. Plenty of dreams have been dreamt and they are longing to be fulfilled. Plenty of problems have been caused and they are longing to be solved.

Now, plenty of tasks are lying ahead and they are longing to be finally faced.

As the 46th president of the United States of America I feel highly responsible for all the tasks and challenges that are lying ahead. I will do my very best to solve the problems which cause our country so much pain, I will do my very best to dry the tears that have been cried and are still being cried. I will do my very best to close the wounds that have been cut into our souls, and I will do my very best to build a strong bridge that will lead us to the fulfillment of our dreams - I am deeply convinced that we will have the power and the strength to reach what we have ever hoped for, if we are just aware of what we have in common, if we just bundle all our energies and if we all finally pull in the same direction.

Our country is composed of a multitude of diverse people. Bringing them together is a highly sensitive challenge that I have respect for. But I am not afraid of this challenge. Like all of my predecessors I have only been elected by a part of the population. Though I have to represent all of you. And again, I have respect for this challenge, but I am not afraid of it. It is my declared aim to convince all of you - supporters as well as skeptics - that I am the president who will make the United States of America a role model for the world again. Critical eyes upon my work will not set any limits to my work. Quite the contrary! They will motivate me to continue to improve and bring the very best out of me.

So let me promise you, by the end of a 100-day deadline I will have convinced also the greatest skeptics that my presidency signs the beginning of a new era in the history of the United States of America. And we will all be proud of it. With united powers we will serve the best future the United States of America has ever dreamt of.

As Vice President, I have been able to gain a deep insight into the country's problems. Let us have a closer look at them.

The Corona pandemic is one of the most alarming issues of our times. It deeply affects the whole world. And it has kept us busy throughout the last months. We cannot pretend it is just a flu. Neither can we pretend our country is in its best condition. We have lost over 300.000 countrymen and countrywomen and we do not want to lose any more. Sadly, we cannot bring them back. But we can and will avoid bigger wounds.

The corona pandemic has exacerbated the existing holes in our health care system. Many patients cannot afford a medical treatment because they do not dispose of a health insurance. Some fear medical expenses more than dying of the Coronavirus.

Nevertheless our hospitals are overfilled. Too few doctors and nurses are taking care of too many patients. For so many months our doctors and nurses have been desperately toiling in hospitals full of patients who are in need of help, but they cannot treat them adequately because of a lack of resources. This is unbearable. Health care must be granted to everyone. Health must be affordable again.

The Affordable Care Act has noticeably improved our health care system. But it has not been developed further in the past years. Now, we do not have the option **not** to work on this issue anymore. It is time to plug the holes - not just with hope, but with wise decisions. The technical equipment of our hospitals must be improved, more medical employees must be hired and they must be adequately paid.

It must be our highest priority to have all family members and loved ones live a long-lasting and healthy life. And we want our medical professionals to go home at the end of an exhausting day to enjoy their families and loved ones. We want all our people to meet again the ones they love. We want to re-open our schools in order to educate healthy children again. We want to allow them to meet their grandparents again. Family is of inestimable value. WE are family. So we should be compassionate about each other. We should treat each other like brothers and sisters. We should care of each other. This is what makes a family a healthy and strong community. So let us be strong. Together. Hand in hand.

We know that there is still a lot to do. But we know where to start and we will start. Now.

I am proud to be the one who you chose to make our country healthy and strong again. But I cannot be the one without the support of my energetic countrymen and countrywomen.

Many problems will haunt us in the future, but we will face the haunting and we will put an end to it. Together we will be strong and grow as a community. Together we will make

it through these rough times. Together we will create a healthier future for a healthier America. So let us bundle all our energies and finally pull in the same direction.

It was predictable that the pandemic would also affect our economy. We are one of the largest economic powers in the world. But even as such we are not immune to crises, problems and pandemics. Our share in the global economy has declined in recent years. The situation on the labor market has become more difficult and it has worsened with the pandemic. Purchasing power has decreased. Taxes weigh too heavily on many of our countrymen and countrywomen's shoulders.

But let me promise you: our nation's greatest and most experienced experts will leave no stone unturned in their efforts to help the United States to a new heyday. To this end, we will put together rescue packages and initiate economic aid. At the same time, we will focus on expanding the infrastructure and our education system. We must not and we will not lose touch!

Foreign trade and the relations with our international partners have also been suffering throughout the past years and need new impetus. Serious mistakes have been made.

Thinking back to the disputes between the USA and our neighbor country Mexico, fills my heart with pain and regret. A dividing line between two brothers sitting in the same boat has been drawn and this line must be erased. Our friendship and partnership must be revived so that we can both march on in synergetic harmony.

We also need to rethink our relations with China and Germany, who have been our most beneficial partners for decades. We have let our friends down and we all know that nobody should ever do so - even in times of severe contact restrictions.

Partners and friends have the quality to be reliable and calculable. This is also what economic policy should be. Only then can we offer security that creates trust and motivates companies to invest, to give people work, so that we regain our courage to move forward.

If we do not just want to dream the American dream, but if we want to live it, enjoy it, be proud again that the United States of America is the nation where every person has the opportunity to pursue their happiness, we must stay together. We must bundle our energies and pull in the same direction.

Doing so we could even overcome another problem, that has been shaking our nation for so long. I'm talking about discrimination. As long as our countrymen and countrywomen, our brothers and sisters, are being discriminated against, as long as women and men are not equally respected, as long as women wearing hijabs have less working opportunities than women not wearing them, as long as the people we once forced to help support us

build our nation are not being paid respect, as long as defenseless brothers and sisters are mistreated or even killed, as long as anyone may purchase and use weapons, we will not live in peace.

I am deeply convinced that our bank of justice is not bankrupt! We have a dream! We are one nation, we are one team, we are one family and now we will bundle all our energies and finally pull in the same direction.

The "Black Lives Matter"-movement is one step in the right direction. Police brutality has to stop! If we want to avoid terrible acts against people who seem to be different from others, we must all question our attitudes and behavior. Only this way allows us to prove that our bank of justice is not bankrupt. Only this way allows us to live in peace one day.

Further steps in the right direction need to be taken. We, the people, have the chance to change things, and we have to fight for our goals. Everyone will be able to be who they are and to achieve their goals. This is America! This is our dream! This is what we have to fight for!

My countrymen, my countrywomen, we love, we live, we believe, we cry, we lose, we win and above all, we keep on dreaming. And our dreams shall now become reality.

America is the land of the free and the home of the brave. We are free thanks to our Founding Fathers and ancestors who longed to be free. We are independent thanks to the brave people who won the War of Independence.

'How could they succeed?' you might wonder. - *'With the help of their common hope and will and strength!'* is the answer.

The United States of America will regain her freedom. We will be a role model for the world again. *'How can we succeed?'* you might wonder. - *'With the help of our common hope and will and strength!'* is the answer.

It is time for us to fix every piece that has broken away and create new cohesion. It is time to heal your wounds, America! And I do know that we can master even the most complex challenges. On the basis of past achievements, our nation will shine in a new and unprecedented splendor. So let us bundle all our energies and finally pull in the same direction. Hope is our strength and freedom will be our power.

Our country has been a symbol of hope and freedom for so many years. So many people have come to our country hoping to be free. And Lady Liberty has welcomed them and shown them the way into our country saying *"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me: I lift my lamp beside the golden door."* Let us continue to lift our lamp beside the golden door. Let us be proud of our diversity. It has formed our country in what it is today and it belongs to us. We are freedom, we are hope. And every single member of our big, diverse, and great

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community has their own talents and gifts to contribute to a well-working, prosperous, happy and healthy community. So let us all join in and add to what we can do best: Let us roll up our sleeves and get to work!

It's an honor for me to help our nation grow. So, my beloved countrymen and countrywomen, I know that we can reach anything and everything. Together.

I will give anything and everything to bring our nation further. I will do anything and everything to be a good leader! And I do trust in our common will and strength!

America, you deserve the best!

America, I believe in you! - I believe in us!

Thank you.