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Sol Price School of Public Policy

Honorable Nursultan Nazarbayev  
*PRESIDENT*  
*The Republic of Kazakhstan*

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Dear President Nazarbayev:

Kazakhstan's *exemplary social, economic, and political accomplishments* and its sustained development as a *regional and global leader* since 1992, facilitated by you as President, have been vastly historical. As noted in your thoughtfully informed *2014 State of the Nation Address*, your Kazakhstan 2050 strategy, following on successes of Kazakhstan 2030 on which I worked a bit years ago, promises continued, accelerated advances.

At the seventh *Astana Economic Forum* proceedings in May, I look forward to celebration of Kazakhstan's achievements and its distinctive model for future developments globally. In particular, from its beginnings over 22 years ago, you set an example of *successful national independence through regional and global interdependence*. In nuclear disarmament and other collaborative initiatives, Kazakhstan was the initial leader in those challenging times. Now, with its strategically capable promise to qualify in near-future years with OECD standards of most-developed nations, Kazakhstan is continuing on its path of responsible global leadership through social, economic, and political interdependence.

In your distinctively successful leadership in development of strategic plans and their sustained implementation, Kazakhstan's reliance on building *institutions of constitutional government* has also become exemplary. The work has not been easy, but through many difficult times, Kazakhstan has succeeded.

In the early and mid-1990s, when many powerful international organizations were dismissive of governmental effectiveness, you took responsibility to employ strongly informed and active governmental institutions to facilitate both *workable market economics* and *social responsibility to Kazakhstan's people*. Back then, many world leaders acted as if those were incompatible goals. I remember meeting briefly with you at a troubled time when pensioners and many other people desperately needed help. Against strong international opposition, you acted forcefully in behalf of those people, assuring not only their survival but also the united future of Kazakhstan. I also recall many difficulties in the early developments of Astana—now recognized as among the wisest actions of a much-challenged nation. It was a blessing for me to meet with you on behalf of the UNDP and the World Bank at an early turning point in Astana's impressive growth. I congratulate you on its splendid development as well as outstanding strengthening of Almaty and metropolitan growth in Shymkent and Aktobe, balanced by other developments throughout Kazakhstan.

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Kazakhstan continues today in its steady leadership in behalf of advancing *institutions of constitutional government*—wisely searching for values of *Human Dignity* via a widely shared *Rule of Law*. One of the internationally admired examples is development of the Agency for Civil Service Affairs with which I worked back in 1999. Fifteen years later in Washington, DC, in March 2014, both Kazakhstan’s internal public-service achievements and its regional leadership were widely acclaimed in international sessions of the American Society for Public Administration annual conference. During the special session on the strategies for improving civil service of Kazakhstan, I was pleased to learn about the recent unparalleled steps forward. The decrease of the number of political appointees by *eight times*, the creation of the Senior Executive Service (titled Corp “A”), and extensive professionalization of the civil service under your leadership are unsurpassed accomplishments. Also, the development of the *Regional Hub of Civil Service in Astana* is an important measure of Kazakhstan’s devotion to responsible interdependence among nations.

Thanks to Kazakhstan for its important global leadership across its decades of challenging development and best wishes for its future promise. Special thanks to you for demonstrating the importance of constitutional government to facilitate responsible market economics and successful social self-governance among the people of Kazakhstan.

Respectfully and Cordially Yours,



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of Public Administration  
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