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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

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FRANK G. LOWENSTEIN, STAFF DIRECTOR
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Dr. Jeffrey Gedmin
President
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty
Prague, Czech Republic

Dear Dr. Gedmin and RFE/RL Staff:

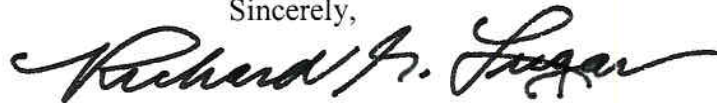
I write today to congratulate you and the entire staff of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on the 60th anniversary of the commencement of your organization's operations.

The founders of RFE/RL would hardly recognize the organization's services today given the geographical expansion of broadcasts from Europe and the nations of the former Soviet Union to Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran today and the use of new media tools, including Facebook and Twitter.

However, not everything has changed. As with your Cold War efforts, today's efforts to inform and engage audiences and promote a free, fair and objective press continue to be met in many nations with suspicion, the harassment of your journalists, and attempts to jam your transmissions. Sadly, these actions are often the best indicators that your work is having a real impact. Nonetheless, your 30 million listeners, readers and viewers are no doubt as grateful as I am for your determined efforts in the face of these adversities.

I wish you all the continued success in the years and decades to come.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Lugar
United States Senator