

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500-0004

Re: Initiative for President Obama to recognize the United Nations International Day of Peace

Dear Mr. President,

Throughout your Presidency, you have honored your promise to listen to and dialogue with all world leaders, including those with different governing structures and ideological backgrounds. Your commitment to opening relations with Cuba and working with Iran to eliminate their nuclear program illustrates your courageous vision for a world where diplomacy has a seat at the table of peace.

As a Nobel Peace Prize recipient, we humbly request that you enhance your Nobel legacy, becoming the first President of the United States to officially recognize the United Nations International Day of Peace celebrated annually on September 21st.

You will be interested in knowing that on September 21 2015, one billion people across the world celebrated the United Nations International Day of Peace! The people have spoken but governments have not responded.

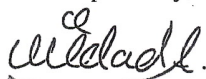
Since its inception in 1981, no President, Democratic or Republican, has officially recognized the United Nations International Day of Peace. This is your opportunity to inspire the American people to celebrate the idea that peace can be more than a universal hope. This single day is meant to be a seed that can be planted within all hearts, citizens of the United States and global citizens alike, to nurture this most basic of human rights.

Please join these many organizations and individuals that are working everyday to build the infrastructures and pathways to peace. Our collaboration is an important effort to help lay the groundwork for achieving peace in our lifetimes.

Mr. President, this is a historic opportunity. Please recognize the International Day of Peace. Unite your legacies as Nobel Laureate with that of a visionary President of United States of America to again make history.

We thank you for your lifetime of service to the American people.

Most Respectfully,



Dr. Widad Akre
Co-founder and President
Defend International
widad@defendinternational.org