**Statement of Callista L. Gingrich
Nominee to be Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation and
the Principality of Liechtenstein
United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
May 8, 2025**

Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Shaheen, and Distinguished Members of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations:

It is an honor to appear before you today as President Donald J. Trump’s nominee to serve as the United States Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein. I am deeply grateful for the trust and confidence the President has placed in me.

I’m pleased to be joined today by my husband, Newt. We both hold this Committee in the highest regard for its vital work in shaping U.S. foreign policy. If confirmed, I look forward to working closely with you and your staff.

The United States enjoys strong, collaborative, and growing relationships with both Switzerland and Liechtenstein—built on shared democratic values, robust economic ties, and mutual respect.

Switzerland is the sixth-largest investor in the United States, with over $350 billion in investments supporting nearly 500,000 American jobs. It is also the largest foreign source of research and development in the U.S., contributing nearly $15 billion annually. Swiss investors bring more capital to our economy than those from France and Italy combined. Switzerland also sends more visitors per capita to the U.S. than any other nation, strengthening our cultural bonds.

More than 1,200 American companies operate in Switzerland, making the U.S. Switzerland’s top foreign investor. Although our countries do not have a free trade agreement, we have signed numerous agreements to expand bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Switzerland has made important procurements to modernize its military including a $6 billion procurement for thirty-six U.S. F-35 fighter jets and a $2 billion procurement for a U.S. Patriot air defense system, as part of its Air2030 Modernization Program.

We also deeply value Switzerland’s longstanding role as our protecting power in Iran, a responsibility it has carried out since 1980.

Our relationship with Liechtenstein, formally established in 1997, is also significant. Based on shared values, Liechtenstein is a reliable partner whose companies contribute to U.S. jobs and growth. The U.S. is both the top foreign investor in Liechtenstein and a major destination for its investment.

These ties—economic, cultural, and diplomatic—are rooted in our shared commitment to democratic principles.

If confirmed, I will work to strengthen these partnerships, expand economic opportunities, deepen bilateral investment and trade, and promote the values our nations share.

I understand the weight of representing the President of the United States abroad. As a former U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, I bring the diplomatic experience, leadership, and perspective necessary for this role. I am also personally honored by this nomination, given my mother’s Swiss heritage.

As a former ambassador, business owner, author, and documentary film producer, I am humbled by the opportunity to serve my country once again.

Mr. Chairman, Madam Ranking Member, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I welcome your questions.