

Statement of Amy Gutmann
Nominee to be U.S. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany
Submitted to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee
December 14, 2021

Chairman Menendez, Ranking Member Risch, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today. I also want to thank the Senators from my home state of Pennsylvania, Senator Casey and Senator Toomey, for their support and friendship.

I would like to introduce my husband of 45 years, Michael W. Doyle, to the committee. His love and wry wit provide constant sustenance, as do our daughter Abigail and son-in-law Jakub, who regret that they could not be here today.

I am deeply grateful to President Biden and Secretary Blinken for placing their confidence in the daughter of a Jewish German refugee—and a first-generation college graduate—to represent our nation to one of our closest and most important European Allies. More than an honor, it would be my privilege and duty, if confirmed, to work closely with this Committee and Congress as the United States Ambassador to Germany.

My father's journey to the United States made the most profound impression on me. After fleeing Hitler's Germany and saving the lives of his parents and siblings, Kurt Gutmann found a home in the United States. He instilled in me what it means to lead as an American. Never forget and always stand up against anti-Semitism, racism, and all forms of hatred, bigotry, and discrimination. Work to advance freedom and democracy, prosperity and the rule of law, national security and respect for the dignity of all. "Democracy doesn't happen by accident," as President Biden has observed. "We have to defend it, fight for it, strengthen it, renew it."

These shared values and interests have formed the foundation of the cooperation between the United States and a democratic Germany for decades.

My professional life has been devoted to advancing freedom and democracy. As President of the University of Pennsylvania, the largest private employer in Philadelphia and the second largest in Pennsylvania, I expanded educational opportunities while championing free speech, civil dialogue, and global diplomacy. Innovation and economic growth have soared, generating thousands of jobs while revolutionizing life-saving patient care. Most recently, Penn research enabled companies in the United States and Germany to produce vaccines based on modified mRNA that are saving millions of lives in record time. My scholarship also has centered on advancing values and interests key to America's global leadership.

If confirmed, I will work to further strengthen our bilateral and multilateral partnerships with Germany. I highlight just three key priorities here.

First, I will work closely with Congress and the many agencies represented by Mission Germany to maximize the benefits of our bilateral relationship. This includes increasing trade and

investment, combating climate change, strengthening global health, resisting weaponized energy flows, and countering corruption, terrorism, and malign influence.

Second, I will engage in robust and inclusive public diplomacy to strengthen the foundations of our bilateral relationship. I will engage younger generations of Germans, many with refugee parents like me, to discuss the United States' role in helping to rebuild a prosperous, united, and democratic Germany. That story, rebuilding Germany after the Holocaust to be a champion for democratic principles and human rights, is an example to the world.

Third, I will advocate to strengthen our Transatlantic alliances and European partnerships, central among them NATO and the EU. The stronger and more capable our multilateral partnerships, the more effective we will be in realizing the boundless opportunities in a free and open rule-based order. Partnership with Germany is essential to deterring Russian plans to take further and more significant aggressive moves against Ukraine, and to addressing the challenges to our shared security, prosperity and values posed by the PRC.

An essential foundation for advancing our national interests will be supporting the safety, security, and morale of Mission Germany. This includes the 473 U.S. direct hires, 1,033 family members, and 703 local staff representing nine Cabinet-level and five other independent federal agencies at the Embassy and five consulates, as well as our military service members and all American citizens living in Germany. Whether addressing unexplained health incidents or the physical security of our mission, the health and safety of my team will be my top priority. Our dedicated, hard-working, and unsurpassed public servants and uniformed personnel deserve no less.

Chairman Menendez, Ranking Member Risch, and Members of the Committee, I am greatly honored to have been nominated to serve as United States Ambassador to a country that is such an important partner with ours, and with which I have such a historically meaningful connection. If confirmed, I would be excited to begin work during this key juncture in our relations, as a new German government is stepping onto the global stage. I pledge that I will serve the American people with honor and dignity, and I will work to foster an even stronger alliance between the United States and Germany based on our common interests and shared values.

Thank you for your consideration. I welcome your questions.