

Statement of Ronald Johnson
Nominee for U.S. Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina
Senate Foreign Relations Committee
September 17, 2026

Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Shaheen, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee to be the U.S. Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina. I am grateful to President Trump and Secretary Rubio for their confidence in me, and I appreciate the Committee's consideration of my nomination.

I am deeply honored and privileged to be the President's nominee to serve as the United States Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Throughout my military career and in the years since my retirement, I have continued to work extensively overseas as a consultant and advisor, engaging directly with foreign governments, senior military and civilian leadership, across diverse countries with complex environments. Those experiences have taught me the importance of strong relationships, candid communication, respect for our partners, and a clear understanding of America's interests and responsibilities abroad. I recognize that Bosnia and Herzegovina presents complex and enduring challenges, but I believe my experience, leadership background, and understanding of the region have prepared me to address those challenges with determination and sound judgment.

If confirmed, I will work to protect U.S. citizens and advance American interests in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I look forward to working with Congress in support of President Trump's America First foreign policy agenda.

The United States remains committed to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the peace brought by the Dayton Peace Agreement. Dayton ended a devastating conflict in the heart of Europe and laid the foundation for three decades of stability and progress. Today, the United States seeks a stable, secure, and prosperous Bosnia and Herzegovina that is a constructive partner of the United States.

If confirmed, I will work to preserve stability and encourage responsible leadership across Bosnia and Herzegovina. With elections fast approaching, it is important that political leaders focus on responsible governance and deliver tangible results for the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. I will engage broadly and consistently with all communities and across the political spectrum to help reduce tensions,

discourage escalation, and maintain stability, which will create the conditions conducive to a better future for all.

Thirty years after Dayton, Bosnia and Herzegovina's future should increasingly be shaped by its own leaders and institutions. If confirmed, I will encourage pragmatic, locally driven solutions to political and economic challenges and support efforts to strengthen cooperation among Bosnia and Herzegovina's various communities. The United States can play an important role as a partner and facilitator, helping create conditions for long-term peace and prosperity while empowering local leaders to take greater responsibility for their country's future.

If confirmed, I will also prioritize expanding economic and commercial cooperation between the United States and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Greater trade, investment, and energy cooperation can create opportunities for American businesses while supporting economic growth and prosperity in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I will work to advance energy security, expand U.S. exports, and promote a business environment that welcomes American investment in critical sectors.

The United States is committed to promoting stability and prosperity in the region. If confirmed, I will work with Bosnia and Herzegovina and our partners to limit opportunities for malign influence from Russia and China. I will work with counterparts to degrade transnational criminal organizations and other malign actors that exploit political, economic, and security vulnerabilities. A stable and prosperous Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the interest of both the United States and the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Shaheen, and Members of the Committee, thank you for your consideration. If confirmed, I will work diligently to advance American interests, protect U.S. citizens, and strengthen our partnership with Bosnia and Herzegovina. I look forward to your questions.