



Remarks by Ambassador Noah Mamet
Election Night reception
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016, 11:00 PM, CMR

Ladies and gentleman, friends and colleagues, thank you for joining us for this historic evening. Welcome to the Bosch Palace, where over the years of our bilateral relationship we've hosted numerous events that celebrate our two countries' commitment to democracy. It is an honor and a privilege to share this experience with so many friends and colleagues here tonight. I'd like to thank Citibank, Dell, ExxonMobil, Microsoft, Park Hyatt Hotel, Starbucks, and Turner for their generosity in partnering with us to make this evening possible.

The people of the United States have spoken. Just as Barack Obama's election in 2008 broke through the race barrier, voters today have shattered forever another glass ceiling. Ninety-seven long years have passed since women in the United States first gained the right to vote in a hard-fought civil rights struggle. In those days, the suffragettes picketed outside the White House to demand their citizen's right to vote. Today, at last, we can look forward to watching the first female leader ever take the oath of office and move into the Oval Office.

Today's outcome reminds us all that the United States has not lost its way as it strives towards achieving that "more perfect Union" envisioned in our Constitution. Despite all the heat and rancor of the campaign this year, I am today so very proud to be a citizen of the

United States. While the divisiveness of this campaign has long dominated our attention, I am confident that this election will long be remembered instead for the historic nature of electing our first woman President.

It is no secret that I spent my former career in politics, and that I spent that career working for one particular party, and much of that time working for one particular set of candidates. As a matter of fact, a lot of that time was working for the Clintons. All the way back in 1992 I worked on Bill Clinton's presidential campaign, and worked for Secretary Clinton's first shot at the presidency in 2008. So I think few people here will be surprised when I say that Hillary Clinton will make an excellent president.

When I was preparing for the remarks I wanted to give tonight, I knew one thing for sure. I knew that no matter who would win, Argentina and the United States will continue to be close friends and partners. Since I arrived in Argentina as Ambassador, I have been privileged to see the relationship between our countries grow and strengthen first-hand. I know that no matter what the results were tonight, that relationship will only get stronger.

But, as I happen to have a little bit of an idea of who Hillary is as a leader and as a person, I can say with absolute conviction that the future for the relationship of our countries is brighter than ever. President Elect Clinton will continue the important work President Obama has done on the global stage, and will be an excellent partner and, I believe, friend of President Macri.

Secretary Clinton is known for her collaborative leadership style. You can read insightful articles about how she consults widely before making a decision. I think this spirit of cooperation and participation is going to extend to her presidency. And that means exciting things for the relationship between our countries. Our work on refugees is going to continue

and grow. Our work to stop narco-trafficking will continue to expand. Our educational exchanges are surely going to increase, and the Friends of Fulbright program is just getting started. The future is bright for the Argentine-American relationship.

Another reason I'm excited about Hillary Clinton's victory is that we shared the privilege to work with all the staff of the State Department. As Secretary of State she saw first-hand, just like I do every day, the amazing work our Foreign Service Officers and Locally Employed Staff do to bring the people of our two countries together. Those of you who know me know that I spend a lot of time talking about the amazing diplomats I get to work with, and I'm constantly sharing how impressed I am that these people dedicated their careers to building bridges instead of building walls. I've never felt prouder to say that, especially the wall part, than I am tonight.

In my introduction, I welcomed you to our celebration of democracy. And that really is what we are doing tonight. We're honoring our two countries' profound belief that the people decide their own future and the future of their government. And that even after so much hard work for one candidate or the other, and after so much has been said, what we all want is a better future for our families and our neighbors. Tonight is an historic night with our first-ever female President and Commander in Chief. Again, I want to say how honored I am to share this night with you. Thank you for joining us, and please join me in raising a glass to congratulate **President Elect Clinton**.