



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 19, 2018

Her Excellency  
Erna Solberg  
Prime Minister of Norway  
Oslo

Dear Madam Prime Minister:

Norway is the “eyes and ears” of the northern flank of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), contributes troops to the German-led multinational battle group in Lithuania, and has been a gracious host to 350 United States Marines. As we look forward to the NATO Summit, I appreciate Norway’s action to increase its defense spending. Norway however, remains the only NATO Ally sharing a border with Russia that lacks a credible plan to spend 2 percent of its gross domestic product on defense.

When we met in January, you spoke of Norway as the second largest spender per capita on defense behind the United States, and of your procurement of quality military equipment, including F-35s from the United States. These are good first steps.

I understand domestic political pressures, as I myself have expended considerable political capital to increase our own defense spending. It will, however, become increasingly difficult to justify to American citizens why some countries continue to fail to meet our shared collective security commitments.

At the Summit, we must ensure Alliance credibility by living up to our agreed commitments. I, therefore, expect to see a strong recommitment by Norway to meet the goals to which we all agreed in the Defense Investment Pledge.

Sincerely,

A large, bold, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Donald Trump".