

## **All Roads Lead to Riyadh V.3\_492025**

*HRH Ambassador Reema Bandar Al-Saud*

Over the past eight decades, the alliance between Saudi Arabia and the United States has been a cornerstone for global stability and prosperity. Today, as the world navigates new challenges and conflicts, that partnership is more critical than ever.

This is why the Kingdom looks forward to welcoming the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, his “first overseas state visit” for the second time, at a moment pivotal for global peace, security and prosperity.

When President Trump embarked on his first Presidential visit to the Kingdom in 2017, our country was already undergoing a tremendous transformation – redefining its economic, social and cultural landscape through the launch of Vision 2030. Nearly eight years later, President Trump will step off Air Force One to find the Vision becoming a reality. And along with the many changes, one constant remains; the Kingdom’s enduring partnership with the United States built upon friendship and mutual trust, and perhaps most importantly, a commitment to building a better tomorrow.

As we proudly open our doors to President Trump and his delegation, we look to highlight the tremendous journey our nation has undertaken – and the new heights our relationship with the U.S. has reached now including sectors like manufacturing, technology, cyber security and even space exploration. During my time as Ambassador, I’ve witnessed the incredible impact of U.S. companies investing in Saudi, as well as Saudi companies investing in the United States. This represents the central pillar of our relationship – people to people connections built on mutual interests.

The Saudi Arabia President Trump will visit is one that is investing billions of dollars in fostering new economic sectors such as tourism, artificial intelligence, clean energy, culture and sports. A dynamic society where youth are pioneering the future and where women are at the forefront of the Vision.

Saudi Arabia's non-oil economy now contributes 50% to the country's real GDP, marking a historic milestone. Saudi women make up nearly 40% of our work force, with many in leadership positions, enjoying the same rights as men, including equal pay. Young Saudis are experiencing a renaissance in arts, entertainment, sports, and science, all while preserving our proud cultural heritage. This is a new Saudi Arabia, open to the world, and we invite Americans to look closer.

This is the real story of the new and developing Saudi Arabia—a story of greater equality and inclusiveness. While there’s still work to be done, the recent progress for women and the economic and social opportunities being created for our youth are truly profound and position the Kingdom for the next phase of our strategic partnership with the United States.

In the Kingdom, we believe that a sustainable partnership begins with reciprocity. The Crown Prince’s pledge of investing \$600 billion in the United States over the next four years promises

mutual prosperity aligning with our own diversification goals under Vision 2030 and the President's goals for economic growth.

Saudi Arabia, strategically positioned in the heart of the Middle East, has long been a linchpin for global peace and diplomacy. Today, amid an increasingly volatile geopolitical landscape, leadership and alliances are more vital than ever. From counterterrorism efforts to peacekeeping initiatives, Saudi Arabia's leadership has been instrumental in leveraging its strategic position and resources for regional and global security.

Almost every major global challenge is being addressed with urgency through collaboration and a strong Saudi – U.S. alliance. From conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, to stability in Syria, and Sudan, Saudi Arabia is playing a critical role in addressing the world's most pressing challenges. And the partnership with the United States is essential to success.

Together, we are mediators, allies and stewards leveraging our strengths to foster peace and security. And that is what makes President Trump's visit so timely. President Trump's agenda – spanning trade, investment, energy security and counterterrorism – is in sync with our own goals.

Saudi Arabia stands ready to leverage its relationships, provide neutral ground and fulfill our obligation to promote peace where we can. The Ukraine-Russia conflict further highlights our role as a mediator, working with our U.S. counterparts to bring peace and stability to Europe and beyond. We share President Trump's view that the war has cost too many lives. This reflects our broader foreign policy agenda, which seeks stability and prosperity across borders.

On energy, our leadership in OPEC and OPEC + have ensured reliable, affordable energy ensuring stability amid geopolitical crises. And, while Saudi Arabia remains the world's largest oil exporter, we are simultaneously pioneering a greener future – with innovative green energy solutions, a commitment to net-zero through a circular carbon economy framework and global collaboration.

For shared security, we look forward to deepening our partnership with the U.S. The Kingdom has always been at the forefront of global and regional efforts to counter shared challenges and threats, including terrorism and extremism, and securing vital waterways critical to the global economy. And, by investing in defense, largely through partnerships with US companies, we are not only enhancing security, but also creating hundreds of thousands of U.S. jobs.

The Saudi-U.S. alliance is not just history—it is a reimagined future. The relationship isn't monolithic. But its breadth and depth maintains the vitality of our partnership to the benefit of both nations. Together, we navigate a challenging world, ensuring resilience and shared success.

As all roads lead to Riyadh, we look forward to continuing a partnership that advances progress, security, peace, and prosperity for generations to come.

*HRH Reema Bandar Al-Saud is the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United States of America.*