

fear of bullying. And you've made some very courageous statements on that issue, and I appreciate that very much.

We talked about energy independence, and you explained to me your situation with your present power and your future strategies. And I want to thank you very much for being forthright with your strategy and understanding that the more independent you are from an energy perspective, the more independent you are from a political perspective. And I thought that was very wise, and we'll try to help you as best as we can.

And finally, our hope and—is that by mid-October, there will be visa waiver granted to the citizens of Lithuania. You've worked hard for that issue, and it's—I think you can take back to your people a very positive report about this very important initiative. And you and your Government deserve a lot of credit for it.

All in all, I've really enjoyed working with you. There's a lot more to do in 4 months, and I plan on doing it. And I know you and I will be, you know, working together. So thank you very much for coming.

President Adamkus. Thank you, Mr. President. First of all, I would like to express the gratitude by the entire Lithuanian nation for your constant support, and if that

would not be for you, I don't believe we would be the members of NATO and that the entire security question in the region would be at doubt.

President Bush. Thank you.

President Adamkus. Now, we definitely have some problems, like you just indicated with the press, about energy. We're trying to resolve it. Hopefully, we will, with your help. And since we need United States presence more, as I indicated to you, European Union is coming up with own foreign policies and policies for Europe. But without United States presence, definitely that will be job not completed. So I hope that the United States will be visible, just like I ask you if the United States will be more visible in the Baltic region over there, just to show our neighbors that we're definitely not alone.

And we are building the democracy together, not, I mean, by individually, state by state. And all those years I have worked with you here, those over there—memorable, great years. Thank you very much, on behalf of all the Lithuanian people.

President Bush. Thank you, sir. Thank you. Yes.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:50 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Remarks Following a Meeting With President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine

September 29, 2008

President Bush. I was disappointed in the vote with the United States Congress on the economic rescue plan. We put forth a plan that was big because we got a big problem. I'm going to be talking to my economic advisers after my meeting here with the President, and we'll be working with Members of Congress—leaders of Congress on the way forward. Our strategy

is to continue to address this situation—economic situation head on. And we'll be working to develop a strategy that will enable us to continue to move forward.

Mr. President, welcome. I welcome you here to the Oval Office. I admire your steadfast support for democratic values and principles. A lot of Americans have watched with amazement how your country became

a democracy. We strongly support your democracy. We look forward to working with you to strengthen that democracy.

You and I just had a good discussion about a variety of issues. We discussed, you know, the NATO and the membership application process. We discussed energy independence. We discussed ways that we can work together to bring stability and peace to parts of the world. And I thank you for joining us here in Washington in the Oval Office, and I send my respects to the people of Ukraine.

President Yushchenko. First of all, Mr. President, I would like to thank for the atmosphere that our negotiations were held in. We had our conversation in a very constructive manner. We touched upon the range of issues, starting from our bilateral relations and the implementation of U.S.-Ukraine action plan. And we consider this roadmap as being implemented in a successful way. A lot of attention was paid to security component and security itself, and a special attention was paid towards Ukraine integration into European and Euro-Atlantic structures.

We raised the issue of energy cooperation, which is a very urgent issue for us. And we believe that we've done excellent

job on the adaptation of American nuclear fuel for our nuclear power units, and we intend to continue that.

We also discussed the domestic political situation in Ukraine, which in my opinion is far away from being tragic, and nondramatic. Ukraine has enough democratic resource and tools to give sufficient response to any crisis that may occur in the Ukrainian Parliament. And this is probably where the Ukrainian strength and optimism is.

I also asked Mr. President to delegate the high-ranking delegation from the United States of America to participate in the commemorating events of the great famine in Ukraine of 1932 and 1933. The commemoration day will be on November the 22d, and this will be the commemoration of the biggest humanitarian catastrophe in our country. And we need to do everything for that issue to be included in the UNGA agenda.

President Bush. Thank you, sir.

President Yushchenko. Thank you.

President Bush. You're welcome.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:25 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. President Yushchenko spoke in Ukrainian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Message on the Observance of Rosh Hashanah, 5769 September 29, 2008

I send greetings to those celebrating Rosh Hashanah.

On this occasion of spiritual reflection, people of the Jewish faith in our country and around the world recognize the blessings from the Almighty as they commemorate the anniversary of the creation of the world. During this holy time, men and women take time to remember the past, contemplate the sweetness of the new year, and look forward to a promising future.

This special occasion is also an opportunity to celebrate the history of the Jewish people and the values that bind us all together.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a meaningful Rosh Hashanah and L'shanah tovah.

GEORGE W. BUSH

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.