

the opportunity for this meeting here. And mainly, the G-20 will afford us an opportunity, during these 2 days of meeting, not only to talk about European matters, but also about global matters that matter to both of us and that are of common interest.

And let me say again that I very fondly remember the evening in the White House and the award.

Thank you.

President Obama. Thank you, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:05 a.m. at the InterContinental Carlton Cannes Hotel. Chancellor Merkel spoke in German, and her remarks were translated by an interpreter. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the audio was incomplete.

Statement on Senate Action on Job Growth Legislation *November 3, 2011*

For the third time in recent weeks, every single Republican in the United States Senate has chosen to obstruct a jobs bill that independent economists said would boost our economy and put Americans back to work. At a time when more than a million construction workers are looking for a job, they voted no to putting them back to work doing the work America needs done: rebuilding our roads, bridges, airports, and transit systems. That makes no sense.

It makes no sense when you consider that this bill was made up of the same kinds of commonsense proposals that many of these Senators have fought for in the past. It was fully paid for. And even though it was supported by more than 70 percent of the American people—Republicans, Democrats, and Independents—100 percent of Senate Republicans

said no. It's more clear than ever that Republicans in Washington are out of touch with Americans from all ends of the political spectrum.

The American people deserve to know why their Republican representatives in Washington refuse to put some of the workers hit hardest by the economic downturn back on the job rebuilding America. They deserve an explanation as to why Republicans refuse to step up to the plate and do what's necessary to create jobs and grow the economy right now. It's time for Republicans in Congress to put country ahead of party and listen to the people they were elected to serve. It's time for them to do their job and focus on Americans' jobs. And until they do, I will continue to do everything in my power to move this country forward.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner of Argentina in Cannes *November 4, 2011*

President Obama. Well, it is wonderful to be joined by the President of Argentina, a great friend of not only mine, but the United States. We've spent a lot of time together at the G-20, and I have very much appreciated the engagement and the passion that President Kirchner has brought to the important global issues that we've been discussing.

Obviously, there are a lot of bonds between Argentina and the United States that date back many years, and this is an excellent opportunity

for us to build on that history. We have a wide range of areas of common interest and common concern. We'll be discussing the possibilities of deeper cooperation on economics, on trade, on science, on technology, and on security issues. And we'll also have a chance to discuss the upcoming Summit of the Americas in Colombia, and how we can set an agenda that focuses on increasing prosperity and employment and opportunity for people throughout the Americas.