

**Speech by Dean of the Diplomatic Corps Ricardo Alvarado,  
Ambassador of the Republic of Nicaragua on 1 February 2018**

H.E. President Sauli Niinistö, H.E. Jenni Haukio, H.E. Timo Soini,  
distinguished Excellencies, dear friends all

On behalf of my colleagues, the Heads of Missions of the Diplomatic Corps in Helsinki please allow me to extend our warmest congratulations to you, Mr. President, on your re-election as President of the Republic of Finland, winning in the first round of voting with a strong mandate.

We also wish to congratulate the people of this great nation, who peacefully exercised their right to vote last Sunday, showing one more time their unbreakable commitment to democracy and their firm determination to build a better future for all. Once again the land of Sauna, Sisu, and Sibelius is confirmed as an exemplary land of peace and freedom.

Mr. President, the last six years were a time of progress for Finland that gained our admiration and respect. During your first term as president, we had the privilege of witnessing your full dedication and leadership, leading Finland as one of the world's most stable and respected democracies.

We wish you all the best and every success in the coming six years, and encourage you, Mr. President, to maintain an active role in promoting a greener and more sustainable society for all, a world based on equality, justice, solidarity, respect for the environment, and peace everywhere, from North to South and from East to West.

We also hope that during your second term we will be able to further develop the ties of friendship and collaboration between Finland and our countries for the benefit of your people, our people and the entire world.

*Herra Presidentti, vielä kerran haluamme onnitella Teitä uudelleenvalintanne johdosta. Toivotamme myös onnea tehtävässäanne johtaa tätä upeata valtiota ja sen hienoa kansaa aina vain valoisampaan tulevaisuuteen. Kaikkea hyvää Suomelle, demokratian, rauhan ja tasa-arvon maalle.*

Mr. President, please let us also wish you all the success in your personal life, including the upcoming member of your family and, we cannot forget, your international superstar dog, Lennu. Once again, please accept our warmest congratulations.