**Donald Trump**
**President of the United States**
**The White House**
**1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW**
**Washington, DC 20500**
**USA**

January 2025

Dear Mr President,

Please close the detention centre in Guantánamo Bay. Not only since the publication of the so-called CIA Torture Report in 2014 on the interrogation programme in question has it been clear that secret and arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, torture and ill-treatment were systematically used by the US authorities.

Some of the tortured detainees are still at Guantánamo Bay and not a single representative of the US authorities has ever been brought to justice for these serious human rights violations.

23 years after the start of operations, 26 detainees are still being held at Guantánamo Bay. Some of them have been held without charge for more than a decade and face indefinite detention without trial.

Ten detainees have been tried before so-called military commissions and two others have been convicted by these military commissions. The military commissions do not meet international standards for a fair trial based on the rule of law and also work very slowly. Due to the long detention period and inadequate and sometimes degrading access to healthcare in Guantánamo, many detainees are suffering from initial health problems.

I therefore call for

* The detention centre in Guantánamo Bay must be closed immediately. The practice of indefinite detention without charge or trial must end.
* All detainees must be given access to fair, constitutional trials in a civilian federal court in the US, excluding the death penalty, or be immediately released and transferred to countries where they will not face further human rights violations, including the US if this is the only option.
* Former or serving representatives of US authorities responsible for human rights violations at Guantánamo or in connection with the CIA torture programme must be held criminally accountable, taking into account internationally recognised crimes such as torture and enforced disappearances. Those detainees who have suffered human rights violations must be given access to adequate compensation.
* Prisoners must have access to adequate health care without degrading practices.

Yours sincerely

**Copy to:**

**BOTSCHAFT DER VEREINIGTEN STAATEN VON AMERIKA
Geschäftsträger Alan Meltzer Clayallee 170, 14195 Berlin,Fax: 030 – 831 49 26,**