



**National Endowment
for Democracy**
Supporting freedom around the world



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Statement on Events at the U.S. Capitol

Carl Gershman, President National Endowment for Democracy
Derek Mitchell, President, National Democratic Institute
Dan Twining, President, International Republican Institutes
Shawna Bader-Blau, Ex. Director, Solidarity Center
Andrew Wilson, Ex. Director, Ctr. For International Private Enterprise

“We are appalled by the violent and seditious assault at the United States Capitol today. Nonetheless, we are confident in the enduring strength of American institutions, and that any attempts to subvert our democracy will not succeed. Those involved in illegal activity today must be held to account.”

“A fundamental tenet of democracy is the peaceful contest of ideas among fellow citizens under law. After a free and fair election, when incumbents are defeated, a peaceful transfer of power must result. It is through such democratic processes that fundamental freedoms are protected, and opportunity and justice are possible for all. We know from decades of experience that the job of democracy is never done, and that democracy is fragile. But we also know it is resilient.”

“We have faith that our country will soon begin a period of national healing that will renew our democracy. As Americans continue on their difficult but historic journey to form a “more perfect union” at home, we want to reaffirm our commitment to stand in solidarity with all those around the world who share democratic values and who continue to fight against all those who would subvert them.”

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