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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
CHAIR – SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK AND
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WILDLIFE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE, EURASIA, ENERGY
AND THE ENVIRONMENT

**TRANSATLANTIC LEGISLATORS'
DIALOGUE**
CHAIR

NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
MEMBER

July 26, 2022

The Honorable Peter May
Chairman
National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Chairman May and Members of the Commission,

As a cosponsor of H.R. 6611 and US Chair of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue (TLD), I urge careful consideration and support for this legislation. H.R. 6611, introduced by Representative Bill Keating earlier this year, would authorize the establishment of a commemorative work in Washington, D.C. to honor the contributions of French Diplomat Jean Monnet. I thank Congressman Keating for leading this legislation.

Jean Monnet was a distinguished French diplomat whose efforts in the immediate post-World War II era were instrumental in the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community, which was a precursor to what eventually became the European Union (EU). Monnet drafted a plan for a European Community that became known as the Schuman Declaration after being delivered by French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman in May 1950. Due to these accomplishments, Monnet is widely considered a “founding father” of the EU. His vision argued that a unified and economically integrated Europe would lead to long-term peace and stability on the continent.

Monnet was a strong ally and partner of the United States. He spent time in Washington, DC during World War II and was a strong advocate for US military assistance to the Allied countries. During his time in Washington, Monnet lived near Rock Creek Park and frequently took long walks in what he referred to as “my park.” Monnet claimed that it was on these walks that he thought out and developed plans to achieve lasting peace through a unified Europe.

The Transatlantic alliance is among our most important. The TLD, launched in 1999, is the formal exchange between Congress and the European Parliament, and strengthens the ties between the US and our Transatlantic partners. The United States benefits from a strong European Union to achieve our shared goals of peace, democracy, and economic prosperity. Jean Monnet’s vision provided the foundation of the partnership the United States has today in a strong and stable Europe.

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With this in mind, I urge the Commission to faithfully consider this legislation that would authorize a fitting tribute to Jean Monnet, a critical figure in European history and our Transatlantic Relationship. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Costa". The signature is stylized and cursive.

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress