

*Ambassade de France
aux Etats-Unis*

L' Ambassadeur

Washington, D.C., September 27, 2018

Dear Mr. Ouelhadj,
Dear friends,

France enjoys an extremely close partnership with the United States. Our economic relations are stronger than ever. Bilateral trade reached \$139 billion last year, an increase of 16% compared with 2016. In 2017, France became the leading foreign source of job creation in the United States, reflecting the strength of our bilateral investment.

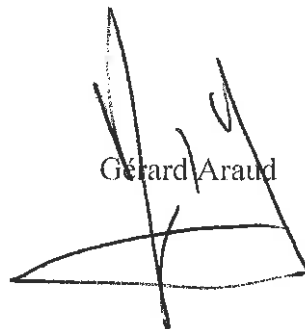
This momentum is evident in Florida, where French multinational companies account for 29,000 jobs, making our country the third largest foreign economic presence in the Sunshine State. Yet these figures do not include the many businesses created locally by French nationals, which also contribute to the vitality of Florida's economy.

The French Weeks event organized every year by the French-American Chamber of Commerce, with the support of our Consulate General in Miami and other stakeholders in the French community, provides a perfect opportunity to reach out to our Floridian friends with this message of dynamism and mutual interest.

The French-American Chamber of Commerce of Miami plays a key role in developing economic relations between France and Florida. I also welcome its commitment to strengthening our overseas trade support network, in close cooperation with Business France. Our firms are very talented, and it is this team spirit that will take them even further.

My best wishes for a successful French Weeks 2018!

Gérard Araud

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping lines that form a stylized representation of the name 'Gérard Araud'.