



THE PRESIDENT

Jerusalem, April 27, 2020

Dear friends, our brothers and sisters around the world,

Every year we celebrate, from near and far, the anniversary of the greatest miracle of our people in modern time – the establishment of the Jewish and democratic State of Israel. This year too, even during the tough times of the Covid-19 international crisis, no virus can keep us from celebrating this special day.

This is not the first time that we are celebrating Yom Ha'atzmaut, our Independence Day, in a time of great challenges. Throughout history, our people has faced great dangers and threats that have never broken us, but rather made us stronger and united us. It is thanks to our core values of determination, solidarity and mutual responsibility, ערבות הדדית, that the State of Israel survived and grew into a strong democracy, built both on our ancient traditions and on our start-up spirit.

These values will allow us to overcome the great challenges of corona as well. Israeli start-ups and research centers are already making important contributions to the global fight against corona, and I know that the State of Israel and the People of Israel will emerge even stronger from this crisis.

In these days, when we are separated from family and friends, it becomes clear how much we need each other, how deeply we are connected to one another. It makes us feel, more than ever, that we are one family with a shared history, shared values and a shared destiny.

I look forward to celebrating with all of you next year in Jerusalem.

חג עצמאות שמח!

Yours sincerely,


Reuven (Ruvi) Rivlin