

# STATE OF ILLINOIS



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, Europe Day is held every year on May 9<sup>th</sup>, commemorating the anniversary of the 1950 "Schuman Declaration" - the first step toward the creation of what is now the European Union (EU) of 27 European countries; and,*

*WHEREAS, Europe Day is celebrated every year on May 9<sup>th</sup> in the United States, which has supported the process of European integration since 1953 when it first established diplomatic relations with the European Union in its original form; and,*

*WHEREAS, ties between the European Union and the United States are founded on shared values of democracy, rule of law, human rights, and equality; and,*

*WHEREAS, the United States has always seen a strong, prosperous, and peaceful Europe as fundamentally in its interest; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Consulates General of the Member States of the European Union in the State of Illinois serve as a vital bridge between the EU and the United States, helping to foster cultural, commercial, and people-to-people connections between our two regions; and,*

*WHEREAS, the State of Illinois acknowledges the positive contribution to our region from links to the European Union and from Europeans who now call Illinois home; and,*

*WHEREAS, today, the European Union and the United States stand side by side as friends and strategic partners on the international stage in the defense of our shared values;*

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 9, 2024, to be **European Union-American Friendship Day** in Illinois and convey my warmest congratulations and best wishes to the European Union Member States and their respective communities.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*

*this \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ APRIL \_\_\_\_\_, in*

*the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and*

*\_\_\_\_\_ TWENTY-FOUR \_\_\_\_\_, and of the State of Illinois,*

*two hundred and \_\_\_\_\_ FIFTH \_\_\_\_\_.*



*Alexi Giannoulis*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR