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## INTERNATIONAL EURASIA PRESS FUND

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8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Napa Valley

Dear Friends.

On behalf of the International Eurasia Press Fund, it is my great pleasure to congratulate Mrs. Heidi Kuhn on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "Roots of Peace".

Mrs. Heidi Kuhn's initiative to eradicate mines and turn minefields into vineyards and orchards around the world has impacted the lives of millions of people. The idea of "Mines to Vines" was started in order to sow seeds of peace in war zones area, and this is successfully implemented in different countries of the world today.

In March of this year, the seeds of "Roots of Peace" were sown in Azerbaijan. On the eve of International Women's Day, Heidi Kuhn visited the mined contaminated Karabakh - Azerbaijan. I would like to mention that we have signed a memorandum of cooperation with "Roots of Peace" in Baku, Azerbaijan. We promised to do our best to turn Karabakh back into a flourishing garden. Now we are already starting the implementation of the "Mines to Vines" initiative in Karabakh. We shall see the roots of peace also sprout in another war-affected country.

I want to share that on October 14, the International Eurasia Press Fund will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Heidi Kuhn will also attend our event as an honored guest. We as IEPF translated and published Heidi Kuhn's book "Breaking Ground" for Azerbaijani readers. After reading the book and meeting her, I say without hesitation: that one of the fifty most powerful women on the planet, and perhaps the first, is Heidi Kuhn. My best wishes to you and your team in your movement for peace.

All steps for peace!

Sincerely,

**Umud Mirzayev** 

President of International Eurasia Press Fund

IEPF has been functioning in Azerbaijan since 1992. IEPF works in 5 main activity directions of: Media and Civil Society development; Refugees and IDPs issues; Community development; and Peacemaking actions, Conflict Resolutions and Education. IEPF is a member of several International networks and programs such as: US Department of State, Private Partnership Program; the International Press Institute (IPI); the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), the International Peace Bureau (IPB), the Northern Alliance for Sustainability (ANPED) etc. IEPF is having a General Consultative Status with the ECOSOC division of the United Nations since 2014.