

A Letter to the President

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To His Excellency Luis Abinader Corona

President of the Dominican Republic

National Palace, Santo Domingo

Mr. President,

I am writing this from a nation that is arguably the beating heart of the Caribbean. While much of the world sees us through the lens of tourist brochures—white sands and all-inclusive resorts—we are, in truth, a dynamic, restless, and deeply ambitious nation of nearly 11 million people. We are larger than our neighbor Haiti, more populous than Switzerland, and twice the size of Israel. Yet, despite this scale, we are often viewed merely as a vacation destination rather than the economic engine of the region that we truly are.

We are a nation that works hard. Our economy, while bolstered by the beauty of our beaches, is driven by the grit of those in industry, mining, and agriculture. We are the world's major producer of high-quality tobacco, a key exporter of gold and

ferronickel, and a leader in regional trade. But look at our streets, Mr. President, and you will see the tension between this macro-economic success and the daily reality of our people.

The youth are the pulse of the Dominican Republic. They dream, they dance, and they strive for a future that feels attainable without having to cross the sea. They want an education that isn't just a certificate, but a bridge to the digital world. They want security on the roads, which currently rank among the most dangerous in the world, and a government that prioritizes their health over bureaucratic stagnation. Our seniors, the bedrock of our families, deserve a dignified retirement that doesn't feel like an afterthought in a fast-moving economy.

Mr. President, the people do not want "vacation-style" governance. They want a state that protects them from the chaos of our traffic, provides clean water they don't have to fear, and ensures that the wealth generated by our growth reaches the neighborhoods of Santo Domingo and the remote corners of the countryside, not just the "safe bubbles" of our resorts.

We are a nation of rhythm—merengue, bachata, and the ceaseless motion of our markets. We want a government that moves to that same beat: energetic, decisive, and present. Do not let the "all-inclusive" facade of our economy hide the work that remains to be done. Lead with the clarity that our progress is not measured by the number of tourists who visit, but by the quality of life of every Dominican who calls this island home.

With the hope of a citizen,

A Concerned Dominican

Sovereign Performance Audit: Dominican Republic (June 2026)

Sector

Score

Summary

Political Stability

4.0

High; President Abinader maintains strong support for his pragmatic, development-oriented agenda.

Economic Development

4.5

Robust; one of the fastest-growing economies in Latin America/Caribbean, though wealth inequality remains a challenge.

Social Infrastructure

3.0

Modernizing, but struggling with road safety and public health access outside urban centers.

National Resilience

3.5

High, though heavily exposed to climate risks (hurricanes) and regional instability (Haiti).

Final Verdict: 3.75 / The Caribbean Dynamo.

The Dominican Republic is a regional success story. The mandate for 2026 is "inclusive prosperity"—transitioning from a tourism/remittance-based economy to a more diversified, high-tech, and socially equitable state, while managing the logistical nightmare of its own chaotic transport systems.

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