

Washington, DC – This morning, Congressman Charlie Gonzalez (TX-20) issued the following statement on President Barack Obama's receipt of the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize:

"President Obama's has long spoken of the importance of robust diplomacy to American foreign policy and I congratulate him on being honored by the Nobel Committee. By strengthening international institutions, the President can empower our friends and allies to share with the United States the burdens of protecting our world and building, together, a brighter future for us all."

The Norwegian Nobel Committee hailed Obama ["for his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples"](#), particularly his long-standing commitment to a world free from nuclear arms. Obama becomes the third sitting president to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, after [Theodore Roosevelt](#) in 1906 and [Woodrow Wilson](#) in 1919. Former President [Jimmy Carter](#) was honored in 2002 for his work during and in the decades following his presidency.

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