

Commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the UN – “The future we want, the United Nations we need: reaffirming our collective commitment to multilateralism”.

Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to participate in this event.

Slovakia congratulates the UN on its 75th Anniversary. Our Government is organizing a set of events throughout the year to use this unique opportunity to bring the UN and its work closer to the people in Slovakia.

I am pleased to welcome the adoption of the joint declaration today to commemorate this special occasion.

The United Nations has shaped the world, as we have known it over the past 75 years. Despite some shortcomings, the organization has indisputably made the world a better place over these years. The relevance of the UN Charter and the need for international cooperation is increasing. Global challenges require multilateral solutions. We strongly believe, the United Nations continues to be an indispensable platform, where the joint action should take place.

Mr. President,

The global trends are all too familiar. Prevailing inequality and exclusion, wars, violence, persecution and discrimination in various forms. At the same time, multilateralism and the rules-based international order are being challenged. All of this, as you know very well, is accelerated by the climate emergency. To provide for a sustainable future for all of us, it is our shared responsibility to tackle these challenges today.

Slovakia will work with its partners in the European Union to reach the goals of the UN Charter to achieve international peace, sustainable development and the universal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

At the present, we are all facing unprecedented times to beat the COVID-19 pandemic. This global matter urgently demands our collective effort. In the declaration just adopted, we are making a strong commitment to build a post-pandemic world that is more equal, promotes dialogue and cooperation, and protects the planet. The Government of Slovakia is determined to take the country exactly in this direction and is equally committed to supporting similar efforts on a regional and global scale.

Last but not least, we need a strong United Nations for the benefit of all. The process for renovating the UN initiated by the Secretary-General must therefore continue. We must ensure that existing UN reform processes are advancing on the right track and that outstanding reform commitments are moving forward.

Mr. President,

I want to conclude by saying that the firm and earnest resolve that guided the deliberations in San Francisco in 1945, which brought about the agreement on the UN Charter and started our journey as nations united, must be met with the same determination to ensure the future we want and the United Nations we need.

Thank you for your attention.