



PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT

by

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to the United Nations**

**United Nations Security Council Open debate
Peace and security through preventive diplomacy: a common objective to all the principal
organs of the United Nations**

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Mr. President,

I would like to thank the Mexico's presidency for organizing this open debate on such an important and timely issue.

The Charter of the United Nations (UN) establishes, among others, that one of its purpose is to be a "centre for harmonizing the actions" of nations in the attainment of common ends.

This means that the purposes of the UN established in the Charter will only be achieved through a real harmonization, cooperation and mutually reinforcing collaboration among its organs and, through them, with the rest of the system.

In this sense, the maintenance of international peace and security through preventive diplomacy issue has to be at the heart of the work of all the principal organs, within their respective mandates.

Slovakia attaches great importance to a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace, particularly through the prevention of conflict and addressing its root causes, national reconciliation and unity including through inclusive dialogue and mediation, gender equality and respect for, and protection of, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Slovakia commends the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law, which was unanimously adopted in 2012. The declaration highlights the positive contribution of the General Assembly and other principal UN organs, through policymaking and standard-setting, and through the progressive development of international law and its codification.

I would like to seize the opportunity to once again stress the importance that Slovakia places on the principle of rule of law, which we consider the heart of the international order. Emphasizing impact of the rule of law on safeguarding stable democracy and domestic peace and fostering the social development we would like to encourage member states to intensify their efforts to uphold this basic principle of governance, which is a prerequisite for tackling root causes of conflicts.

Furthermore, the success of the Security Council in fulfilling its responsibility relies, to a great degree, not only on the success of the General Assembly, but also on other bodies, such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ). ICJ, together, with the efforts of the Secretary-General in adjudicating disputes among States are just a few of the essential components for the prevention of conflicts and, therefore, for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Slovakia believes that the ICJ fulfils this role not only by its function of adjudication of international disputes but, far more often, disputes which are an element of the routine interaction of international relations. Our declaration recognizing the jurisdiction of the ICJ as

compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement as of May 2004, together with our currently longest serving judge, reflect the importance that Slovakia lays on the role of the ICJ in preventive diplomacy.

Moreover, connectivity of the broader UN system is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as UN system needs to be able to address the cross-cutting issues from a prevention perspective with greater effectiveness and accountability.

Agenda 2030 plays a key role in Slovakia's internal and external policies and SDGs are an integral part of our foreign development and humanitarian assistance. Among our priorities are education, water security, energy transition, biodiversity and promoting just and transparent institutions.

Coordinated and horizontal cooperation between the Security Council and Peacebuilding Commission (PBC), as an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts, is also a way forward to respond, as an integrated unit to the challenges that are currently threatening international peace and security.

Slovakia as a member of the PBC has identified Security Sector Reform (SSR) to be one of the key elements for effective conflict prevention and successful post-conflict rebuilding and stabilization. The direct experience clearly shows that a nationally-led, gender sensitive and inclusive SSR process can progressively deal with the root causes of insecurity and fragility and create an enabling environment for sustainable development and peace to take place.

I thank you.