



**PERMANENT MISSION**  
**OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC**  
**TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Statement**

**by**

**Mr. Róbert Chatrnúch**  
**Deputy Permanent Representative of Slovakia**  
**to the United Nations**

**at the**

**5<sup>th</sup> Thematic discussion on Our Common Agenda**  
**Thursday, March 10, 2022**

**10 March 2022**  
**New York**

Mr. President,

Slovakia align itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the European Union earlier today. Allow me to make additional comments in national capacity.

Mr. President,

The complexity of the Secretary-General's report and its 90 recommendations show us how the UN urgently needs to be reformed. The list of areas that needs our attention is long, but let me emphasize today on two of them.

**First one is the question of “Upgrading the UN” in line with an “inclusive and networked multilateralism”.** Promoting multilateralism and defending the rules-based international order, with the UN and its Charter at its core, is and must be part of our legacy for future generations.

**Unfortunately, one UN member state - namely Russia - with its unprovoked and unjustified military aggression against Ukraine,** showed total disregard for these principles. We strongly condemn the ongoing violations of international law committed by Russian forces, and stand in full solidarity with Ukraine and its people.

Mr. President,

We echo the Secretary-General's call for an effective, inclusive and networked multilateralism. We support the proposal for **regular meetings of the UN with all regional organizations and international financial institutions**. Slovakia is also willing to discuss further the engagement of civil society in the UN processes to ensure the meaningful mutual dialogue, thus allow their voices to be heard, while preserving the intergovernmental character of this organisation.

In this regard, we would like to emphasise that Slovakia would like to aim for an **ambitious Summit of the future during the 78<sup>th</sup> session with concrete tangible outcomes**. In order to meet this objective, we encourage all stakeholders, the Secretary General and Member States particularly, to take one step forward and think about roadmaps that will lead us to such outcomes, such as Global Digital Compact, Declaration on Future Generations or others. In our view, it will be crucial in the upcoming period to have a clearer and deeper understanding of how these documents could look like.

**And secondly, our attention should not avoid the global governance**. Slovakia supports deeper cooperation with local governments and municipalities, which are instrumental in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In this regard we welcome the recommendation to create Secretary General's Advisory Group on Local and Regional Governments and we call for an active cooperation of the UN with key private and non-governmental partners.

To conclude, let me mention that Ambassador Michal Mlynar is honoured to participate in the preparation of the upcoming High-Level Meeting on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda as a member of the Advisory Committee of the President of the General Assembly on Sustainable Urbanization. Slovakia believes that cities are the frontier between a scenario of breakthrough and a scenario of breakdown, and the pandemic has only exacerbated their pivotal role in the achievement of all three pillars of sustainable development.

I thank you.