



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

SECURITY COUNCIL - OPEN DEBATE

FUTUREPROOFING TRUST FOR SUSTAINING PEACE

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR CHRISTIAN WENAWESER

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Mr. President,

It is my great pleasure to address a Swiss Presidency of the Security Council on behalf of Liechtenstein for the first time - we hope it will be the first of many.

Mr. President,

Our starting point must be the existing structures in multilateral frameworks, with the 2030 Agenda at the center. SDG 16 frames accountable institutions and the rule of law as indispensable for the predictable environment needed to build trust and sustain peace. In international human rights law we have also set minimum expectations for the treatment of marginalized groups. A predictable and rights-respecting environment creates the opportunity to take approaches to conflict resolution that are themselves sustainable and preventive. Engagement by relevant actors must take place to varying degrees through the full conflict cycle. Peacebuilding and trust-building require sustained political attention and investment. I will offer brief comments on the dimensions of inclusion and justice this morning.

Mr. President,

Building a broad coalition for peace must be something we constantly strive for. Inclusive

settlements are longer-lasting and more rights-respecting. We know that negotiating teams and mediators that reflect society as a whole are more likely to generate sustainable results. But inclusion is not only about who is consulted, it is about how those inputs are reflected. Stakeholders must not only be at the table, but they must also be able to see their engagement reflected in resulting documents, processes, and missions for these to be truly sustainable.

This, as many others have said, of course, means that women must be meaningfully included in prevention and peacebuilding. For more than half the population, this should be an expectation, not an aspiration. We all know gender equality offers a path to sustainable peace and conflict prevention but nearly a quarter of a century after resolution 1325, we are moving in the opposite direction, with the reversal of generational gains in women's rights in many parts of the world. A painful example is Sudan, when mediation efforts prioritize persuading armed men to lay down their guns, rather than building a broad, inclusive and resilient peace, we run the risk of reinforcing the patriarchal power dynamics that are at the root of many of today's conflicts.

Inclusion should also reflect minority groups as well as and in particular indigenous peoples. The work of the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues deserves a mention in this debate and further reflection by relevant bodies and actors. The creation of self-government, federalism and autonomy regimes for minority groups, implemented with great success within the Swiss Confederation, are positive models for addressing potential conflict and finding a *modus vivendi* for relevant communities.

Mr. President,

The rule of law is underpinned by the promise of justice. It is also a crucial aspect of sustainable peace. This means reconciliation and accountability for the most serious crimes under international law. The truth of this statement has been illustrated many times *e contrario*: the lack of accountability for the aggression against Ukraine in 2014 is just one of the most recent cases in point. It was undoubtedly been a key driver for the full-scale invasion in 2022. As relevant situations move through the conflict cycle, transitional justice is essential to creating sustainable political settlement, and for building trust amongst those involved and affected by conflict.

Criminal accountability one important aspect of transitional justice. Other forms of truth-telling, such as Truth and Reconciliation Commissions, can be just as important in ensuring that victims are able to address the harms done to them on their own terms.

While Council mandates should 'set the stage' for transitional justice processes, the Peacebuilding Commission must be at the forefront of considering transitional justice in the context of sustaining peace. The PBC and PBF have addressed issues of transitional justice, notably in The Gambia, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Colombia and we would like to see a significantly enhanced role of the PBC on transitional justice in the future – a dynamic that we hope to see reflected in the upcoming New Agenda for Peace.

I thank you Mr. President.