



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

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION - HIGH-LEVEL EVENT: THE ROAD TO MARRAKESH

**STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. ALBERT FRICK, PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN**

I am very pleased to be here today and I thank the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General for International Migration, Bahrain, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Mexico, Philippines and Turkey for organizing this timely and important event.

Migration is a global reality. While it is not a new phenomenon, the current numbers are certainly unprecedented: There are an estimated 258 million international migrants. Managing migration and making it beneficial for all is thus one of the biggest challenges of our times. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the importance of migration in reducing inequality within and between States. If managed well, migration can be an engine for economic growth, sustainable development, cultural enrichment and innovation.

As a country of origin and a country of destination, managing migration is a high priority for Liechtenstein. We have therefore actively engaged in the creation of and joined consensus on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). We value that the GCM draws on international law, including human rights law, is gender-sensitive and child-responsive. We also appreciate its focus on addressing risks and consequences of irregular migration, including human trafficking and smuggling. In order to keep the momentum and to promote this historic instrument, Liechtenstein organized a public event on migration as part of sustainable development this summer with a keynote address of

the President of the General Assembly Miroslav Lajcak. The event brought together a variety of stakeholders, including civil society, and allowed for an open exchange on the importance of the GCM and its relevance for the 2030 Agenda.

Liechtenstein will attend the Marrakesh conference at political level and is committed to the full implementation of the GCM to make migration beneficial for all. Among our national initiatives, we promote the inclusion of migrants and refugees through innovative language training. “Liechtenstein Languages”, in short “LieLA”, is a non-profit language course project designed to teach German or other languages to migrants and refugees with a method inspired by early language acquisition. The courses are gender-inclusive and enable participants to communicate on a basic level within four weeks. This initiative not only contributes to the implementation of the GCM. It also reflects our commitment to the comprehensive implementation of the SDGs in keeping with our long-standing engagement in favor of peaceful, just and inclusive societies as well as gender equality.

We hope that with this initiative we can inspire other States to similarly engage in the integration of migrants and refugees. And we are glad to have the opportunity today to listen to the many impressive steps taken by other States as part of their roads to Marrakesh. This exchange is of utmost importance and will contribute to our common endeavor to make the GCM a success.

I thank you.