



OFFICE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

**Launch of the Roadmap for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies
High-Level Side Event to the 72nd Session of the UNGA, 21 September 2017**

H.E. Dr. Aurelia Frick

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Principality of Liechtenstein

Excellencies,

Dear colleagues,

Let me first thank Brazil, Sierra Leone and Switzerland for convening this important event today. I also would like to congratulate the initiators of this project, which hopefully will contribute in moving forward the implementation of SDG 16. We highly appreciate and welcome the Roadmap for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies.

Since the beginning of the negotiations of the SDGs and also after the Adoption of the 2030Agenda, Liechtenstein has actively contributed to the process. Topics like human rights, good governance, gender equality, and inclusion are amongst our priorities with regards to the SDGs. The concept of SDG 16+ , as we call it in the roadmap, unites these priorities. Yet we cannot implement it as a whole, specific actions with regards to the specific SDGs are needed. We believe that the Roadmap does an excellent job in inspiring such actions.

Liechtenstein has contributed to the Roadmap with a concrete example from our national experience on catalytic action 9 of the roadmap – respect all human rights and promote gender equality. The project from Liechtenstein, “Liechtenstein Languages”, focuses on the inclusion of migrants and refugees. “Liechtenstein Languages” is a non-profit language course project designed to train language trainers and to teach German or other languages to migrants and refugees. The courses are gender inclusive and they support migrants to integrate as soon as possible within the local society. It employs a special learning method enabling students to learn a second language like they have learned their first language. Participants are able to communicate on a basic level already after only 4 weeks. Within a two-week-seminar, teachers or social workers without any educational background learn how to

teach a language course. New trainers may pass on their knowledge to others within their organization. So far, more than 150 trainers have been trained and more than 3'000 migrants have been introduced into the German language. It is also worth mentioning that the German City of Altena, which is implementing the LieLanguages project, has received an integration prize from Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel. I am also happy to report that the project is planning to expand its engagement to the English-speaking world.

To conclude, let me assure you of our continued support to the Pathfinders project. We look forward to working with you!

Thank you.