



GOVERNMENT  
PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

MINISTRY OF  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND FINANCE

# **Speech by Prime Minister Dr. Daniel Risch**

**Minister of General Government Affairs and Finance**

**Summit**

**"Defense and Security Strategy of Unity: Plan of Action"**

**H.E. Dr. Daniel Risch, Prime Minister, Liechtenstein**

**24 February 2025**

President Selenskyj  
Excellencies

I wish to thank Ukraine for their leadership in convening today's Summit. Times are difficult. But difficult times need courageous ideas, steps and decisions. What the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian Leadership did, symbolizes exactly this courage. A courage to stand for European values, European unity and Europe itself. Today's Summit serves therefore as an important occasion to honor Ukraine's unwavering courage in defending itself, in defending Europe and the rule of law as the cornerstone of our security architecture.

This month seems to mark a significant turning point in global power politics, as Russia and the US engaged in discussions about Ukraine's future - without Ukraine or anyone else participating at this summit at the table. I do agree with all of what was said before. I therefore just like to highlight three points.

Firstly: A peace effort will only be sustainable and lasting if it has Ukraine's consent and deters the crime of aggression.

Secondly: Europe's security depends on the security of Ukraine. Liechtenstein calls for a just and lasting peace in line with the international community's clearly established benchmarks set out by the UN General Assembly. This includes accountability for war crimes and reparations by the aggressor.

Thirdly: We need European answers to European problems. And we need a vision where our continent is heading to.

I am therefore thankful for the words of EU President Ursula von der Leyen, the words of President Selenskyj and the ones that spoke before me.

As most of you know, Liechtenstein reached out in the last months to receive your visions and thoughts about Europe in these challenging times and especially against the background of Russia's war in Ukraine.

These days, all of you will receive a copy of the "Book of Europe", with the subtitle "Firsthand visions of the future of Europe" which will be released this very Thursday at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

I am very thankful to all of you who contributed their personal vision of Europe. Beginning with the today present Prime Ministers of UK, Spain, Norway or Ukraine to more than 30 Leaders of Europe.

I am also thankful to the Liechtenstein Parliament for their courage and vision to dedicate an additional budget line to finance the reconstruction of Ukraine. With its decision, our Parliament made it very clear that a rebuilt Ukraine must be part of the vision for Europe.

We all know, that every cloud has a silver lining.

And for me, that silver lining of the current situation is, that we in Europe stand together to continue to work on a good, strong and united Europe. A Europe where – like in a team – every member contributes and adds value based on its capabilities and strengths.

I thank you!