



GOVERNMENT
PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

MINISTRY OF
GENERAL GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND FINANCE

Speech by Prime Minister Brigitte Haas

Minister of General Government Affairs and Finance

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TAK Theater Liechtenstein

Deputy Prime Minister,
Excellencies,
Esteemed guests

I am delighted to welcome you here in Schaan. The TAK-Theater is not only one of Liechtenstein's many cultural highlights, but also a place that is very close to my heart. I served on the theatre's board of directors on a voluntary basis for many years, which makes me all the more pleased to welcome you here today as Head of Government.

In the first seven months of our term in office, we as a government have been working intensively on Liechtenstein's strategic orientation. This has resulted in our 2025–2029 government programme. Its title is: 'Shaping the state, securing the future – working together for tomorrow' - I admit that the original title sounds a bit fancier in German.

The government programme provides the population with an overview of our goals and areas of action. However, I will not go into detail on all 35 topics here – otherwise you would be here all weekend – but I will give you an insight into a few selected topics.

As a government, we have not only looked at content, but have also adopted common values as our guiding principles. Our constitution stipulates that the primary task of the state is to promote the welfare of the entire population. That is a noble goal. It requires not only the right political measures, but also values. For us, these include transparency, communication on an equal footing and the visibility of impact.

In terms of content, the government programme is characterized by two key points: stability and security. Like many of your countries, Liechtenstein faces major challenges: global uncertainties, technological developments and geopolitical tensions call for clear orientation and reliable framework conditions. The government is therefore focusing on stable public finances, robust infrastructure and stable conditions for the economy, energy, education and security.

We will also use this to rethink our security policy. In doing so, we are pursuing a holistic approach. We have already done a lot of things right in domestic policy in recent years. We are already very well positioned in many areas, such as protection against natural hazards. However, there is still a lack of a comprehensive national security strategy and structures that meet our needs. We will therefore take a holistic view of security and security policy in the future. This means that security will be conceived and implemented even more strongly across ministries in future in order to strengthen the state's immediate and coordinated capacity to act. In doing so, we will use the size of our state not only to integrate 'classic' areas of security policy such as disaster control, digital security or internal security, but also to consider how we as a society can become more resilient.

We are tackling this issue in a wide variety of areas: we want to take a long-term view of social security and further strengthen our excellent healthcare system. In doing so, we must ensure that it remains affordable – healthcare must not become a luxury. At the same time, and this is also a priority in the government programme, we want to promote prevention and support for mental illness. Good mental health promotes social participation, educational success and productivity. For us, this is also an example of our efforts to create a more resilient society.

And then I would like to address another issue that threatens our societies: the danger of disinformation, the formation of news bubbles, AI-generated fakes and politically motivated external influence. We are convinced that we can only protect democracy if fact-based information contributes to the formation of opinion and a strong culture of debate based on respect is practiced. Here, too, the government will implement a series of measures to protect society from such threats. You will hear specific examples to this topic later from the Head of our National Cyber Security Unit.

It is important for me to point out that Liechtenstein is a very safe and stable country. To ensure that this remains the case, however, we must always work proactively and actively towards this goal.

There is a high level of trust in state and state-affiliated institutions, which is crucial for the stability and functioning of a democracy. Trust promotes acceptance of political decisions and strengthens the willingness to cooperate and participate. It is therefore our duty to provide information in a transparent and citizen-oriented manner. Regular involvement of citizens in political processes increases co-determination. To this end, we will gear our communications towards reaching people not only through traditional media, but also beyond. This could be social media, but also new forms of citizen participation or local events.

Times have not become any easier. They challenge us as political actors, but even more so as a society.

So - what is the solution?

Unfortunately, there is not just one solution that covers everything. So let us today focus on the field of foreign policy: here the solution lies in dialogue. And this, Excellencies, is where you are most important in contributing: with your every day unifying work. You have a keen sense of the potential impact of current developments. You know the right points of contact and, with your wealth of experience, you can help to make the world a safer and more stable place. I am convinced that, in the long term, diplomacy is a crucial path to success.

I am therefore delighted that so many of you have accepted our invitation. Let us take the first step today, engage in dialogue and develop ideas so that we can continue to live in peace and stable social and economic conditions.

Because we are convinced that, ultimately, stability and security are a matter of trust, framework conditions and cooperation. And that is why we – all of us - are here today.

Thank you very much.