



GOVERNMENT
PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JUSTICE AND CULTURE

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**Statement by H.E. Ms. Katrin Eggenberger
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Principality of Liechtenstein**

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- Chek against delivery –

Madam President

First, allow me to congratulate you on your election as President of this Council. Given the strong friendship and shared values between our countries, I am pleased to see you here today, as only the second woman who is presiding over the Human Rights Council.

It is my great honor to address this Council today for the first time in my capacity as Foreign Minister of the Principality of Liechtenstein. It's even a bigger pleasure to do this in the context of my country's 30th anniversary of the accession to the United Nations in 1990. In these 30 years, Liechtenstein has been an active and very engaged member within the UN family and a strong promoter of multilateralism and the international rules-based order. And the respect for human rights and the rule of law has been a longstanding priority for us.

As many speakers before me have already mentioned, this year, we celebrate also the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. It has become the primary place where States come together and discuss solutions of how to address the many challenges we are facing today in order to secure peace, sustainable development and respect for human rights. The mission of the United Nations is today more important than ever.

Madame President

Establishing new partnerships is an essential part of that effort. Together with the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands, Liechtenstein has set up the Liechtenstein Initiative for a Financial Sector Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, a public-private partnership with the United Nations University and private financial actors. With this initiative Liechtenstein

aims at contributing to meet the SDGs; and there is a long way to go. With an estimated 40.3 million people living in modern slavery, despite a blanket global ban on such practice, we would need to reduce the number of people affected by around 10'000 individuals per day to bring this figure close to zero by 2030.

In September 2019, the Commission published its final report “A Blueprint for Mobilizing Finance against Slavery and Trafficking”. The blueprint sets out five goals towards which financial sector actors can work through individual and collective action.