



GOVERNMENT

PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

MINISTRY OF

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JUSTICE AND CULTURE

Information Event for Ambassadors 2019
29. November 2019, Kunstmuseum in Vaduz
Speech by Dr. Katrin Eggenberger

- Chek against delivery –

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

dear guests,

It is a pleasure for me to address you here today as Liechtenstein's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Justice and Culture. I was looking forward to this year's edition of this traditional event in Liechtenstein's diplomatic calendar as an occasion for an open dialogue with you.

Having taken over my role as a member of the government in the middle of a legislative term, multiple challenges are awaiting. I am highly motivated to leave my marks in the period remaining until the next elections in 2021. At the same time, continuity underlies the priorities of Liechtenstein's foreign policy – a quality that makes us a credible and reliable partner.

What has made the 300 year history of Liechtenstein such a success story?

There is a multitude of reasons for this, but I would like to single out two factors: Far-sighted diplomacy, and continuous, strong values.

Regarding the first factor, only a foreign policy based on bilateral partnerships, strong networks, and cooperation in multilateral organisations enabled us to safeguard Liechtenstein's independence. Looking back through the window of history, we see that courageous, forward-looking decisions secured Liechtenstein's place in the community of States.

Values, on the other hand, are an essential part of our foreign policy approach. The commitment to human rights, the rule of law, and accountability for grave breaches of international law is not only a plausible position. It is rather the result of the conviction that values play an important part in how States should act in the 21st century.

The combination of these factors results in a value-based, continuous foreign policy.

Before the background of our 300 year history, my colleagues from the Government and I are going to bring you closer to our identity along with values that we regard as essential: Reliability, authenticity, connectivity, and a spirit of innovation.

I am looking forward to interesting discussions.