



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

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**UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
75<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN**

**ADDRESS BY**

**H.E. DR. KATRIN EGGENBERGER  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JUSTICE AND CULTURE  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN**

Mr. President,

25 years after its adoption, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action remains the most comprehensive and transformative agenda for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. It has helped promote gender equality as a basic human right around the globe. And it has informed international landmark achievements – most noteworthy the 2030 Agenda which highlights the centrality of gender equality to progress across all Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition to its profound impact internationally, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action has also left an important mark on national policies. In Liechtenstein, the national and international debates and commitments to promote gender equality 25 years back and in the following years have led to many achievements: among them the creation of an equal opportunities unit, gender equality legislation, as well as relevant adjustments of our national criminal law.

There is no question that gains for gender equality have been achieved globally since 1995. However, violence, discrimination, vulnerability and marginalization as well as limited political and economic empowerment remain a sad reality for too many women and girls around the world. In Liechtenstein, compatibility of family and career, and the underrepresentation of women in political and economic leadership positions continue to be challenges.

The limited progress on gender equality is catching up with us during the current pandemic. It has exacerbated pre-existing inequalities and has been cause for shadow pandemics for women and girls in particular. Attempts to weaken internationally agreed human rights standards and to roll back the goals in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action are obstructive and wrong, particularly now.

Our efforts to build back better must fully include women in an active role – also in leadership positions. Personally, I am committed to help promote women candidates for political office. At the same time, it is the responsibility of each and every one of us to stand up for women's rights every single day. I will do my best to continue raising awareness, and our NGOs will remain key partners in this regard.

I thank you.