

Your Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Colleagues!

First of all, I would like to express my appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea to host this event. I regret a lot that we could not put together this event on a personal basis but we have to understand that the global pandemic is putting additional challenges ahead of all of us. This highlights the fact that vaccination is so important globally speaking. The more people are vaccinated the more we are safe and the more chance we have to have such kind of events in person.

Obviously the last one and a half to two years were really bad for the whole world, we had to fight with the pandemic, but this must not divert our attention totally away from the security related global challenges including the spread of extremist ideologies, threat of terror and massive flows of illegal migration. It is our firm position that conflicts must be identified in time, which makes it possible to prevent them. If it is not successful, then we have to manage them properly. We must not allow the impacts of the armed conflicts to spread all around the world, we have to bring help and solution to the very venues and places of these armed conflicts.

We all know that one of the major negative consequences of armed conflicts is the massive migration. We have to make it very clear that it is the fundamental human right of everybody to have a safe life back at home. If it is not possible, then those, who had to escape, have a right to stay temporarily on the territory of the first safe country, but migration is definitely not a fundamental human right. Not to speak about the fact that the migratory flows give the chance to terrorists and their ideologies to be spread around the world in a very efficient way.

When it comes to the global security situation, we definitely do have to speak about Afghanistan. And we have to be clear and honest at least among each other that there was a big miscalculation. Because what really happened there and what we thought would happen are very far away from each other. And here in Europe, we have to calculate with the consequences, namely additional migratory flows. We, Hungarians have stopped more than 100.000 illegal migrants already at our southern borders only this year. And Europe is under tremendous pressure, because this pressure comes now from three different directions. So tackling the root causes of migration, managing the armed conflicts on the spot are in the focus of our foreign and security policy. That is why Hungary is taking part in three peacekeeping missions managed by the UN in Africa, in the Middle East and in Cyprus. And apart from that we have helped 250.000 people already to return or to stay in their homes, by creating the conditions and circumstances for that. We have also contributed to the digital transformation efforts of peacekeeping and we do hope that more and more countries will be ready to take part in the global peace keeping efforts.

Once again, thank you very much for the Government of the Republic of Korea of all its efforts in promoting the idea of global peacekeeping.