



STATEMENT

by

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The rule of law at the national and international level

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Mr. Chairman,

Allow me, Excellency, to **congratulate you** on your election to Chair of the Sixth Committee of 68th Session of the General Assembly and to wish you smooth and successful deliberations throughout the whole session.

I would like to align myself with the statement presented earlier by the distinguished representative of the **European Union**.

Mr. Chairman,

The High-level meeting dedicated to the rule of law that took place last year in September and resulted in consensual **adoption of the important Declaration**. The broad UN membership reaffirmed its **commitment to the rule of law** and stressed its fundamental importance for political dialogue and cooperation among all States.

It also reiterated its importance **for development of the three main pillars** upon which the United Nations is built: international peace and security, human rights and development.

We welcomed the **report of the Secretary-General** on Strengthening and coordinating UN rule of law activities outlining various measures for better coordination and coherence within the UN.

Slovakia participated actively at the High Level meeting and submitted **national pledges** to support the efforts of international community. At the national level, we continue to strengthen our legal and institutional framework, especially concerning of the most vulnerable groups – **women, children and minorities**.

From the international perspective, we support application of this principle, in particular in conflict prevention, as well as in post-conflict developments. Stable and independent legal environment forms the crucial pillar for creation of **preconditions for long term sustainable development** in post conflict areas and regions.

Slovakia as supporter of development of United Nations approach to **security sector reform** believes that rule of law is inevitable part of the reform process. Its application and realization is necessary for achieving long term public security and respect for human rights.

There is a relevance of the rule of law for **sustainable development** processes. We can feel it especially in the context of discussions about stronger participation of non-state actors, private investors, NGOs in **realization and financing post-2015 development and sustainability framework**. One of the many questions posed by private/business and NGO stakeholders during HL panel on financing the development was how to ensure stable, transparent and predictable legal environment for long term projects.

Mr. Chairman,

The immanent part of the rule of law principle is to ensure existence of adequate adjudicative mechanisms where States can bring their claims in case of their disagreement. We are of the view **that International Court of Justice**, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, **should be strengthened** through acceptance of its compulsory jurisdiction by all Member States of the United Nations.

We also call on states that are not party to the **Rome Statute to reconsider its ratification** and subsequently implementation into national legislation. Fight against impunity, where International Criminal Court is a corner stone, should be our common endeavor.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman