

Address by Gitanas Nausėda, President of the Republic of Lithuania, at the United Nations Summit of the Future

Dear Secretary-General of the United Nations,
Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany,
President of the Republic of Namibia,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your work in mobilizing the international community for this Summit of the Future. Your efforts to address the pressing challenges of today deserve the highest praise. Thank you!

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My country, eager to build a safer, more sustainable and inclusive world, has put constructive work into the *Pact for the Future* and its accompanying documents. We welcome the commitment by the *Declaration on Future Generations* to safeguard those who will inherit the world.

To shape our future for the benefit of all, we must act with vision, courage and unity. And we must act now.

First, we need to return to the rules-based international order. For Lithuania, this means supporting Ukraine in its fight for freedom and democracy.

It is crucially important that Russia is not allowed to walk away with occupied Ukrainian territories. Therefore, Lithuania calls on the international community to put more efforts into limiting Russia's ability to continue its colonial war. Russia must be forced to completely withdraw from the entire territory of Ukraine.

Sadly, lack of multilateral response to Russia's aggression against Ukraine has already put forward serious doubts about the United Nations' ability to maintain global peace and security. S

Nations must be empowered to stop and contain both present and future aggressors! This would contribute not only to global peace and security but also to sustainable development and human rights.

Second, we need to put more effort into achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Right now, one of the key obstacles to accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals is the lack of financial resources. We need to create a Global Financial Architecture that is more equitable, just and responsive to crises.

Lithuania is also eager to address the climate crisis. To achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, we need more investment in renewable energy and innovative technologies.

Future prosperity will be driven by digital transformation. While Lithuania welcomes the shared vision for the digital world outlined in both the Pact for the Future and the Global Digital Compact, we also call for addressing challenges related to new and emerging technologies.

I am delighted that under Lithuania's Presidency, the Council of Europe adopted the first-ever Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law. This Vilnius Convention establishes a global standard for protecting human rights from the risks posed by AI¹. My hope is that it will set an example of addressing all kinds of global issues through concerted multilateral efforts.

Today, I call on the participants of the Summit to support the main guiding principles of the United Nations – peace, security, human rights, and sustainable development for all.

The future we desire is within our reach. Let's seize this moment to build it together!

¹ [https://www.coe.int/en/web/artificial-intelligence-convention](#)