

**AUSTRIA**



PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

**Statement by**

**H.E. Sebastian KURZ**

**Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria**

**at the 75<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**New York, September 21, 2020**

*Check against delivery*

President of the General Assembly,  
Secretary General,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Born out of the ashes and destruction of the Second World War, the United Nations this year looks back on a 75-year-old history.

**75 years** of commitment to multilateralism that has led to some remarkable achievements which we can all be proud of.

Let me mention a few examples:

- a strong **human rights system**
- peacekeeping
- the **international disarmament architecture**
- the **Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals**
- leadership in the **fight against climate change.**

The **COVID-19** pandemic has illustrated in the most dramatic way how interconnected and interdependent we are.

It has shown that no country can fight the pandemic or solve other global challenges alone. **International cooperation** with the UN at its centre is crucial in this endeavour.

Last but not least,

Let me point out that **2020 marks also a special year of anniversaries for Austria:**

- It has been **65 years since we joined the United Nations,**
- **60 years since** we first contributed to the **UN peacekeeping operations**
- and **40 years** since **Vienna** became **host to the third of four United Nations Headquarters** worldwide.

Austria will remain a **dedicated advocate of the United Nations** and **effective international cooperation.**

We are proud of the contribution we have made so far and stand ready to support all efforts to **make the United Nations fit for the next 75 years.**

Thank you.