

Mr. President,

Mr. Secretary-General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is **always the right time** to think about the **future**.

And **it is the right time** to start working for it.

And to work **on upgrading United Nations to this aim**.

vision is clear:

- The pillars of our work — peace, human rights and the 2030 Agenda implementation — they are more than needed and valid.
- International rules-based order, which is under attack, should be at the core of our actions.

- We need global solutions to global challenges - climate change, digital transition, disinformation.

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Now, how can we, together, better serve the needs and aspirations of future generations?

First and foremost, the imperative for all its members to respect the international law, the principles and the objectives on which UN was built.

It is a question of credibility and it is the most basic commitment we were entrusted with by our citizens. The aggression against Ukraine is a very painful reminder.

Our societies are in need of peace.

Wars, violence, human rights crises are taking away human dignity, drawing back economies and ruining years of

development. The **solutions** to these threats need to be **rooted in the principles of international human rights and the rule of law.**

Accountability comes first. We need to ensure that aggression does not remain unpunished by the global community, especially when we speak about the **crime of aggression**. Romania supports the **BF1 419gW*nah17m0 13f21 0 0 1 153**

We also need to make better use of the opportunities, by focusing more on education and by making the best and the right use of the digital transition.

Technology is neutral. It is the purpose of its use, **which** makes it wrong or right.

We can use technology to support medical sector innovation or ease our struggle to fight climate change.

Or by contrary, one can misuse technology for hate speech and disinformation. This is why ensuring a human-centric approach is crucial. And we must secure a free, open and secure cyberspace.

We need to make our work more accessible and always seek to engage more the civil society. This creates more legitimacy and more trust. It is a healthy reflex that can only bring benefits.

We need better communication. In these deeply polarized times, **people seek positive sources of identity.** **They seek to feel represented.** Communication is key to bridge people around the world, especially since UN projects bear a unique

It is now up to us to act and make the Pact for the Future a blueprint towards peaceful, just and prosperous societies, where no one is left behind.

Thank you.