



PERMANENT MISSION OF HUNGARY  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!

**General Assembly  
70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Event**

**23 October 2015**

**Intervention by  
H.E. Ambassador Katalin Bogyay  
Permanent Representative**

Mr. President,

Hungary reaffirms its unfailing commitment to the U. N. Charter. We joined this family 60 years ago.

For so many in the world, the United Nations has been a beacon of hope and help.

Today is our national day. The outbreak of the 1956 revolution, a spontaneous nationwide revolt against oppression and dictatorship, happened exactly on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October. The Hungarian revolution was crushed, we asked for help from the United Nations.

While the Security Council was unable to act, the General Assembly adopted a number of resolutions in 1956, which unfortunately had no real effect on the actual course of events. Nevertheless, it was precisely the relentless disregard for the resolutions that finally induced the General Assembly to establish a Special Committee to study the Hungarian problem .

It is actually important to know that the killing of political prisoners continued till 1963, when finally because of the continuous political pressure of the UN a mass amnesty was introduced in Hungary in exchange for the removal of the Hungarian question from the agenda of the UN and the international recognition of the Government in the UN. The UN is helpful in situations we would not even think about. All times have their own narratives.

Your Excellencies,

We need to make sure that the UN is able to give proper answers and show directions to the challenges.

For this reason, Hungary supports the three review processes in the area of peace and security. We also look forward to the 2016 review of the Global Counterterrorism Strategy, as well as to the plan of action to be submitted by the Secretary-General on countering violent extremism. We hope that the member states will manage to reach consensus on enlarging the Security Council to better reflect the current realities. In the meantime, Hungary – as a member of the ACT group –works actively on improving the working methods of the Council, and hopes to see more women in conflict solving situations.

Hungary also believes that the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development transmits a very positive message about the organization that managed to build consensus around this ambitious and transformative package that represents the best chance to build a people and planet centered future.

Hungary was proud to co-chair together with Kenya the Open Working Group responsible for the work on the SDGs.

Mr. President,

Hungary hosts the regional representations and Global Shared Services Centers of a number of UN specialized agencies and international organizations such as UNHCR, FAO, ILO, IFRC and UNICEF, which most recently opened new premises in Budapest.

It is not by chance, but by the result of conscious hard work and serious commitments from my country. We believe that by providing location and facilities to these organizations, Hungary contributes significantly to their cost-efficient and more effective functioning, contributing this way to enhance and strengthen the UN system.

Mr. President,

Since the establishment of the UN, our world has changed fundamentally. Nevertheless, the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter are as relevant as they were in 1945. The core values that motivated the creation of the UN have proved timeless and universal.

We should, however, never forget that the strengths and accomplishments, just like the weaknesses and failures of the Organization are our common responsibility. In other words, the capacity of the UN to act (or not to act) is nothing but the reflection of the will and determination of its member states.

But, dear Colleagues, it is also up to us, the representatives of our countries, to work with each other in an open, trust-building, creative dialogue!

I have been working in the UN structure since the 1990s. My credo, despite all the obstacles, has always been the following:

“Be a dreamer!

Be an optimist!

Be an activist!”

Doing so, I hope we can create together a reality from the vision of the founding mothers and fathers of this noble organization.

I thank you.