

Permanent Mission of Hungary

to the United Nations

New York

*CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY!*

**Keynote address by**

**H.E. Ambassador Katalin Annamária Bogyay,**

**Permanent Representative of Hungary to the UN,**

**Chair of the Third Committee at the 75th Session of the General Assembly**

**On the occasion of the**

**Third Committee Informal Debate of UN Youth Delegates**

**21 October 2020**

Mr President of the General Assembly,

Madam Envoy,

Ambassador Skoog,

Dear Youth Delegates,

First of all, I wish to express my appreciation for the EU Delegation and the Office of the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth for hosting this crucial event, of which I am honoured to be part of.

Youth participation is at the heart of the UN’s work, and is an indispensable part of the Third Committee. UN matters are youth matters, and the voice of youth should be heard and taken into account, not only on issues related to youth policies, but all matters on the UN’s agenda.

Dear Delegates,

Throughout the years, it has become an important practice of the Third Committee to give an active role to Youth Delegates during its General Discussion. Hearing directly from you and learning from your fresh perspectives has always been a privilege.

Even if this year, delegations could not travel to New York for the Committee due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I was delighted to give the floor to you virtually in the General Assembly Hall during our General Debate. Your voice filled the Hall with new energy and determination, and I have to say that listening to you was one of the highlights of the Debate for me.

As Youth Delegates, you have an important mission to fulfil. You bring the aspirations and expectations of young people to the UN, and take the spirit of the UN Charter and the UN’s goals home. Your activism on the local level is matched to your exchange with the highest level of policy makers. You have an immense responsibility to amplify the voices of those who are the furthest left behind, and an immense opportunity to reclaim leadership for your generation. The 75th anniversary of the UN is the momentum for you - and the millions of young people around the world you represent - to shape the future of the UN and the future of our societies.

There is no single matter on our agenda that does not impact the youth: upholding human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, empowering women and girls, preventing and tackling violence and discrimination, creating an inclusive environment for the marginalised, and ensuring that peacebuilding and sustainable development is designed and implemented to pave the way for a better future.

Dear Youth Delegates,

You set the agenda today, the same way as you will have to set the agenda wherever you go. You know the best the matters that are the most pressing for your communities, and you should not shy away from raising them.

It will be a pleasure to listen to you.

Thank you.