

## **Closing remarks, UN Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025**

**Nils Hilmer, State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Defence**

**May 14, 2025**

Honorable Under-Secretary-Generals,  
Excellencies,  
dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

as the Berlin Ministerial now comes to an end, I would like to thank everyone who travelled to Berlin to support peacekeeping reform, to present pledges, and to discuss the future of peacekeeping.

Many different people shared their insights with us – the UN Secretary-General, representatives from the UN system, field missions, troop and police contributing countries, civil society, and peacekeepers themselves.

We enjoyed an Excellent exhibition and a dinner at the Federal Ministry of Defence, and many bilateral meetings were held.

I would like to thank my colleagues from the Federal Foreign Office and the United Nations for the great cooperation in preparing the event.

Germany is very humbled about this year's participation: We had 133 countries and 11 observers registered, with 54 attending on Minister level.

We are grateful to have collected pledges by 74 member states today.

Through your dedicated pledges and announcements, the Berlin Ministerial has contributed to remain prepared for UN Peacekeeping – today, and in the future.

As the host of this year's PKM, We will share our conclusions after the conference.

We are convinced, that this conference will have a long-lasting effect. We hope that the ideas that were raised will be included in the Review of UN Peace Operations to be

issued by the UN Secretary-General as mandated in the Pact for the Future.

The Berlin Ministerial signified a true recommitment to UN Peacekeeping by strengthening and adapting it.

Participants underlined that UN peacekeeping remains a legitimate and cost-effective instrument in international crisis management.

It allows effective multilateral burden sharing and is a true global partnership.

I would like to highlight some issues that were discussed during the breakout-sessions.

It was underlined that it is **necessary to create enabling environments for the full, equal, safe and meaningful participation of women in peacekeeping**, as we mark the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1325.

Clearly, all considerations on the future of peacekeeping should integrate Women, Peace and Security aspects.

**Participants stressed the importance of ensuring the safety, security, as well as the mental and physical health of UN peacekeepers.** Here, it was highlighted that technology can play a supportive role.

**Furthermore**, we have to counter mis- and disinformation, and strengthen strategic communications.

And last but not least, participants underlined the need **to strengthen operational resilience and environmental management in peace operations**, not only in order to reduce the UN's environmental footprint, but also to protect Peacekeepers by lowering logistical dependencies.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it was an absolute honour and pleasure to host so many distinguished guests here in Berlin.

Let me once again thank you for the political support to UN Peacekeeping in this Conference.

Let us keep up the momentum from the Berlin Ministerial to make UN Peacekeeping fit for the future!

Thank you very much!