

UN Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025
Closing Ceremony on 14 May 2025
Remarks by Dr Géza Andreas von Geyr,
State Secretary of the German Federal Foreign Office

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Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Federal Foreign Office, I would like to join my colleague State Secretary Hilmer in thanking all participants for their valuable contributions to the success of this conference and for all most relevant pledges, which support the blue helmets.

Foreign Minister Wadehul has made clear in his opening speech that the new German government will continue its support to the United Nations and to UN peacekeeping, making peace operations more efficient and focused and thus fit for the future.

We are most grateful to Secretary-General Guterres for his inspiring speech which informed our discussions from the very beginning of this conference.

I would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to the UN Secretariat for the excellent cooperation in preparing and conducting the Ministerial.

Together we succeed in sending a clear message: In these challenging times, the UN and UN Peacekeeping are more important than ever. Multilateralism matters. The United Nations matter. UN peacekeeping matters.

Allow me to highlight a few key take-aways on the Future of Peacekeeping from my perspective:

- **Many participants called on the UN Security Council to agree on focused, prioritized and demand-driven mandates.**
- **In light of expected funding cuts to UN Peacekeeping, participants stressed the importance of UN Peacekeeping as cost-effective international burden-sharing for peace and security, and emphasized the importance of timely and full payment of assessed contributions for UN peacekeeping. At the same time, participants welcomed measures intended to strengthen efficiencies in UN peacekeeping.**
- **Participants underlined that peacekeeping efforts are most impactful when aligned with the UN's broader preventive and peacebuilding activities.**

- Many participants also highlighted the importance of enhanced collaboration between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in particular the African Union.
- Numerous participants noted the life-saving work of UN peacekeeping to countless civilians and stressed the importance of mandates about the protection of civilians.
- Participants noted that strategies should pay particular attention to the needs of host communities, in particular the needs of women, youth and marginalized groups, and promote their full, equal, safe and meaningful participation in peace processes.
- Participants also emphasized the importance of strengthening the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, while stressing that the vast majority of UN mission personnel serve with pride, dignity and respect for the people they assist.

We are confident that the outcomes of this Ministerial can inform the Secretary-General's ongoing review on the future of all forms of peace operations that was mandated in the Pact for the Future.

We are pleased to announce that a written "Chairs' Summary" based on these conclusions will be published very soon.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Germany was honored to host the "UN Peacekeeping Ministerial 2025". We are proud that we could welcome the UN Secretary-General, delegations from 134 countries and 10 international organisations to the Federal Foreign Office.

Going forward, you can count on my country:

- Germany will remain a strong advocate for international peace and security and supporter of UN Peacekeeping.
- Germany will continue to be a reliable supporter of the United Nations – financially and politically.
- Germany will continue to listen to the concerns of the international community, and jointly work on tackling today's global challenges. Our premise is not that we must agree on everything. Our premise is that we all must be guided by the principles of the UN Charter.

Thank you very much.