



**PRÍHOVOR PREZIDENTA SR
na Bezpečnostnej rade Organizácie Spojených
národov**

New York, 23. 9. 2026

Excellencies,

I would like to thank France for organizing this Security Council meeting and for the opportunity to address this session.

When we met here last year, we marked 80 years since the founding of the United Nations. It was a moment built on a simple promise about how nations should treat one another.

For Slovakia, our commitment to that promise has not changed. We continue to support the basic rules that bring us together every year: that every country has the right to govern itself, that borders must never be changed by force, and that no nation is above the law.

Since the start of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, we have supported the Ukrainian people as any responsible neighbor would do.

Today, I have two simple messages to offer, both of them equally urgent: First, the deliberate attacks against civilians must stop immediately. Second, diplomacy is the only responsible way to resolve this crisis, prevent further escalation and create conditions for political settlement that can last.

Most of the attacks have nothing to do with military goals anymore. They continue to bring suffering and destruction. Ballistic missiles and drones target homes and civilian infrastructure in residential areas of Ukraine day after day.

What makes them targets? Nothing. The only goal is to spread terror and paralyze. This is most obvious when we look at the attacks on critical infrastructure. Strikes on energy facilities have triggered electricity supply disruptions again and again. Especially in winter, they turn freezing weather into a weapon against civilians.

This is completely unacceptable. As we have said so many times before, there is no military solution to this war. Slovakia has always supported every serious peace effort. We have advocated for a solution that would enhance the overall security and stability of Ukraine and the whole of Europe.

After twenty years, Slovakia is ready to serve this body once again as a non-permanent member. We are prepared to be a responsible partner offering a balanced approach, ready to contribute to any meaningful path toward peace. Because stepping up diplomacy is our only option.

The upcoming winter will be critical for Ukraine. However, there is still no de-escalation in sight. Slovakia strongly supports a ceasefire to protect innocent civilians from bitter winter conditions.

That is why we welcome the most recent mediation talks led by the United States. They deserve support from partners in Europe to help bring Ukraine and Russia to the negotiating table.

Even a partial ceasefire could lead to a broader agreement later. It would be a clear signal that there is a serious will to stop senseless atrocities and achieve a lasting peace in line with the UN Charter.

Thank you.