



PRÍHOVOR PREZIDENTA SR
na svetovom klimatickom samite
COP29

Baku, 12. 11. 2024

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This year, my country Slovakia, as others in Europe, has experienced the hottest summer on record – it brought heavy rains and devastating floods. The greenhouse gas concentrations are the highest in the humankind. We have crossed critical 1,5 celsius degrees in twelve consecutive months, and this gives us the real taste of what the planet can become. Climate change accelerates – so it is detrimental effects on our planet. Longer we wait, more we can lose, in terms of lives, ecosystems, and economies.

Esteemed Colleagues,

In face of climate change danger, every single country is too small. Through commitment of all to multilateralism is badly needed. Let us ask – can we succeed without all the biggest economies and polluters stepping up? Developing countries need our solidarity. Can they succeed if our approach to financing and its contributors remain the same? Everyone needs to speed up. My country does. We cut our emissions by almost 50% since 1990.

In energy sector, we shut down our last coalmine in 2023, and remaining two coal power plants recently. It's a big step towards full phase-out of coal from our power generation. At this COP Slovakia joins the "Call to Action for No New Coal". Soon my country's electricity will come from low emission sources by 90%, mainly nuclear and renewables. We will also become its net exporter and already we help Ukraine with lack of electricity due to Russian aggression. For Slovakia, the second largest producer in Europe, nuclear is crucial on path towards neutrality. In innovations we want to go beyond small mother of reactors. Only around 40% of nuclear fuel, we can turn into energy in current large scale reactors. We want to become leader in multiple reuse of this spent fuel. This could be a real breakthrough in energy security or costly nuclear waste storage. We could secure enough energy for many generations to come.

Till the end of this decade, my country plans to reduce emissions at least by 55%. To achieve it, we will invest 14 bn EUR to decarbonize sectors, increase renewables and to advance our resilience. I am advocate of the rational choice that do not harm the working people, the most vulnerable, our competitiveness and prosperity. If we lose trust of our citizens as politicians, we cannot succeed. Slovakia

pledged to contribute 2,2 mil. EUR to the Green Climate Fund, by 2027. Our climate finance grow. It helps ours developing partners, to build their greener future and their resilience to climate adversity.

Colleagues, I wish this COP and its Presidency a progress towards meaningful climate action, in line with the global stock age along all strands of the Paris agreement – for sustainable well-being *of* and *at* our Planet. Thank you very much!