



Major points of Prime Minister Justine Trudeau and Minister of Foreign Relations of Mexico, Mr. Luis Videgaray Caso's Speeches at the United Nations General Assembly on 19 September 2017, New York

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Prime Minister Justine Trudeau in his speech to the United Nations (UN) General Assembly¹ focused on the theme of the year “Focusing on people: Striving for peace and a decent life for all on a sustainable planet.”, stated that Canada has made some mistakes in the past and how nations, including Canada, can learn from them. He stated that these challenges will be faced by other nations. He stated that this approach would not only serve domestic needs but also make the world a better peaceful and prosperous for all. He also commented that while it may be viewed as domestic issue of Canada, they are also linked to the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN.

The following are some of points from the speech of Prime Minister Trudeau's at the UN General Assembly.

Issues	Remarks by President Trudeau at the UN
Indigenous population of Canada	<p>This year, in 2017, Canada celebrated the 150th anniversary of Confederation. But Canada is much older than that. It has been home to the descendants of settlers and immigrants for hundreds of years, and Indigenous Peoples for millennia. We are a country is built on different cultures, different religions, different languages all coming together. That diversity has become our great strength.</p> <p>Our efforts include investments to help bring safe and clean drinking water</p>

¹ The full text of the speech is available at https://gadebate.un.org/sites/default/files/gastatements/72/ca_en_fr.pdf

	<p>to all Indigenous communities – part of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goal #6: clean water and sanitation. Construction work on nearly 4,000 homes has been completed or is underway, helping to fulfil SDG#11: making communities safe and sustainable places to live.</p> <p>Over time, programs and services will increasingly be delivered by Indigenous Peoples, as part of their move toward true self-government, and the full implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>
Sustainable Development Goals	The Sustainable Development Goals are as meaningful in Canada as they are everywhere else in the world, and we are committed to implementing them at home while we also work with our international partners to achieve them around the world. This is important, because poverty and hunger know no borders. We cannot pretend that these solvable challenges happen only on distant shores.
Climate Change	<i>At the international level, our commitment is unwavering. There is no country on this planet that can walk away from the reality of climate change. And for our part, Canada will continue to fight for the global plan that has a realistic chance of countering it.</i>
Multi-lateral Trade	We are also working hard to deliver progressive trade agreements like the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement with the European Union, which comes into effect today. CETA will expand opportunities for businesses; create good, well-paying jobs for workers; and deliver meaningful economic growth...

In concluding his speech, Prime Minister Trudeau stated, “We can’t build strong relationships if we refuse to have conversations. We can’t chart a more peaceful path if the starting point is suspicion and mistrust....”

In his speech to the UN General Assembly, Mr. Luis Videgaray Caso, Minister of Foreign Relations of Mexico² thanked the international community’s support following the earthquake in Mexico. He also spoke about the steps taken by Mexican people, civil society and citizens to help each other after this natural disaster. In his speech he further stated that migration was at the core of global issues and Mexico supported the Global Compact on Migration.

The following are some of the important points from the speech that he gave to the UN General Assembly. (As the points are based on an audio file, some points are paraphrased text of the speech.)

Issues	Remarks by Mister Caso at the UN
Multilateralism	<i>We today hear voices that are questioning the efficacy of the UN and multilateralism to address the global challenges. It would seem today that the community of sovereigns States is dealing</i>

² Full text of the speech (in Spanish) is available at https://gadebate.un.org/sites/default/files/gastatements/72/mx_es.pdf. Audio of English interpretation is available at <https://gadebate.un.org/en/72/mexico>

	<p><i>with a false dilemma to persevere in building walls of understanding on the contrary to closed borders and build walls built on fear.</i> Mexico rejects this dilemma.</p> <p>Mexico is a profound State with a multilateral feeling.</p> <p>No matter how powerful a country is it is not able by itself to respond to the enormous shared challenges of our times. It is multilateralism that makes a difference between international system of States that deal with mutual co-existence and an international society where sovereign States have common solidarity. Commitment of States to multilateralism reduces anarchic ideas.</p> <p>There are many achievements of multilateralism in recent years: fighting climate change, preserving biodiversity, regulating arms trade, and response to natural disasters are but a few examples.</p>
World Migrating Compact.	Mexico places its faith in multilateralism to negotiating the World Migrating Compact so that migration flows can happen in a regulated safe and orderly way.
UN Agenda 2030	For Mexico it is a State commitment. The Agenda 2030 must be viewed as articulating tool to work with organisations on the major objective of prosperity of the people of the earth.
UN Peacekeeping Operations	<p>...In order for the UN to be more effective in its task, its preventive capacities have to be strengthened. We have to centre everything on the human being.</p> <p>The existence of nuclear weapons is a threat for all of mankind. In face of the persistence of the nuclear danger the Mexican Government has signed the treaty for the prohibition of nuclear weapons.</p> <p><i>Mexico will also support all resolutions of the Security Council to fight nuclear threats.</i> And I reiterate our full support for the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.</p>
Terrorism	<i>We condemn, unambiguously, all terrorist attack anywhere. We support UN's multilateralism initiatives on prevention which in addition to efforts to eradicate terrorism are promoting tolerance and respect of human rights.</i>
Human Rights	States have an obligation for protecting and promoting human rights...women and girls are suffering from sexual violence, exclusion, marginalisation, discrimination and extreme cases of horrendous feminises. Mexico understands its need to redouble obligations to combat such practices.... Gender equality is a prerequisite to achieving a world where peace and development are truly sustainable, are inclusive and lasting.

Strengthening Links around the world	<p>Mexico reaffirms its openness to the rest of the world. We are expanding and diversifying our political links and economic and cooperation links with the entire region and all regions especially with the nations of Europe, Asia and the Pacific and South America.</p> <p>We are working on our legal framework to have stronger instruments on the basis of shared values, such as the defence of multilateralism we can work together to deal with today's global challenges.</p> <p>We are strengthening our links with China, Japan and Republic of Korea. We are building new negotiations with Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Israel to mention a few. We are also resolved to have greater links to Latin American and Caribbean region.</p> <p>We also work with the Pacific Alliance, Chile Colombia and Peru to continue promoting innovation. We want to be on the side of the members of the Mercosur, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay with whom we have started a close relationship.</p>
Venezuela	<p>We want to be at the side of the Venezuelan people to fight to recover their democracy.</p>
North America	<p>Mexico is also a proud member of North America. As a sovereign nation we believe in the North American integration process so that the region can become the most competitive in the world.</p> <p><i>Mexican government has a moral and legal obligation in protecting and supporting and defending the rights of migrants, no matter their status. We are particularly proud of the DREAMERS and will continue to plead for a permanent settlement of their legal status</i></p> <p>Regarding Canada and the United States, we are working towards modernising NAFTA.</p>

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Disclaimer: The views expressed are that of the Researcher and not of the Council.