



## Major Issues Highlighted by P-5 Countries at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of UNGA

### China

Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (PRC) attended the 72<sup>nd</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). In his speech he spoke on various issues including global security, terrorism, 2030 Agenda, and the Palestine issue. He also highlighted One Belt One Road as a significant agenda consistent with the global desire for development and prosperity. In the following sections, some of his statements are highlighted.

Wang Yi recalled Chinese President Xi Jinping's appeal to foster a new type of international relations featuring win-win cooperation and to build a community of shared future. He added, "The five permanent members of the UNSC must play an exemplary role in upholding no-conflict, no-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation."

On the issue of terrorism, Wang said, "we need a holistic approach that addresses both symptoms and root causes. We need to abide by law and avoid applying double standards."

ON the Korean situation, Wang said, "We urge the DPRK not to go any further in the dangerous direction. We call on the US to truly honor its four nos commitment toward the DPRK, and we urge all relevant parties to play a constructive role in easing

tensions”.<sup>1</sup> He also said, “Parties should meet each other half way by addressing each other's legitimate concerns. China believes that the day when the Peninsula is denuclearized should also be the day when its peace mechanism is established.”

He underscored the need to help states implement the 2030 Agenda in line with their own needs and priorities, pressing the UN to continue its follow-up of the Paris Agreement, and parties to respect the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. He encouraged States to seek complementarity between the 2030 Agenda and their own development strategies.

On global refugee issue he said that “it has its origin in regional instability and uneven development. The UN must make quick response to the crisis by easing the humanitarian plight. But more importantly, it must make greater efforts to address the root causes by helping the countries and regions concerned to develop.

The past five years have witnessed a momentous journey for China. Under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, China has made remarkable achievements on all fronts and socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new development stage. He added that China is an anchor of world peace and that China will never seek hegemony, expansion or sphere of influence. China will always vote for peace at the Security Council.

On OBOR he said, “China is an engine for development and prosperity. The Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation China successfully hosted last May has produced more than 270 cooperation deliverables.” He added “This project of the century will offer a new paradigm for efforts to promote world peace and development. It will also inject fresh impetus to the pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.”

Wang Yi, in his speech, reiterates the position of Xi Jinping as the core, repeats China’s past proposals on the Palestinian issue and reiterates its policy on the Korean peninsula crisis by underscoring that the US as well as DPRK needed to tone down their rhetoric. He also underscored the importance of OBOR as a defining a new paradigm for global development. The speech highlights China’s thinking on international order by infusing concepts like “major power relations” and “community of shared future”. Interestingly, he did not condemn all forms of terrorism instead seeking to focus on the ‘root cause debate’.

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<sup>1</sup> The four Nos policy was highlighted in a speech by U.S. State Secretary Rex Tillerson when he said “We do not seek a regime change, we do not seek a collapse of the regime, we do not seek an accelerated reunification of the peninsula, we do not seek an excuse to send our military north of the 38th Parallel,”.

## France

In his maiden speech at the UN General Assembly in New York, French President Emmanuel Macron addressed the critical issues of global politics ranging from international terrorism, crises in Syria and North Korea, climate change, Libya, Ukraine, multilateralism to the UN reforms. The new French President has adopted an internationalist approach in articulating the foreign policy objectives of his country. He expressed his desire to play an active role in addressing challenges faced by the European Union as well as actively engage France and the European Union in the global politics. His speech reflected such an approach.

### **Syrian Crisis**

French President Emmanuel Macron extensively spoke on the Syrian crisis. Expressing concern over the plight of the Syrian people, he stated, “it is time for the international community to take note of its collective failure and question its methods.” He called for political resolution of the crisis and emphasized on dialogue. France supported the initiative for an inclusive political road map in Syria. He opined that the “Astana” format may be ‘useful’, however it would not ‘suffice’.

### **International Terrorism**

On the threat of international terrorism, President Macron said that French people are also vulnerable to threats posed by international terrorism. He mentioned about the fight against Islamic State and announced that France would organize a conference in 2018 on the fight against Islamic State. He noted that the fight against terrorism ‘is a military fight, a diplomatic fight but also an educational, cultural and moral fight.’

Speaking about terrorism in the Sahel region, President Macron called for undertaking ‘collective mobilization’ to eradicate terrorism from the Sahel region. The President believes that only national efforts and resources would not be able to effectively fight the menace of international terrorism. He also addressed the migration issue and said that it is moral and political obligation to protect the refugees.

### **Climate Change**

French President said that Paris climate deal would not be renegotiated. He added, “it can be improved with new contributions, but we will not go back. I profoundly respect the decision of the United States and the door will always be open to them, but we will continue with all governments, local governments, cities, companies, NGOs and citizens of the world to implement the Paris Agreement.” France’s approach appears to be pragmatic on the issue of climate change. It does not want to press the US on climate

change issue. It seems that President Macron would like to keep the door open to reconsideration of the US policy.

### **Iran Nuclear Deal**

In line with the EU and other European countries, President Macron said that Iran deal should be respected. He noted that terminating Iran deal would be ‘a grave mistake’ without its replacement. He added that it would be ‘irresponsible’ to not respect the deal.

### **North Korea**

Emphasizing on the diplomacy in dealing the North Korean crisis, the French President said, “France will refuse any escalation and will close no door to dialogue, so long as the conditions are there for this dialogue to further peace.”

### **UN Reforms**

The French President also addressed the issue of UN reform. He stressed that the Security Council has to be capable of making effective decisions. He also talked about better representation of all forces present on all continents and coordination in the management of crises. He said that France would be alongside the United Nations for the reform. France supported the UN General Secretary’s UN reform plan.

Finally, multilateral approach to deal with global crises and global challenges was underlined in the speech. He mentioned that the global challenges, such as terrorism, migration, global warming and regulation of the digital sector, can be effectively addressed through the multilateral approach and common efforts by various stakeholders.

## **Russia**

Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov touched upon many issues during his speech. He spoke on the shaping of the world order, negative influence of the legacy of the Cold War, NATO’s expansion, the Korean, Palestinian and the Syrian issues, terrorism, chemical weapons, cybersecurity, nuclear-weapon-free world, militarization of outer-space, importance of the United Nation etc. The highlights of his speech are:

<b>Topics Covered</b>	<b>Remarks by Mr. Lavrov</b>
<b>Equal World Order</b>	Lavrov praised the US President Donald Trump’s assertion on complying with the principles of the world order based on sovereignty, refraining from interference into internal affairs, equality of people and mutual respect and not export democracy or western values. He endorsed

	<p>Trump's emphasis on setting an example of leadership through upholding these values. Lavrov reiterated that Russia will continue to uphold UNGA's resolution on "Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order", adopted in December 2016. He also stated that multipolar world order is a natural process and all countries must support and adapt to it rather than containing the process. He also said that globalization should not antagonize, but play a unifying role, taking into account the interests of all states without exception and contributing to stable and secure future for all humanity.</p> <p>The process of shaping the polycentric world order is an objective trend that reflects the redistribution of global balance of forces and increasing the factor of cultural and civilizational identity of peoples. All of us, even those used to bossing the world around, will have to adapt to this reality. It is in our common interests not to try and contain this natural process. The world order should become equitable and democratic, just as the founding fathers of the UN envisioned it. Globalization should not antagonize, but play a unifying role, taking into account the interests of all states without exception and contributing to stable and secure future for all humanity.</p>
<p><b>Cold War legacy and relics of bloc based approach</b></p>	<p>Lavrov said that Russia has tried to "eliminate the legacy of the Cold War and has done a lot to strengthen confidence and mutual understanding in the Euro-Atlantic region and the world." However, because of the non-reciprocity of the West there is a continuation in the bloc-to-bloc confrontation mentality, which can be seen in the refusal of NATO respecting "the principle of equal and indivisible security across the OSCE area, solemnly declared in the 1990s".</p>
<p><b>NATO's expansion</b></p>	<p>Lavrov stated that NATO has done "reckless" eastern expansion and, provoked instability in the post-Soviet space and encouraged anti-Russian sentiments, saying that these were the reasons for the protracted conflict in South-Eastern Ukraine. Further on Ukraine, he said that the crisis remains unresolved because of Kiev's non-complying attitude to the Minsk Agreement. He referred to a draft resolution tabled in the UN Security Council which was initiated towards facilitating a settlement of</p>

	<p>the crisis and hopes to have a constructive interaction on those issues with Russia's European and US partners, without zero-sum games.</p>
<b>Tolerance,</b>	<p>Lavrov emphasised the need to put a secure shield against neo-Nazism, revanchism, extremism and xenophobia, and enhance international and intercultural harmony and condemn radical movements that profess neo-Nazi ideology and stand up for heroization of Nazis and their associates. He said that all the countries must uphold the rulings of the Nuremberg Tribunal and stop supporting any kind of intolerance in the form of destruction and desecration of any kind objects of historic, religious and cultural value by terrorists, extremists and nationalists. He expressed his disapproval of Europe's approval to the demolition of monuments to the liberators of the continent and heroes of WWII. Russia intends to submit relevant proposals of this issue at the UN General Assembly and UNESCO in order to provide for corresponding legal framework to prevent such actions.</p> <p>He also spoke on the inadmissibility to remain indifferent to either the shameful phenomenon of non-citizenship persisting in Europe, or the suppression of minority languages in violation of the Conventions of the Council of Europe.</p>
<b>Resolution of Conflicts</b>	<p>Dialogue and finding the balance between basic interests of conflicting parties is the solution. Lavrov warned against blatant pressure and unilateral sanctions, which poses threats to the stability of the international order. He mentioned the danger posed because of the imposition of new sanctions on Iran by the US. He took another example of Cuba and has asked the UN to lift the sanctions, called upon by many UN Member States.</p> <p>The solving of humanitarian tasks and reconciliation of conflicting parties are also relevant for other crises in the region, including the situation in Libya, Yemen, and Iraq. In all these situations, just like in any other conflicts, Russia pursues a balanced policy and works with all parties without exception.</p>
<b>Korean Issue</b>	<p>Situation is unfolding dangerously and Russia resolutely condemns the nuclear missile adventures of Pyongyang in violation of the UN Security Council resolutions. Stress</p>

	<p>has been put on the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions and resumption of dialogue towards the resolution of the crisis. There is no alternative to the political and diplomatic methods of addressing the nuclear problem of the Korean Peninsula based on dialogue among all interested parties. Lavrov called on the members of international community to support the Russia-China roadmap contained in the joint statement of 4 July, made by the Foreign Ministries of Russia and China.</p>
<b>Venezuela</b>	<p>Lavrov warned against instigation to turmoil and threats of power interference for the sake of the so-called democratization of the country or actions to undermine the legitimate government of any country such as in the case of Venezuela. In any internal conflict, the international community must encourage the parties to national reconciliation and compromise.</p>
<b>Negative Effects in circumvention of the UN Charter</b>	<p>Lavrov said that the attempts to ignore differing opinions, to recur to dictate and ultimatums or the use of force in circumvention of the UN Charter have never done any good. The outburst of international terrorism, millions of refugees, unprecedented flows of illegal migration are mainly rooted in the adventurous change of "unsuitable regimes" of the recent years, including armed interventions that brought havoc and destruction in West Asia and Northern Africa and paved the way for terrorists in all the parts of the world where they have never been before</p>
<b>Syria Crisis</b>	<p>Lavrov showed cautious optimism and referred to the 6th International Meeting on Syria in Astana, held on 14-15 September 2017, which has finalized the work on the four de-escalation zones agreed upon with the participation of Russia, Iran, Turkey, the U.S., Jordan and the UN and supported by many other countries. These agreements have created conditions for further progress towards the implementation of Resolution 2254 on the basis of direct dialogue between the government and the opposition. The most urgent task is to increase the supplies of humanitarian aid and demine the liberated territories. Lavrov said that he hoped that all those who sincerely wish peace to Syria and its people must join their efforts in this process under the leadership of the UN, and without any preconditions.</p>



<b>Chemical Weapons</b>	Russia suggested that cases of chemical weapons in the region must be investigated honestly and professionally, without any attempts to manipulate the OPCW-UN Joint Investigative Mechanism.
<b>Palestinian Issue</b>	Russia attaches great importance to the restoration of the Palestinian Unity and welcome the efforts of Egypt in this direction. Russia is ready to assist in any way possible the resumption of direct talks between Israel and Palestine, and cooperate with Quartet partners and Arab League for this purpose. The unresolved Palestinian problem continues to be exploited by the extremists who recruit more and more adept.
<b>Terrorism</b>	<p>Lavrov said that terrorist attacks around the world illustrate the illusory nature of the attempts to create 'isolated safe havens'. Extremism and terrorism can only be fought jointly, without double standards or hidden agendas, and relying on the main responsibility of States, as envisaged in the UN Global Counter-terrorism Strategy.</p> <p>Russia welcomes the reform of counter-terrorism activity of the UN system, initiated by Secretary-General and approved by the General Assembly. Moscow views the appointment of Russia's representative as head of the new UN Office of Counter-Terrorism as the recognition of Russia's role in combating this evil. The Kremlin thanked everybody for their support.</p> <p>Lavrov called upon the international community to fight against the terrorist group al-Nusra, the latter being tolerated for whatever reason by the U.S. coalition members.</p>
<b>Nuclear-weapon-free world</b>	Russia is committed to the goal of achieving a nuclear-weapon-free world. The attempts to 'outlaw' the nuclear weapons without taking into account modern realities and turning a blind eye to all the factors that impact the strategic stability today only make this common goal more distant and undermine the consensus regimes of NPT and CTBT.
<b>Demilitarization of outer space</b>	Russia launched an appeal to say 'no!' to the militarization of information space. LAVORV appealed that the international community must prevent the transformation of ICTs into an arena of politico-military



	confrontation and their use as an instrument of pressure, economic damage, and propaganda of ideas of terrorist and extremist ideology.
<b>Cyber Security</b>	Lavrov said that Russia has drafted a universal convention on countering cybercrime, including hacking. The Kremlin proposes to open its discussion as early as during the current session. The UN must focus its efforts on elaboration of the rules of responsible behavior in the digital sphere that meet the security interests of all states.
<b>Sustainable Development Goals</b>	Lavrov stated that without mutual trust, it is impossible to expect effective implementation of the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals or the Paris Climate Agreement, or the solution of global tasks of food security, population, healthcare that are crucial to developing countries.
<b>Principles of International Relations</b>	The fundamental principles of international relations should include the recognition of political pluralism, freedom of choice and the rule of law. It is necessary to stop relying on military alliances, and provide support and security guarantees to the States that opted for neutrality. As for the economy, it is necessary to work on reducing the obstacles to trade and investment, and stop politicizing economic relations. The international Olympic movement and sports in general should be depoliticized.
<b>Culture and Civilizational Ties</b>	Lavrov said it is necessary to educate, first of all, the youth, in the spirit of respect for cultural and civilizational diversity of the modern world. Russia invited everybody to the 19th World Festival of Youth and Students that will be hosted by Russia in Sochi in the month of October (14-22 October). Another major international event held at the same time will be the 137 <sup>th</sup> Interparliamentary Union Assembly in St. Petersburg with its main topic for discussion: "Strengthening of peace and security through intercultural and interreligious dialogue". According to Lavrov, it was the best way to stop using historic events to instigate hatred and phobias.
<b>Great Eurasian Partnership</b>	On Russian President Vladimir Putin's vision of the Great Eurasian partnership, Lavrov said that this initiative was taken based on the philosophy of coexistence, conjugation and harmonization of interests of various countries with the aim at the formation of common economic and humanitarian space on the basis of the principle of

	indivisible security.
<b>United Nations</b>	<p>Russia believes in the vitality of the UN, and would like that the Secretary-General play an active role in facilitating the full realization of its potential based on the goals and principles of the UN Charter and respecting the prerogatives of the UN intergovernmental bodies. A specially tailored approach is required for the ideas of peacekeeping reform where there should be no abrupt shifts or abandonment of invaluable experience accumulated over the decades.</p> <p>Russia reiterated its support to the UN activities in the interest of improving global governance and true democratization of international relations.</p>
<b>Dialogue</b>	<p>Lavrov emphasised on reviving the culture of dialogue, search for the balance of interests against the instincts of instant solutions and the desire to "punish the disobedient". In essence, it is a matter of preserving humanity in all its wealth and diversity.</p>

## **The United Kingdom**

In her address to the UNGA, British Prime Minister Theresa May covered various issues, including international terrorism, political instability, extremism and extremism, online spread of radical ideology, UN reform, and responsibility to address global issues and regional challenges. Considering the UK's role in the Middle East and changing regional dynamics in Europe, she addressed the issues of regional and global importance and indirectly hinted towards Russia as well. Although the UK supports Iran nuclear deal, it has some concerns on Iran's policies in the region.

### **International Terrorism and Extremism**

On international terrorism, The Prime Minister said, "I think of course of the terrorism that has struck so many of our countries including my own 5 times this year. And fuelling that terrorist threat the increasing numbers being drawn to extremist ideologies not only in places riven by conflict and instability, but many online in their homes thousands of miles away from those conflicts." About extremism she urged collective response saying, "We all need to come together, to take on this extremism that lives among us...".

### **Syrian Crisis**

Prime Minister Theresa May mentioned about the Syrian crisis in her UNGA speech. She held Assad government responsible for the chaos and tragedy in Syria. She noted that

nations should not 'seek to advance their interests through terrorist or proxy groups.' Extending the support to the Syrian government, particularly referring to the Permanent Member's use of veto in UNSC, she cautioned 'we must not abandon our support for the UN's attempts to secure peace and stability in Syria'. Indirectly indicating towards Russia, she called on bringing Assad government to the table. She also blamed one country for using veto to prevent action against a 'despicable regime'. She noted that it is the responsibility of nations not to seek to advance their interests through terrorist or proxy groups.

### **North Korea**

On the issue of North Korea, the Prime Minister called on to work together and exert the 'necessary' pressure to force the North Korean government to change its ways.

### **Climate Change and Development Assistance**

Prime Minister Theresa May briefly referred to the challenge of climate change and Paris climate deal. She mentioned about the UK's commitment for development assistance and said that UK would remain committed to spending 0.7 percent of GNI on development and humanitarian support.

### **UN Reforms**

She spoke about the UN reform and noted that it suffered from 'seemingly unbridgeable' gap between the nobility of its purposes and the effectiveness of its delivery. She supported 'ambitious reform agenda' of Secretary-General Guterres which she hoped is "leading to create a more agile, transparent and joined-up organisation."

## **The United States**

President Donald Trump addressed the United Nations (UN) General Assembly<sup>2</sup> for the first time after winning the Presidential elections in November 2016. In his inaugural address, he outlined his administration's foreign policy. While there were some elements of his domestic campaign, he continued with his focus on terrorism, as recently outlined in the US policy towards Afghanistan and South Asia, and equal financial burden sharing in multi-lateral organisations, as expressed by him during his campaign and also the NATO summit in June 2017.

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<sup>2</sup> The full text of the speech is available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/09/19/remarks-president-trump-72nd-session-united-nations-general-assembly>

The following are some of points from the speech of President Trump at the UN General Assembly on 19 September, 2017 providing an indication of the issues that are of importance for the Administration in the international arena.

Issues	Remarks by President Trump at the UN
The United Nations	<p>This institution was founded in the aftermath of two world wars to help shape this better future. It was based on the vision that diverse nations could cooperate to protect their sovereignty, preserve their security, and promote their prosperity.</p> <p>Our success depends on a coalition of strong and independent nations that embrace their sovereignty to promote security, prosperity, and peace for themselves and for the world.</p> <p><b><i>We do not expect diverse countries to share the same cultures, traditions, or even systems of government. But we do expect all nations to uphold these two core sovereign duties: to respect the interests of their own people and the rights of every other sovereign nation.</i></b> This is the beautiful vision of this institution, and this is foundation for cooperation and success.</p> <p>The United States continues to lead the world in humanitarian assistance, including famine prevention and relief in South Sudan, Somalia, and northern Nigeria and Yemen.</p> <p>In some cases, states that seek to subvert this institution's noble aims have hijacked the very systems that are supposed to advance them. For example, it is a massive source of embarrassment to the United Nations that some governments with egregious human rights records sit on the U.N. Human Rights Council.</p>
Financial Burden Sharing	<p>The United States is one out of 193 countries in the United Nations, and yet we pay 22 percent of the entire budget and more.</p> <p><b><i>...we believe that no nation should have to bear a disproportionate share of the burden, militarily or financially. Nations of the world must take a greater role in promoting secure and prosperous societies in their own regions.</i></b></p>
Foreign Affairs	<p>In foreign affairs, we (the US) are renewing this founding principle of sovereignty. Our government's first duty is to its people, to our</p>

	<p>citizens -- to serve their needs, to ensure their safety, to preserve their rights, and to defend their values.</p> <p><b><i>As President of the United States, I will always put America first, just like you, as the leaders of your countries will always, and should always, put your countries first.</i></b></p> <p>The United States will forever be a great friend to the world, and especially to its allies. But we can no longer be taken advantage of, or enter into a one-sided deal where the United States gets nothing in return. <b><i>As long as I hold this office, I will defend America's interests above all else.</i></b></p> <p>We must protect our nations, their interests, and their futures. <b><i>We must reject threats to sovereignty, from the Ukraine to the South China Sea.</i></b></p>
North Korea	<p>No one has shown more contempt for other nations and for the wellbeing of their own people than the depraved regime in North Korea. It is responsible for the starvation deaths of millions of North Koreans, and for the imprisonment, torture, killing, and oppression of countless more.</p> <p>... North Korea's reckless pursuit of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles threatens the entire world with unthinkable loss of human life.</p> <p><b><i>It is an outrage that some nations would not only trade with such a regime, but would arm, supply, and financially support a country that imperils the world with nuclear conflict.</i></b></p> <p>The United States has great strength and patience, but if it is forced to defend itself or its allies, <b><i>we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea.... The United States is ready, willing and able, but hopefully this will not be necessary.</i></b> That's what the United Nations is all about; that's what the United Nations is for.</p>
Iran	<p>The Iranian government masks a corrupt dictatorship behind the false guise of a democracy. It has turned a wealthy country with a rich history and culture into an economically depleted rogue state whose chief exports are violence, bloodshed, and chaos.</p> <p>...its oil profits go to fund Hezbollah and other terrorists that kill innocent Muslims and attack their peaceful Arab and Israeli neighbors. This wealth, which rightly belongs to Iran's people, also</p>

	<p>goes to shore up Bashar al-Assad's dictatorship, fuel Yemen's civil war, and undermine peace throughout the entire Middle East.</p> <p><b><i>The Iran Deal was one of the worst and most one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into.</i></b> Frankly, that deal is an embarrassment to the United States, and I don't think you've heard the last of it -- believe me.</p>
Terrorism	<p>Terrorists and extremists have gathered strength and spread to every region of the planet. Rogue regimes represented in this body not only support terrorists but threaten other nations and their own people with the most destructive weapons known to humanity.</p> <p>We will stop radical Islamic terrorism because we cannot allow it to tear up our nation, and indeed to tear up the entire world.</p> <p><b><i>We must deny the terrorists safe haven, transit, funding, and any form of support for their vile and sinister ideology.</i></b> We must drive them out of our nations. <b><i>It is time to expose and hold responsible those countries who support and finance terror groups like al Qaeda, Hezbollah, the Taliban and others that slaughter innocent people.</i></b></p>
Afghanistan	<p>From now on, our security interests will dictate the length and scope of military operations, not arbitrary benchmarks and timetables set up by politicians.</p> <p>I have also totally changed the rules of engagement in our fight against the Taliban and other terrorist groups.</p>
Syria	<p>We seek the de-escalation of the Syrian conflict, and a political solution that honors the will of the Syrian people.</p> <p>No society can be safe if banned chemical weapons are allowed to spread. That is why the United States carried out a missile strike on the airbase that launched the attack.</p>
Refugee Settlement	<p>We seek an approach to refugee resettlement that is designed to help these horribly treated people, and which enables their eventual return to their home countries, to be part of the rebuilding process.</p> <p><b><i>For the cost of resettling one refugee in the United States, we can assist more than 10 in their home region.</i></b> Out of the goodness of our hearts, we offer financial assistance to hosting countries in the region, and we support recent agreements of the G20 nations that will seek to host refugees as close to their home countries as possible. This is the safe, responsible, and</p>

	humanitarian approach.
Cuba	My administration recently announced that we will not lift sanctions on the Cuban government until it makes fundamental reforms.
Venezuela	We have also imposed tough, calibrated sanctions on the socialist Maduro regime in Venezuela....  The United States has taken important steps to hold the regime accountable. <b><i>We are prepared to take further action if the government of Venezuela persists on its path to impose authoritarian rule on the Venezuelan people.</i></b>
Multinational Trade	In America, we seek stronger ties of business and trade with all nations of good will, but this trade must be fair and it must be reciprocal.  <b><i>While America will pursue cooperation and commerce with other nations, we are renewing our commitment to the first duty of every government: the duty of our citizens.</i></b>

In concluding his speech, President Trump stated, “If this organization is to have any hope of successfully confronting the challenges before us, it will depend, as President Truman said some 70 years ago, on the "independent strength of its members." ... The true question for the United Nations today, for people all over the world who hope for better lives for themselves and their children, is a basic one: Are we still patriots? Do we love our nations enough to protect their sovereignty and to take ownership of their futures? Do we revere them enough to defend their interests, preserve their cultures, and ensure a peaceful world for their citizens?”

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