

Ladies and Gentlemen!

It's a great privilege to speak to you today. Parliamentarians from all over the globe. A strong signal of the multilateral DNA of the international order. It's manifesting the power of the law not the law of the power.

Germany is a strong supporter of multilateralism. This is also based on the realization that global challenges, like climate change, need cooperation and global solutions.

Unfortunately our multilateral system is under attack, as we see most recently by Putin's Invasion in Ukraine. We all know: War comes with dead. It knows no winners. War is the most inhumane that humans created. We stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

I'd like to thank our hosts for having us here in Bali - it is a wonderful place, and frankly: being back face-to face again feels good - but and at the same time I think many of us feel: We definitely have to build back better! That also means: To act better.

Dear colleagues!

In the end of 2020, the biggest international Arctic expedition of all times returned to its homeport in Bremerhaven, Germany, 6 days ahead of schedule. The simple reason: Where in the past eternal ice made it difficult to maneuver, there was now only the open sea. The Arctic temperature is more than 7 degrees higher than it was 100 years ago. This warming has vast implications. For example: floods, tropical storms, and droughts around the world.

Climate change will shift key coordinates of foreign policy in the coming years and decades - it has long since arrived at the centre of foreign policy.

It challenges us to answer the ultimate question in what kind of world we want to live in.

In my opinion climate policy is foreign policy and foreign policy is climate policy.

Because:

- 1. Climate change, population growth and involuntary displacement are interconnected. For example: In 2020, 4.3 million people were newly displaced in Sub-Saharan Africa as a result of natural disasters. Highest number ever.
- 2. Climate change is a threat to peace and stability.
- 3. Climate change results in geopolitical changes.

This is why the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement is at the core of our interests in Germany.

This is why it is so important to support sustainable development projects on the ground.

This is why it's important to empower civil society.

Last not least: We also have to improve risk assessment and early warning.

And as German IPU delegation we will also be engaging in protecting Biodiversity: Forrests matter!

To work together to ease the effects of climate change is therefore a question of humanity, but also of political rationality. If we fail to act now, we will have to face the consequences tomorrow.

Dear colleagues, due to this vital challenges let me call on us as parliamentarians:

Let's base our policies on scientific evidence. Let's act faster, stronger - and even more cooperative.