



CZECH REPUBLIC

Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations

**2022 High-level Political Forum for Sustainable Development held under
the auspices of the Economic and Social Council**

Ministerial Segment of the HLPF/High-level Segment of the ECOSOC

General Debate

**Statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Jan Lipavský,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic**

Check Against Delivery

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Czechia, it is my pleasure to address you at this year's High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

This year, Czechia became a member of the Economic and Social Council. Building on our past experience, we will add our own knowledge and perspective. In particular, we will support the implementation of SDG 16 in order to promote peaceful, resilient, inclusive and just societies.

This year's HLPF is also one of the first major events of the United Nations during the Czech EU Presidency. Our task will be to lead Europe through the current complex situation triggered by Russia's unprovoked and unjustified aggression against Ukraine. The ripple effects are extending human suffering far beyond Ukraine's borders, causing a rise in food and energy prices and affecting the most vulnerable people.

We will also continue to address the severe socio-economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the same time, we are halfway through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

On our road to sustainable recovery, the 2030 Agenda will serve as a global and collective road-map along with the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals.

Czechia is on the right path towards sustainable development, ranking near the forefront in the latest SDG Index. Yet tangible steps must be taken to improve the well-being of our people and sustainability for the next generations. Moreover, the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have reminded us how fragile our achievements are.

Czechia is fully aware of its global responsibility. In the spirit of "leaving no one behind", Czechia supports partner countries in achieving sustainable development and improving resilience through many projects like humanitarian assistance,

transformation policy and bilateral, EU-based and multilateral development cooperation.

Czechia's conference on "Youth as a driving force for change after COVID-19" reflected our commitment to ensuring an active and meaningful youth participation in decision-making at all levels.

Let me conclude by saying that despite the negative impacts of the pandemic on the Czech economy and society we will do our best to implement the 2030 Agenda and to achieve all SDGs by 2030.

I thank you.