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Address to the Second World Summit for Social Development by Dr. Tamás Sulyok,
President of the Republic of Hungary
Plenary Meeting, item 25 (b)
(04.11.2025.)

Dear Mr President!

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!

The peaceful future of mankind rests on mutual respect, understanding and cooperation. Protecting human dignity and strengthening social security is our universal responsibility.

We are living in an age when we are faced with social, economic and demographic challenges in almost every region of the world, and our communities are afflicted by climate change, military conflicts, population decline or even population explosion. We have to respond to these challenges effectively both in our own societies - on family, community and country level - and through international cooperation.

The main precondition for social development is peace. We cannot talk about social welfare in a world torn apart by conflicts, when the absence of peace affects the hardest those who are the most vulnerable.

That is why it is our basic human obligation to strive for peace and to preserve it.

Peace and the rule of law are closely intertwined: where the law is respected, cooperation will prevail over conflicts. Law plays an extremely important role in social justice, as equality before law ensures that everyone will benefit from social development.

Hungary believes that the future society can only be strong if the families also remain strong. Protecting families is crucial not only from the moral point of view, but it also serves fundamental social and economic interests.

The family is the cornerstone of human solidarity, the first community where we learn what it means to take responsibility for others. Further steps need to be taken to enable families to live in security, stability and in a supportive environment. It is also vital to strengthen solidarity



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between generations. Young people need a future vision and the elderly need security, which is crucial to finding a delicate social balance.

The real benchmark of the level of development of a society is best demonstrated by how we treat those who struggle with the greatest difficulties.

This is the ultimate test of our respect for human dignity. Social cohesion, fight against poverty, protection of families and support for people living with disabilities are all based on a common denominator: respect for human dignity. Therefore, social development cannot be measured purely with statistical figures.

Hungary is convinced that the true measure of social development is reflected by the opportunities we give our people so that they can live a meaningful and decent life, a life which rests on three pillars: peace, rule of law and cooperation.

If we are committed to fortifying these pillars in our families, communities and between our nations, then we will be able to build a world where solidarity becomes a universal value. This is our common mission, and I believe that this noble goal is worthy of the spirit of the United Nations.

Thank you for your attention.