

## **Ladies and Gentlemen**

**The SDG Alliance Liechtenstein was founded** in 2021 as an NGO and currently has over 60 members. For a small country like Liechtenstein with around 40.000 inhabitants a pleasing number and a sign for the interest and commitment of the organized civil society to the SDGs.

**NGOs enjoy high** public and governmental recognition in our country, which is also shown by the invitation from the foreign minister to speak here today, which we highly appreciate and for which I want to express my gratitude.

**In Liechtenstein we register a clear increase in attention** for the SDGs within the NGOs and organizations, but among the population the SDGs are largely unknown. Also, a far too high percentage associates "sustainability" solely with climate and environmental protection. The Agenda 2030, as a common vision that ensures a good life for future generations, has not yet penetrated the Liechtenstein's consciousness.

We hold the conviction that now, – for the second half of 2023 - 2030 – we have to keep in mind that it's halftime, a concrete roadmap is urgently needed. With goals and structures to anchor the SDGs in our society, anchoring them in politics, local administration, business and science.

**Because of its small size**, its manageability and short distances, its financial possibilities and, last but not least, the commitment of the civil society, Liechtenstein has the best chances to play in the first league in achieving the SDGs.

**We expect urgently more activity and goal-oriented action**, more courage and consistency to treat the interests of the future generations at least equally weighted as ours.

**What** is needed now is a clear strategy and a team captain who can unite the team and inspire it to perform at its best - we owe this to our descendants and to the world.

**A statement by the SDG Alliance Liechtenstein, presented by board member Sascha Thöny at the HLPF 2023 in New York.**