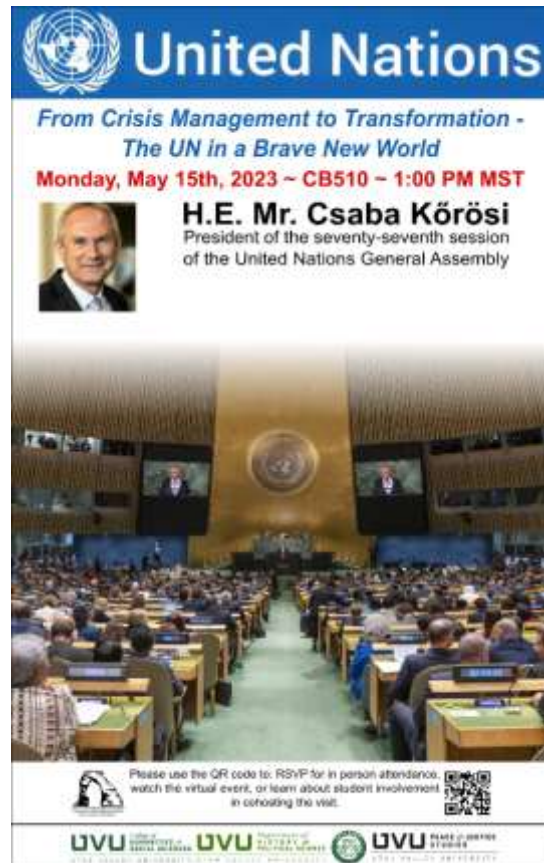


My viewpoint on the Lecture of the President of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Csaba Korosi “From Crisis Management To Transformation – The UN in a Brave New World” at Utah Valley University



This event “From Crisis Management to Transformation -The UN in a Brave World” took place on Monday, May 15th, 2023 at Utah Valley University in room CB510 at 1:00 PM MST. I participated in this event virtually at 3:00 PM EST. The short welcome speech to this event was given by McKay Brooks, a student at UVU. Later, he welcomed the President of UNGA and the speech of President Korosi began.

Initially, the president spoke on the different kinds of crises happening globally like **food security, migrant crisis, and debt crisis** which has led to the decline of trust within countries and among others. This also leads to a decline in stability within a nation. It is unbelievable that there are 27 wars and ongoing conflicts around the world. He also spoke on how complex wars are difficult to manage and need peace arrangements. For example, in the Syrian conflict, The UN sent humanitarian needs to 20 different groups and new deals must be made with each group every time to allow this to happen. In 1991, there were 4 ongoing civil wars and in in 2021, the number has increased to a shocking 48!

Next, he emphasized on **Climate change**. Even though it does not have a causal relationship with a crisis, it is a phenomenon that can trigger one. There are many traditional conflicts that have erupted due to the change in climatic conditions. It is said that for every 1-degree rise in temperature, it increases the chance of conflict by 11%. **Human Trafficking** also is another major crisis happening all over the world, especially in vulnerable places where other types of crises are already prevalent.



H.E. Mr. Csaba Korosi, President of the 77th of UN General Assembly

The **Russian war against Ukraine** has caused 16 million people to be displaced and unprecedented destruction, since World War II. This war is said to be a new kind of warfare since the human age as it has huge impacts on Global Markets. This war has given rise to an **Energy crisis**, wherein the average energy bill went up 17 times. Because of Food Insecurity, 1.2 billion people had to consume unsafe, non-nutritious, and insecure food. European Security Architecture started decomposing and the most elaborate armed control regime collapsed. This Russia's war on Ukraine is challenging the UN charter, UN security council, and other international organizations to maintain the decorous behavior amongst the nation-states. General Assembly is a platform where countries debate and make decisions in wars like these, even though, President mentioned, UNGA does not have the power to take any legal decisions.

He continued to talk about how Information Technology and Artificial Intelligence are improving much faster whereas Quantum Computing is on the edge of a breakthrough. Covid-19 Pandemic gave us the ability to develop technology to produce vaccines within a fraction of the time. During the **Covid crisis**, 16 governments fell as the crisis was more complex and everlasting and it was capable of bringing down well-built societies.

Next, we were directed to a website called www.menti.com which had a couple of questions and we were asked to interact with it by providing votes according to our opinions. Some of the questions were:

- ✓ What would be the largest impact of the crisis?
- ✓ What crisis is most likely to happen?
- ✓ How is the UN delivering on our expectations?
 - Most of them answered: Not efficient enough and needs reforms
- ✓ UN can improve in which areas?
 - Accountability, Trust, and Improving Negotiations were the crowd favorite.
 - There were only a handful of them (20%) who voted for data-based action and being a data analyst and understanding the importance of data, I was one among them. President Korosi was surprised that Data based action did not get many votes and he emphasized the fact that the validation of any crisis should be based on the data.

The Motto of President Korosi's term as UNGA President of the 77th session is " Solutions through solidarity, sustainability and science". By solutions, he means, Goals like Sustainable Development Goals, Disaster Risk Reduction agreements, and the time taken to deliver on these kinds of goals. The gap in Inequality has led to an unbearable situation. No wonder, all the crises are crying for long-term solutions whereas economies are not run in accordance with natural and social systems. This stresses the importance of data as to achieve all the above we need them. The Data and Scientific evidence visualize how we evaluate the crisis we are already in. He highlights an important fact that the transformation during a time of crisis is more difficult than in terms of peace and how we are in a helpless situation to focus on all vulnerable issues at the same time.

President Korosi pinpointed some ending questions which we should be asking ourselves and each other:

- ✓ How to rescue the SDG implementation?
 - As some SDGs are way off track and some are moving backward.
- ✓ How to shift gears in the current action?
 - The Paris Agreement agreed on keeping the global temperature below 1.5 deg Celsius and the trajectory now will have worse consequences.
- ✓ How to implement the outcome in a breakthrough pandemic?
- ✓ How to visualize more economic thinking and that too in a more sustainable way?
 - This means, if there is a chance of another covid hitting us in a fortnight, are we prepared?
- ✓ How can we ensure a safe, secure, and equitable digital future?
- ✓ How to stem nuclear proliferation?
- ✓ How to create a new age of peace?



Next in the itinerary, there was a dinner reception organized by the UIMF at 5:30 PM MST which was to be held at the Clarke Building, CB510 on the same day, and the event ended.

- **Priyanka Prem Kumar, UIMF member**