

Ms. Vice Minister of Economy and Development S. Davaasuren,

Ministers, Members of Parliament, Excellencies,

Dear colleagues, dear guests,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all here this afternoon as we come together to celebrate German Unity Day. I am particularly delighted because this is my first German Unity Day reception here in Ulaanbaatar. Thank you all for joining us in such great numbers.

On 3 October, we mark the 36th anniversary of the day Germany regained its unity — a day that marked the end of the division of our country, of our capital Berlin, and of Europe as a whole. We remember that German unity was achieved through a peaceful and democratic process — a process to which many people contributed. To all those who helped make Germany's unity possible, we remain deeply grateful to this day.

Sadly, we also know that our hopes of leaving the Cold War behind and entering a new era of peace in Europe have not been fulfilled. The international order that made German unity possible — and to which we owe so much — is coming under increasing pressure. Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine is now in its fifth year and continues to cause immeasurable human suffering every single day. We are also feeling the consequences of this war here in Mongolia. Other crises, too, are having a global impact on energy supplies, food security and industrial supply chains.

The increasingly visible effects of climate change are threatening lives and livelihoods around the world. Our societies and economies are also facing profound — and in some cases entirely new — challenges, from decarbonising our energy systems to using artificial intelligence responsibly.

To meet these crises and challenges, multilateralism and international cooperation are more important than ever. It is good to know that Mongolia is a reliable partner in our search for common solutions. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate Mongolia on successfully hosting COP17, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Germany and Mongolia are bound together by a long-standing, diverse and trusted partnership, which was elevated to a Strategic Partnership during Federal President Steinmeier's state visit in 2024. The intensive dialogue between our two countries is continuing at the highest level this year, once again underlining the special quality of our relations.

The year 2026 is a particularly significant one for German-Mongolian relations. One hundred years ago, the first Mongolian students came to Germany to study, among them the poet Dashdorjiin Natsagdorj. They were among the first to build bridges between our two countries. We are very pleased that cooperation in education, science and culture has

remained a key pillar of our bilateral relations to this day. Among many other examples, the German-Mongolian Institute for Resources and Technology in Nalaikh is a visible expression of this successful cooperation.

As the new German Ambassador, I am continually impressed by how many Mongolians speak German — and by the exceptionally high level at which they speak it. Germany and Mongolia also work closely together in many other areas, from climate, environmental and energy policy to cooperation in the field of security. We also share the goal of further strengthening our economic ties.

Let us continue working together to bring the Strategic Partnership between Germany and Mongolia to life and to develop it into a partnership that delivers tangible results every day — for the people of Mongolia and Germany alike.

Above all, this partnership is sustained by the people who work every day to strengthen the ties between our two countries. This includes my fellow Germans here in Mongolia, to whom I would like to extend a particularly warm greeting today as we celebrate German Unity Day together. In this spirit, I would also like to thank everyone who has helped make today's celebration possible.

And now, let us raise our glasses to the friendship between Germany and Mongolia — and to all those who shape and enrich that friendship every day.

I wish us all a wonderful celebration of German Unity Day 2026.